

BODICOTE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH 2026
AT 7.15PM AT CHURCH HOUSE, CHURCH STREET, BODICOTE

PRESENT: Cllrs. J. Washburn (Chairperson), A. Conley, K. Corrigan, C. Elmitt, D. Hingley, P. Jackson, R. Pattenden, J. Sacha, J. Slade and C. Watts

Christine Coles (Parish Clerk), District Councillor G. Blakeway and one member of the public

26/30. To receive apologies

No apologies were received.

26/31. Public session (*Members of the public are invited to address the council. The session will last for a maximum of ten minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 3 minutes*)

No matters were raised.

26/32. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda (*Members should disclose any interests in the business to be discussed and are reminded that the disclosure of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest will require that the member withdraws from the meeting room during the transaction of that item of business*)

26/33. Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting held on 18th February 2026

The minutes were accepted and signed as a true record of the meeting.

26/34. Update on progress from the previous minutes (for information only)

There were no updates to report on.

Cllr Blakeway arrived at 7.25pm.

26/35. County Council and District Council matters

- *To receive reports from County and District Councillors*

Cllr Hingley gave the following update. The CDC budget was passed and is balanced. All services have been protected for another year. There are development funds for urban centres and agreed spend on projects in the local area. Funding for the museum has been agreed following huge support from the budget consultation. Wellbeing programmes are protected. The deadline for the LGR consultation is 26th March and CDC are investigating devolution options. The Bodicote House site has been sold to Graven Hill Village Development Company (GHVDC). A full planning application will be submitted in due course. Graven Hill is wholly owned by CDC but has its own management board and accounts. They are a typical housing developer and this is positive news for residents. CDC will have some influence with greater input into the site which will provide affordable housing, take account of the trees and provide the best outcome. 75 houses are proposed in the Local Plan. Some parts of the site are listed including the Lodge and will be preserved. The residents in front of the site have asked if they can be kept informed of developments. The site will be in keeping with the village and a full Construction Management plan will be submitted. Councillors to think of S106 contributions for the village. It was agreed to invite GHVDC to a later meeting.

- *To receive an update on work on the Neighbourhood Plan*
Work is ongoing in updating all the designated green spaces and contacting landowners about other areas that might be designated. A meeting will be arranged.

26/36. Governance

- *Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) – To consider a response to the Governments Consultation on LGR in Oxfordshire.* There are three options to consider, one, two or three councils. Councillors discussed the options and agreed to choose the two options which is proposed by Cherwell District Council.
Action: The Parish Clerk to respond before 26th March.

26/37. To receive an update on the transfer of land south of Blackwood Place and Molyneux Drive and north west of Cotefield Farm

There is no further update.

26/38a. Planning matters; New applications

- *26/00366/F, Single storey side lean-to extension to existing commercial building at Cotefield Business Park, Oxford Road.* Supported by PC.
- *26/00370/F, Erection of four bedroom dwelling on land adjacent to 17 Wykham Lane.* There are concerns about narrow access, size of the new dwelling in comparison to the site, overlooking and additional traffic.
Action: The Parish Council to respond.
- *24/03213/REM, Reserved matters application to 19/02350/OUT - Appearance, landscaping, layout and scale. The outline application was not an EIA application at Deerfields Farm, Canal Lane (amendments).* The proposed changes are minimal.
- *26/00495/TPO, T3 (Lime) - Trim as many of the overhanging branches as allowed, within in an approximate 5m radius from the bottom branches upwards at Maple House, The Rydes.* It was agreed to be guided by the CDC Tree Officer as the tree has a TPO on it.

26/38b. Planning matters; determined

- *26/00160/TCA, Apple (T1) - Crown reduction of the Bramley and russet apples by approximately 2 metres in height, reducing the sides to suit. Plum (T2) - removal. Crab apple (T3) - Removal. cherry (T4) - Crown reduction of the cherry by approximately 2 metres in height, reducing the sides to suit at Westerly, Goose Lane.* No further comments or objections by CDC.

26/39. Financial report

a) To note up to date bank balances

Total	£96,698.34 (excluding Bodfest a/c)
Business Premium Account	£23,183.78
Community Account	£200.00
<u>Business Premium Account</u>	<u>£73,314.56</u>
Business Premium Account (Bodfest)	£8,657.67

- b) To approve a funding request from the S137 ex Bodfest allocation for the Horse & Jockey PH.* The funding is to pay for additional security for the event in July. It was agreed to approve the payment.

Action: The Parish Clerk to process the payment.

Signed

Dated 15th April 2026

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- c) To consider the cost of a replacement pole and installation of the dog bin on Broad Gap (move from incorrect pole).* The dog bin was changed last year and put on the same pole

which is too small. It requires a larger pole. The cost of a new pole and installation is £277.77 & VAT. It was agreed to accept the quote.

Action: The Parish Clerk to order the new pole. Thomas Fox will install the new pole and move the bin.

