

Streatley Parish Council Minutes Of Meeting

Location: Morrell Room, Streatley
Date: 9th March 2026
Start Time: 7.50pm

Councillors Present: Mr A Lockwood (Chair), Mr N Barnes, Mrs J Carrington, Mr J Spring, Mr M Davis

In Attendance: Mrs A Crowson Parish Clerk

Nr	Subject	Actionee
26/027	Preliminaries	
i.	Quorum: 5 Councillors were present, forming a quorum to enable the meeting.	
ii.	Declarations of Interest All attending Councillors declared that they held no Personal, Disclosable, Pecuniary or other interests regarding items on the agenda, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct.	
iii	Cllr Barnes asked to fill in new DoI to save to the onedrive	Clerk
26/028	Apologies for Absence	
	Mr C Smith, Mrs E Jhita, District Councillor Laura Coyle	
26/029	Open Forum	
	John Rogers; Post recent parish plan meeting, Tree planting available through different routes, for parishioners to plant. Include in the next Parish Plan Meeting.	PPG
26/030	Minutes of Previous Meeting	
	Council resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 th February 2026, having earlier been circulated, be agreed as the correct record and were signed by Councillor Lockwood.	
26/031	Update on Matters from Previous Minutes	
a.	24/040 Enclosed play area a) Enclosed Play Area - Bark Topping Infinity installation to date is partially complete. Expediting ongoing to achieve completion. Cllr Davis to expedite. b) Basketball Court Surface - Repair/Cleaning Check Pitch repair complete and satisfactory. c) See-Saw – Spindle Bearing Repair Repair not able to be implemented. Looking into replacing base/fitting. Consensus of those present is to abandon this project and simply remove the complete item. d) Broken fence posts 2Nr fenceposts between playpark gates in the Rec ground require replacing. Replacements are available. Date to be determined.	MD EJ AL/CS

Nr	Subject	Actionee
	5Nr further posts, adjacent the 'talking flowers' are also in need of replacing soon. e) RoSPA Inspection Awaiting date of the 2026 RoSPA Inspection of the Play equipment.	CS EJ
b.	24/054a 40mph Speed Limit on Streatley Hill The statutory public consultation on extending the speed limit should be out before the end of March. The proposal that will go out to consultation will be to beyond the Stitchen's Road turnoff and will include a new village gateway sign as you come into the new 40mph zone. The Public consultation is expected to last 3 weeks and thereafter implementation of the new limit will follow as soon as can be scheduled.	AL/LC
i.	24/054b Weight Limit on Streatley Hill A proposed weight limit on Streatley Hill will be expedited with WBC as 18T+ trucks entering the village have no legal exit and no space to U-turn. Awaiting further movement from WBC. West Berkshire Trading standards are working with SPC to pilot a Community Village HGV Watch scheme. Test watch proved positive, awaiting feedback from WBC	AL/LC/JC
c. i.	25/002 Parish Plan 2025-2026 Working Group update A Parish Forum workshop took place on Feb 17th attended by over 30 members of various local community groups. The evening event was successful and yielded good outputs in terms of themes and suggestions for the Parish Plan Refresh. Preliminary summary report written. Next meeting, (12th March) to agree steps to draft questionnaire	PPG
d. i.	25/006 SSE Monthly Estimated Supply Amount Recent invoices provided to Councillor Davis to facilitate discussions with SSE to commence to try and determine a more accurate tariff estimate. Online data not containing enough backdated invoices, Clerk to scan and send digital copies of invoices for last year to Cllr Davis such that usage may be calculated more accurately.	MD Clerk
e. i. ii.	Overflowing bins in Rec ground Following review of bin options between meetings, Tactical quote is accepted for installation of triple bins (rubbish, recycling and dog waste) in place of the double bins, currently at the Rec. car park. The existing double bins are to be re-sited at the SE corner of the rec ground, in a location where accessible for emptying. Work is planned for the end of March 26. Tactical advised that bins are small for volume of litter so emptying frequency may need to be increased to bi-weekly, cost increase from £65.16 to £130.32 inc VAT. Clerk to instruct Tactical to increase frequency and SPC will review emptying frequency on an ongoing basis.	CS Clerk

