

Begbroke Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: Louise Wright, 21 Park Avenue, Kidlington, OX5 2AS.
e-mail at: clerk@begbrokepc.org.uk Website: <https://www.begbrokepc.org.uk/>

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of Begbroke Parish Council held at 6.00pm on Monday 6th July.

Present: Malcolm Ryder (Chair), Leslie Allen (Co-Chair), Beverley Appleton, Lindsay Gregory, Peter Finbow, Candida Javaid, Louise Wright (Clerk), Jeffrey Wright (Assistant Clerk)

1 Apologies: None received.

2 Resignations and appointments-None.

3 Minutes The minutes of the meeting Monday 1st June 2026 were unanimously confirmed as a true record.

4 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Gifts or Hospitality

None to declare.

5 Matters Arising

The Chair has discussed fixing the culvert at the Royal Sun with Mark Richardson.

6 A44 and Highways

Peter asked if the police could do anything about people speeding through Begbroke and it was noted that the police will not do anything unless we have visible speed cameras. It was noted by the Chair that road closures from the Council do not often match the information that has been added to the road closed signage.

8 Reports from County/District Councillors/Other Contributors

8.1 County Councillor – report. Not yet received.

8.2 Cherwell District Councillor – report. Not yet received.

8.3 OALC Report-June report sent to councillors.

8.4 Cherwell Parish Bulletin-Forwarded to councillors.

9 Council Representatives

9.1 BVHMC Report.

- The village hall has had a Wickstead representative to give a quote for designing a new play area.
- Grass cutting-the Yarnton football club have been cutting the grass. Les has asked the village hall to liaise with Mr Prickett if the grass has been mown so he does not travel all this way.
- The village hall would like to meet with Nigel Prickett to see if he would be happy to talk to them about cutting the football pitch as well as the play area.
- Les wondered if the village hall people take over responsibility for calling in Nigel Prickett to cut the grass.

It was discussed whether grass cutting by the Royal Sun should be added to Nigel Prickett's list.

It was agreed that the village hall should let Nigel Prickett know when to mow the grass, and the Parish Council if the hedges need cutting so they can contact Mr Prickett.

- The balance is around 30K.
- There is a new safeguarding officer.
- The bowls club may be taking on OUP members as their club has closed.
- The ramps have been replaced which cost £3000.
- The next meeting of the village hall is 10th September.

9.2 Oxford Airport Consultative Committee

- Lindsay has contacted the airport regarding the flight plans.

10 New Business

10.1 Playground equipment further discussions and conclusion.

Discussion: The assistant clerk gave an overview of the play area and explained that the parish council has drawn up an agreement setting out responsibility for the play area equipment. The village hall committee has returned further points for inclusion.

Safety and closure arrangements: It was noted that if a piece of equipment is out of use because of damage, the whole play area needs to be sealed off. Les noted that previous inspection training advised that barriers or tape alone are not sufficient and that the area must be clearly marked as out of use.

Equipment options: The council discussed whether to purchase or hire barriers. It was noted that hiring may involve delays, while purchasing barriers would mean the equipment is available when required. Lindsay queried how often the equipment would be used, and it was noted that the play equipment had probably only been closed twice over the years.

Responsibility and agreement wording: Candida asked for confirmation of who would take over responsibility for the play area equipment. It was confirmed that the parish council would take sole responsibility for the play area. The parish council considered the agreement signed by the chair to be invalid and agreed that this view would be forwarded to the village hall committee.

Les noted that the village hall committee does not have capacity to manage the play area, while the parish council does. The assistant clerk noted that the agreement includes wording on the ceiling cost of equipment for which the council would be responsible, and that a capital replacement plan should be added for the future.

Ongoing liaison: The assistant clerk has met with three trustees at the village hall. The draft document was sent to them, and they returned further issues and notes for consideration. Candida suggested including a requirement for representatives from the village hall and parish council to meet once a year to discuss the play area.

Decision: It was noted that the parish council has no statutory responsibility for the play area but would proceed on the basis set out in the agreement, subject to final comments.

Action: The assistant clerk will circulate the final agreement. Councillors will have until Friday to respond. The agreement will then be sent to the village hall committee. If the village hall committee is not willing to sign the agreement, the parish council will end the process and continue to insure for public liability only.

11 Planning

11.1 [Search Results - Planning register | Planning register | Cherwell District Council](#)

12 Correspondence (See register for full details of postal correspondence)

13 Financial Matters

13.1 Balances/Liabilities: Unity Trust Bank £31 481.46 (see attached cashbook report)

13.2 Quotations/Tenders/Grants-None received.

13.3 Bank Matters – financial report – all agreed the update.

13.4 Other Financial Matters-Climate grants.

Action: Clerk to forward the climate grant information to the village hall committee.

14 Health and Safety Matters

14.1 Playground inspection reports.

Peter is swapping to August and Bev to September on the rota.

15 Training – requests - arranged.

16 Freedom of information requests/receipts – none.

17 Footpaths, Bridleways and Restricted Byway (RUPP) – None.

18 Village – Natural Environmental Matters

19 Website & Information

20 Proposed Date of the Next Meeting 3rd August 2026.

Signed _____ Malcolm Ryder, Chair to Begbroke Parish Council