

CUMNOR PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Cumnor Parish Council
on Monday 6 January 2025 at 7.30pm
held in Fogwell Road Pavilion, Fogwell Road, Dean Court.

In attendance.

Council. Tom Christophers, Chair, Laurence Waters, Vice-Chair, Basil England, Alison Jenner, Gary Mason, Oliver Wright, Ray Stone, and Tina Brock, Clerk.

County Councillors. None.

District Councillors. DC Scott Houghton.

Visitors. 2.

01/25 Apologies for Absence.

Dona Foster (prior commitment), Paula Lopez (prior commitment) and Chris Westcott (unwell). These apologies were approved.

02/25 Declaration of Interests. None.

03/25 Variance of Order of Business.

Council agreed to bring forward of the agenda item 14i Planning Application P24/V2584/HH 73 Cumnor Hill.

04/25 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council.

Council resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2 December 2024.

05/25 Matters Arising from the Minutes. None.

06/25 Clerk's Newsletter and Addendum. Received

- i. Payment of Accounts. Approved as per minute 07/25.

07/25 Payments of Accounts.

Council resolved to authorise the payments specified in the Clerk's Newsletter and Addendum and reproduced below.

Table 1 List of income.

Statutory Power	Receipts received.	Description	Total (£)
17 Enclosure Act 1845	Rural Payments Agency	Higher Level Stewardship Cumnor Hurst (payment 110)	2,143.70
18 Local Auth Cemeteries Order 1977	Oliver & James Funeral Directors	Interment	349.00
19 Local Auth Cemeteries Order 1977	Banbury Memorials	Received in error see payment 111	167.00
20 Town & Country Planning Act s61F(1),(2)	Groundwork – Locality Fund	Funding for refreshing Cumnor Neighbourhood Plan NPG -14245	9,826.00

Table 2 List of receipts.

Statutory Power	Payments now due:	Description	Total (£)
106a,b,c,d SO LGA 1972 s112 Contract/Pensions Act 2014	Staff costs		6,185.54
107a LGA 1972 s111	OALC	Clerks training – Effective agendas and accurate minutes	132.00
107b LGA 1972 s111	OALC	Clerks training – Experienced clerk refresher	
BACS LGA 1972 s111	Unity Bank	Bank charges	8.70
108 LGA 1972 s111	Zoom	Annual fee	155.88
109 LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	As New Home & Office Cleaning	Nov clean of pavilion	96.00
110 Enclosure Act 1845	Cumnor Conservation Group	Higher level stewardship – Cumnor Hurst (see receipt 17)	2,143.70
SO LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	University of Oxford	Land rent – Fogwell field	25.00
DD Telecom Act 1984 s97	BT	Office phone and broadband	240.44
111 Local Auth Cemeteries Order 1977	Banbury Memorials	Received in error see receipt 19	167.00

112 Town & Country Planning Act s61F(1),(2)	rCOH Ltd	Refresh of Neighbourhood Plan	6,936.00
113 LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	MRH Services	Play equipment visual inspection	124.00
114 LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	Andy Berry	Removal of old wall heaters at Closes Pavilion	574.56
115 LGA 1972 s111	The Net Result	Payroll process Oct-Dec	88.50
116 Public Health Act 1875	Total Pest Control	Quarterly mole control – Fogwell Field	120.77
117 LGA1972 s111	Gravita Oxford LLP	Quarter end procedure and SAGE accounting fee	189.82
118 Highways Act 1980 LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	Ady Podbery Grounds Care	Litter picking @ play parks, raking of sand @ pea shingle, cutting of hedges @ snowberry maze	1,014.00
119 LGA1972 s111	The Direct Data Company (Oxford) Ltd	50% of cost of producing Cumnor Parish Council survey	5,475.60

Notes.

- i. After all payments/receipts are accounted for the Unity Bank account will be in credit at £26,176.71.
- ii. After all payments/receipts are accounted for the Santander Community Account will be in credit at £74,133.19.
- iii. The Council has the following debtor for 2024/25: HMRC (Reclaimable VAT) £9,634.79.
- iv. As of 17 December 2024 the Santander Corporate Notice a/c held a credit balance of £81,131.69.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

08/25 Public Participation.

The applicant and visitor spoke in support of planning application P24/V2584/HH 73 Cumnor Hill.

PLANNING

09/25 Submitted Planning Applications.

The Council would submit the following observations:

Table 3 List of planning application.

Ref	Planning application number	Address and proposal
i	P24/V2584/HH	73 Cumnor Hill, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9HX <i>Proposed single storey side extensions, alterations and detached garage.</i> Supports.

Visitors left the meeting.

REPORTS

10/25 Report from County Councillor(s). None.

11/25 Report from District Councillor(s).

DC Scott Houghton submitted a written report.

Joint Local Plan

Following a series of successful public consultations, which produced strong and positive feedback, the South and Vale Joint Local Plan has now been submitted to the Government for examination. The Planning Inspectorate will examine the JLP and assess whether it has been prepared in accordance with legal and procedural requirements. At the end of the public examination, the Inspector will conclude whether or not the plan is sound. In most cases the Inspector's report will recommend some changes that would allow the plan to be adopted.

Any queries people may have regarding the Examination process should be directed to the Programme Officer, who will be happy to assist.