Nr	Subject	Actionee
f.	Streetlight Failures	
i.	Wallingford Road P3: Temporary lamp in place. Pole replacement required. Reading Road P5: New lamp and pole installation authorised Streatley Hill P3: (Elm Lodge bracket) replacement required, meeting arranged for 11 th , will await full update High Street P2: Permission granted from Snowdrop Cottage owner to allow replacement work to be performed	
ii	Expedite Enverveo for installation dates. Meeting arranged with AL / JC 11/03/26 to discuss	Clerk
iii.	Concerns of P1 (Snowdrop Cottage) on High Street becoming a danger when raining and guttering in use. Cllr Lockwood to investigate.	AL
g.	Speed Indication Device (SID) signs Members Bid grants	
i.	WBC have confirmed that the replacement VAS for Wallingford Road will be funded by Highways budget, which should hopefully mean that there will be enough in the members' bid pot for the other two signs, (Wantage & Reading Roads)	LC/AL
ii.	WBC advise the intention is that there will be a pilot first with this new sign before the other two are progressed. LC trying to clarify exactly what the timescale and measure is for the pilot	LC
iii.	Now awaiting quotes for the cost of the other two signs from WBC	
h.	Recreation Ground Cinder Track Upgrade	
	Quotes, received from Butler and Proctor and WA Hine and Son., are in the region of £37-50k. for a tarmac surface and edgings. Mend the Gap advise that the project does not meet their criteria for funding. Clerk endeavouring to contact the members of the public who raised the proposal in the Oct 25 meeting to discuss and advise.	JS/JC Clerk
i.	Litter Picking	
i	Litter picking kits booked on 18 th April '26.	Clerk
ii	Advertise proposed date on social media now in March and April.	NB
iii	Cllr Coyle to advertise within school PTA	LC
iv	Cllr Lockwood to generate poster to place in GGN & Genie, plus on notice board - Clerk to put on notice board - Cllr Barnes to put on social media.	AL/NB/
j.	Parish Assembly	
	The date has been set for 4 th June 6:00pm set up with doors open 6:30pm Awaiting response from Morrell Room of availability	Clerk
26/032	Report of the West Berkshire District Councillor	
	See Annex 1 Sending electronically	
26/033	Planning:	

Nr	Subject	Actionee
a.	Decisions made in between meetings (papers previously circulated) None	
b.	Applications for planning permission None	
c.	Planning matters received since the agenda was circulated (papers circulated prior to the meeting) Two planning applications have been received; (26/00506/TPW & 26/00200NONMAT), neither of which require SPC consultee comments	
d.	Decisions by WBC None	
e.	Applications debated at previous meetings still pending WBC consideration	
i.	25/01452/HOUSE Townsend Farm Bungalow, Wallingford Road, Streatley, Reading, RG8 9JX. Alterations and extensions. Received Thu 25 June 2025 Consultation Wed 10 Sept 2025 Called in - Decision awaited Council raised an objection due to the proposed dwelling location within the Conservation Area and SPC considers that its design is not in keeping with the character of the local area.	
ii.	25/02375/FUL Churn Lodge, Wantage Road, Streatley, RG8 9LA. Proposed new dwelling including new landscaping and parking. Received Tue 14 Oct 2025 Consultation Wed 12 Nov 2025 Called in - Decision awaited Streatley Parish Council offer a conditional 'no objection' based on consideration of the following: 1. Existing vegetation masks the views of the proposed dwelling from the Wantage Road. Such vegetation must be maintained to retain this situation as part of the consideration. In addition the view of the new building from the Wantage Road across the driveway must be masked with new planting. 2. The addition of the new property will intensify the density of buildings along Wantage Road, converting the country village ambiance to one of a suburban nature which is against the Parish Plan 3. Materials of construction conflict with the Parish Plan orientation towards maintaining the historic nature of the village From neighbours, some existing trees are reported to have not been shown on the block plans for removal and some trees had been removed before submission of the application. This requires confirmation as part of the WBC assessment.	
iii.	25/02830/HOUSE High View, Wantage Road, Streatley, Reading RG8 9LD. Demolition of existing rear extensions, replacement with a new single storey extension and adjacent car port with solar panels. Works to rear garden including gate entrance and pergola. Received Mon 08 Dec 2025 SPC did not object Consultation: 28 January 2026	