- d) *To consider the quote for the new planting at Keyser Road.* A detailed planting specification had been sent to Thomas Fox and Cllr Sacha had met them on site to explain the plan. The cost is £4555.14 & VAT. The price does not include watering. It is hoped the residents can help with the watering. It was agreed to accept the quote and ask Thomas Fox to carry out the work as soon as possible.

Action: The Parish Clerk to ask Thomas Fox to confirm they will replace new trees that die within the first year.

26/40. Cemetery matters

- a) *To discuss the increase in burial fees commencing 1st April 2026.* The suggested increase is 5% and it was agreed to accept this figure.

Account: The Parish Clerk to forward the new fees to Edd Frost & Daughters Ltd and Humphris Funerals.

- b) *To discuss coloured inscriptions on headstones.* A family have requested a red robin to be placed on a headstone. Currently there are no coloured inscriptions on headstones. It was agreed this should be allowed as a robin is significant when someone has passed away and it should be small in size.

Action: The Parish Clerk to confirm this with Thomas Cakebread.

26/41. Passing of invoices for payment

Cllr Slade proposed that the following accounts be approved for payment, seconded by Cllr Jackson and carried unanimously. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that these payments be made:

- £90.00 to Mrs P Evett (litter picking February)
- £90.00 to Vision ICT (website March)
- £846.00 To Parish Clerk (hours) and £82.20 to HMRC (tax)
- £50.75 to Parish Clerk (expenses)
- £25.00 to ONPA (Membership of Oxfordshire Neighbourhood Plans Alliance)
- £592.97 to OALC (membership)
- £456.00 to Oxfordshire County Council (2 speed surveys)
- £72.00 to OALC (Councillor Training)

26/42. To discuss the following village matters

- *Feedback about part night lighting.* A small amount of responses had been received and they do not want the current lighting to change. The current lighting will be left as it is.
- *Tidying of the Weeping Cross Memorial.* Complaints have been received about the amount of items on the memorial making it look untidy. It was agreed a sign will be placed next to the memorial asking people to remove their items. They will be kept for a short amount of time.
- *Inscriptions on the new bench on Broad Gap.* There are white crosses on the bench which are hard to remove.

Action: The Parish Clerk to contact Glasdon UK, who supplied the bench for removal advice.

- *Results of the speed surveys on Wykham Lane and Broad Gap.* Since the previous survey in 2023, Wykham Lane has seen a significant increase in both peak hour and 24 hours traffic volumes.

While the introduction of a 20mph speed limit in 2024 has successfully lowered the mean speed to 25.14mph a vast majority of motorists (72.49%) still drive above the current limit. Data suggests both Wykham Lane and Broad Gap are heavily utilised as cut through routes during weekdays to avoid other traffic. The survey compared data from 2015, 2023 and 2026 to track long term trends.

Wykham Lane – Traffic during am and pm peak hours has increased on all days except Saturdays. Tuesday through to Thursday saw the highest growth with an approximate 15% increase over previous peaks. All weekdays saw an increase in volume will levels up 10% since 2023 and 25% since 2015. Saturday and Sunday volumes decreased since the last survey, reinforcing the theory that the road is primarily used as a weekday cut through.

Broad Gap – This road experienced lower overall volumes compared to Wykham Lane. The PM peak for Broad Gap coincides with school hours. Friday recorded the highest daily volume with 1366 vehicles.

Action: The Parish Clerk to put the full report on the website www.bodicoteparishcouncil.gov.uk.

- *Identifying and reporting the Yellow Legged Asian Hornet.* These are on the increase following climate change and the first notification was in Kent. Bee keepers are concerned as they kill bees and they asking people to keep an eye out for them. There is an application for phones and a location finder to report them.
- *New bus shelters for White Post Road and Weeping Cross.* The Parish Clerk has contacted OCC. The shelters will have to be funded by the Parish Council and will cost about £5.5K each. The closest residents are to be consulted.

Action: The Parish Clerk to contact the closest residents and ask OCC if there are second hand shelters available.

- *Attendance at the defibrillator training course.* There are 15 people booked to go on the course on 25th March.

26/43. To receive the following correspondence

- *OCC, Spruce up Your Signs.* Noted.
- *Catesby Estates, Wykham Park Farm Phase 2.* This is a potential future residential-led development including community facilities. The site is included in the emerging Cherwell Local Plan Review for 600 houses. The site has a close boundary edge with Bodicote.

Action: The Parish Clerk to invite them to a future meeting.

26/44. Matters for consideration at the next meeting

Purchase of bedding plants
Ideas for S106 monetary contributions

26/45. To note next meeting date and time

Wednesday 15th April 2026, Parish Council Meeting at 7.15pm followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm.

At the end of the meeting Cllr Watts announced he would be resigning. He has enjoyed serving the village and working alongside people who care about the village. He will continue to support other village projects without any conflict of interest. The Chair thanked him for all his work over the years.

There being no other business the meeting finished at 8.50pm.