Further details can be found here:

<https://www.southandvale.gov.uk/joint-local-plan-2041-examination/>

Local Government Reorganisation

The Government recently published a white paper on "English Devolution". While it is not yet entirely clear what exactly the impacts of the proposals would be, it is the view of all groups within the VoWHDC that we should move ahead with the government's plan quickly,

in order to minimise uncertainty and instability. To that end, the leader of the council, Cllr Bethia Thomas, has written to the leader of Oxfordshire County Council, Cllr Liz Leffman, asking her to contact the Minister for Housing, Communities, and Local Government, to say that “we wish to seek their formal support and assistance to move forward at the earliest opportunity with their devolution and local government reorganisation agenda, as outlined within the English Devolution White Paper.”

12/25 Report from Representatives on Outside Bodies. None.

- i. Draft minutes of the Parish Transport Representatives meeting held on Tuesday 19 November 2024. Noted.
- ii. Draft notes from the Harcourt Hill Working Group meeting held on Tuesday 3 December 2024. Noted.

TRAINING/EVENTS

13/25 OALC Training Programmes.

No requests.

COUNCIL

14/25 80th anniversary of VE Day.

- i. Council agree3d to arrange for the lighting of the Cumnor Hurst Bacon on Thursday 8 May 2025 at 9.30pm.
- ii. Council resolved that the Chair, Gary Mason and Clerk would lead the arrangements and liaise with Botley and North Hinksey Parish Council.

15/25 Council’s Strategic Plan.

- i. Council noted that the Cumnor Parish Survey had been signed off by the Working Group and would be posted this week.
- ii. Council resolved to advertise the survey via social media, Cumnor Parish News, Council website and local newsletters.

FINANCE

16/25 Quarter Financials.

- i. Oliver Wright verified the quarter 3 bank reconciliations as of 19 December 2024.
- ii. Council noted the quarterly accounts (budget and prior year reports) as of 19 December 2024.

17/25 Expenditure.

Council resolved to approve the following expenditure.

- i. Wicksteed quote to supply 2 Turbano drum skins at the Glebe play park of £258.62 + VAT
- ii. Neighbourhood Dedicated Reserves expenditure not exceeding £500 for the purchase of digital copies of maps.

ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES

18/25 Ad-hoc grass cutting of verges in the parish. None.

19/25 Update on other current matters.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFRESH

20/25 Draft minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Refresh Working Party meeting held on Wednesday 4 December 2024.

Noted.

21/25 Scoping Document.

Council resolved to agree to the recommendations and proposed action plan.

PLANNING

22/25 Draft minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 16 December 2024.

Noted.

23/25 Submitted Planning Applications.

The Council would submit the following observations:

Table 4 List of planning application.

Ref	Planning application number	Address and proposal
i	P24/V2443/HH	16 Meadow Close, Farmoor, Oxford OX2 9NZ <i>Single storey front and side extension, Relocation of garden wall.</i> Supports.
ii	P24/V2677/FUL	75 Cumnor Hill, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9HX <i>Demolish the existing dwelling and construct 5 new detached houses (3x4 bed and 2 x 5 bed).</i> Deferred. To be considered at the Planning Committee meeting on Monday 20 January 2025.

24/25 Permitted planning applications. Noted.

Table 6 List of permitted planning applications.

Ref	Planning application number	Address and proposal
i	P24/V2343/HH	32 Bertie Road, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9PS <i>First floor extension over existing ground floor.</i>
ii	P24/V2360/HH	Willow House, Hids Copse Road, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9JJ <i>Single storey side extension to provide a boot room. Single storey side extension with a two storey element to provide a lift for disability use. Single storey rear family room extension.</i>

25/25 Update on other current matters. None.

26/25 Proposed Industrial installation (Solar Power Station) for the production of electricity on Green Belt land.

i. Proposed 'Botley West' solar power station.

- a. Council received the notes from the meeting on Thursday 3 December 2024 with Stuart Walker, Major Applications Team Leader, VWHDC. Next scheduled meeting Tuesday 7 January 2025.
- b. Council noted that the Planning Inspectorate accepted the [Botley West application for formal examination](#).
- c. Council would register to 'have our say' at the public examination and prepare a 'relevant representation' briefly setting out the grounds for Council's opposition.
- d. Council noted the update on the Botley West Solar Project Community Benefit Scheme.
- e. Council noted that Stop Botley West would be holding a public meeting on Saturday 1 February 2025 in Cumnor Village Hall to update and offer help and advice on how residents can register as an interested party if they wish to do so. Council resolved to pay for the booking of Cumnor Village Hall.

27/25 Red House Farm 49.99Mwe solar power station.

- a. Council noted that the expected planning application has not been posted on the VWHDC website

28/25 National Grid's Farmoor Substation.

- a. Council noted [National Grids response](#) to questions raised by Layla Moran MP on behalf of Council.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Exclusion of Press and Public

To move the following resolution, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it is in the public interest that the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting, and they are requested to withdraw.

29/25 Confidential Matters.

Council discussed maintenance issues at Closes Pavilion.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA.
30/25 Items for next month's agenda. None.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS
31/25 Next meeting.

Further meetings will take place in **2025** on Mondays: 3 February, 3 March and 7 April
The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 6 May 2025 venue to be confirmed.**

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Signed..... Date.....2025.