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iv.	25/02918/HOUSE New Dawn, The Coombe, Streatley, Reading RG8 9QL. Proposed single storey front and side extensions, other minor alterations, photovoltaic panels and air source heat pump to single family dwelling house. Received Thu 18 Dec 2025 Consultation Tues 17 Feb 2026 SPC did not object but suggested a glare and noise study be conducted to ensure solar panel reflection and heat pump noise does not cause any issues.	
f.	Other planning (and licensing) matters	
i.	None	
26/034	Finance Matters	
a.	Payments made between meetings, ratified by the Council: £313.43 SSE Energy supply for Jan 2026 £4.25 Lloyds monthly bank charge £47.00 ICO registration 2026	
b.	Payment of Invoices received by Council. i. £65.16 (£54.30 + VAT) Tactical Facilities Ltd, Inv SI-5217, Bin emptying February. ii. £714.00 (£5956 + VAT) Slatter Cricket & Play – Pitch repair Inv CP7684 – hold payment until pitch inspected. All payments are now to be prepared for authorisation on the Lloyds Bank website	Clerk
c.	Councillor Expenses Reimbursement None	
d.	Receipts £4500 WBC members bid contribution.	
e.	Other Finance Matters i. Council approved the 28 th February 2026 bank reconciliation statement (previously made available and saved on Onedrive shared folders) ii. Councillors acknowledged the clerk's monthly salary payment for the next month will be transacted on 1st April 2026. iii. Internal Auditor Claire Lingard booked for Mid April. iii. Friends of the Ridgeway invoice from February 2026 meeting signed. iv. Lloyds 1Yr fixed rate A/C and transfer £30k from the Business A/C receipt confirmed. Now visible in on-line banking	
26/035	Reports	
a.	Heart of Streatley Charitable Trust Nothing to Report	
b.	Website/IT i. Local Gov Practice Guide Assertion 10 - Digital and Data Compliance was reviewed during the meeting and the action list (see annex 3) accepted for completion. To be reviewed and actions completed by end of March prior to documents submission for Internal Audit.	NB / Clerk

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ii.	Install up to date anti virus on Clerks' laptop. Price to be agreed from web search.	Clerk
c.	Allotment Society Nothing to Report	EJ
d.	Recreation Ground i. See Annex 2 for latest report.	EJ
e.	Neighbourhood Action Group i. Next meeting 23/4/26	JS
f.	St Mary's Church i. Nothing to Report	JS
g.	Traffic and Highways Nothing additional to report other than covered earlier	AL
26/036	Correspondence (not dealt with elsewhere)	
	- Streatley Recreation Ground Pavillion, Architect. - Fireworks permission advice to The Swan – response returned by email	
26/037	Items Raised by Councillors	
a.	Fitness instructor found using the Recreation Ground for class and advised to contact the council for insurance reasons.	JS
b.	Works behind Little Shaw; A meeting with owners confirmed that SPC consent was required to use the leased land for rear access to building works. Original condition of leased land and access track to be restored. These points put in writing and confirmed agreement received in return.	CS/AL
26/038	Open Forum	
	No issues raised	
26/039	Meetings	
a.	The next meeting will take place on Monday 13th April 2026 in the Morrell Room at 7:50pm. Future meetings: 2nd Monday of each month except August when no meeting is convened. The meeting closed at 21:15hrs	

Members of the public in attendance: Mr Jonn Rogers

Annex 1
Report of the West Berkshire Councillor March 2026

Local News
Highways issues

Speed Indicator Devices/Members' bid

West Berkshire Council has agreed to fund the replacement VAS for Wallingford Road which hopefully clears the way for the members bid funding that we successfully obtained to be used for a VAS in both Wantage and Reading Roads.

Streatley Hill speed limit

As per my email, the consultation on extending the speed limit should hopefully be out before the end of the month. The proposal that will go out to consultation will be to beyond the Stichen's Road turnoff and will include a new village gateway sign as you come into the new 40mph zone.

Streatley Hill Weight Limit

I have chased officers on this, and they have assured me that they are looking into carrying out a feasibility study.

Countryside/footpath issues

Placement of North Wessex Downs National Landscape signs

It has been decided that a sign will not be placed in Streatley as it was difficult to identify a location that met local approval and did not spoil views in the conversation area.

Bull footpath signage

I am liaising with Marstons about this.

Thames Path

£80k was earmarked in the budget for 2026-27 to fund repairs to the Thames Path between Goring and Pangbourne.

Planning/enforcement issues

Tomb Farm (Berkshire Shooting School) – an appeal has been lodged with the planning inspectorate. Reps can be submitted to <https://appeal-planning-decision.service.gov.uk/comment-planning-appeal/enter-appeal-reference>.

The deadline is 10th April 2026.

Anyone can submit reps, not just those who commented on the original application.

Other news

Downs School

The Downs school has published their response to the admissions consultation they ran. Children living in the catchment of the school attending Summitt Education Trust primary schools (currently Basildon and Compton) will have priority over others, but those not living in the catchment area will come behind other children living in catchment.

Council news

2026-27 Budget

This was passed by Full Council in February. The Council has had to go to the Government for more Exceptional Support Funding in light of rising social care and SEND costs and the new Local Government

Finance Settlement under which authorities in wealthier areas such as WBC retain a lower percentage of their business rates. The request has been approved in principle.

As a result of the funding crisis, the budget was very tight.

Members' bids

Members' Bids rounds are coming much earlier this year (April/May time).

There will be new criteria in place which will be circulated soon – the amount is likely to be reduced from £5k to £4K and PC matched funding will not be required but can be used if wished.

Annex 2

Recreation Ground Status Report	
Date of check:	08-Mar-26
Time of check:	09:00
Weather:	8 °Celsius, cloudy
Name/s:	Emma Jhita

1. Overall Site	✓ / o / x	Comments
1.1 - Is the site visually in good condition?	o	- Site is clean and tidy overall (minimal litter)
1.2 - Signs and notices all present/legible?	✓	- Signage, where used, is present and legible
1.3 - Access surfaces in good condition?	✓	- Paths are tidy, level and accessible
1.4 - Fencing and gates secure?	✓	- New, 5-bar gate installed at vehicle access point - New gatepost installed for gate to children's fenced play area.
1.5 - Seating in good condition?	✓	- Benches in good condition (four made-good with replacement timber). Loose plank repaired.
1.6 - Bins in good condition and tidy?	✓	- Repairs made to waste bins (wood cladding replaced)
2. Equipment - cabin storage / general(?)	✓	- Cabin safely removed
3. Area - Carpark		
3.1 - Are the entrance barriers safe and secure?	✓	- In good condition and clearly visible
3.2 - Is entry/exit visually clear and safe?	✓	- Visibility improved due to summer plant growth dying back.
3.3 - Is bin area clear of rubbish?	✓	- Area clear and tidy
3.4 - Is surface free of weeds and safe?	✓	- Minimal weeds and plant growth
3.5 - Is wooden fencing sturdy and safe?	✓	- All existing fencing is stable and secure
4. Area - Children's Play Area		
4.1 - Is fencing sturdy and safe?	o	- Fence posts rotting - require replacement
4.2 - Is gated access safe and secure?	✓	- Gates are safe - open and close effectively
4.3 - Is play equipment in good order?	o	- Wooden areas of slide structure degrading - Rope swing requires cleaning
4.4 - Is the surface tidy and weed-free?	o	- Woodchip requires top-up - Weed growth needs re-addressing

Recreation Ground Status Report		
4.5 - Signs and notices all present/legible?	✓	- Legible and in good condition
5. Area - Outdoor Gym		
5.1 - Is gym equipment in good order?	✗	- Gym seesaw requires repair - hazard taped off.
5.2 - Are weed barriers/surfacing tidy?	✓	- Surfacing is tidy and in good repair
5.3 - Are instructions clear and legible?	✓	- Clear and legible on all equipment
6. Area - Jungle Climber, Log & Rope Course		
6.1 - Is play equipment in good order?	✓	- In good, solid order
6.2 - Are weed barriers/surfacing tidy?	○	- Damage from strimming to be monitored
7. Area - Swings		
7.1 - Seats in good repair	✓	- In good condition - no cracks or degradation
7.2 - Shackles and chains in good repair	✓	- In good condition
7.3 - Main frame secure	○	- Secure with no visible defects, however, rubber matting is starting to degrade. To be monitored.
8. Area - basketball court		
8.1 - Is structure and fencing sturdy and safe?	✓	- Loose panel at back of court secured
8.2 - Is basketball equipment in good order?	✓	- Backboard cleaned, new net
8.3 - Is the surface tidy and weed-free?	○	- Organic surface growth awaiting cleaning - NE corner of play surface repaired
8.4 - Signs and notices all present/legible?	✓	- No signage required
Two-weekly check - date: 22/03/2026		
Two-weekly check - date: 05/04/2026		