

Gosford and Water Eaton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council held at West Kidlington Primary School on
Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 7pm

Meeting commenced at 7pm

Councillors present: Cllr Clive Stayt (Vice Chair), Cllr Carol Matheson, Cllr Suzanne Mclvior, Cllr Merlin Smith, Cllr Suzanne Wilson-Higgins (Chair), Cllr Nigel Simpson

Guests: Elaine Connolly, Senior Planning Manager, Bellway Homes, Chris James, Development Manager, Bellway Homes, Rob Linnell, Director (Planning), Savills.

To receive and accept apologies of absence from: Cllr Ian Middleton

Other attendees: The clerk

26/022 Declarations of interest: Cllr Mclvor is part of Friends of Stratfield Brake and is also Chair of Cherwell Development Watch Alliance. Cllr Simpson declares he is a season ticket holder for OUFC.

Cllr Simpson is Chair of Shipton on Cherwell. Cllr Middleton is a councillor for Yarnton and Kidlington Parish Councils.

26/023 Bellway Homes / Savills– to hear updates from representatives from Bellway Homes and Savills. The team shared plans for the Bellway / Christchurch development which runs from Cutteslowe down to Oxford Parkway stadium. The clerk will share a link to the website for the development in the next newsletter and on the website.

26/024 Public Participation: None

26/025 To confirm the minutes of the previous council meeting on 10th February 2026. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting on 10th February 2026. Proposed Cllr S Mclvor, Seconded Cllr M Smith

26/026 Update on progress and matters arising from the minutes held on 10th February 2026.

The parish council notes the yellow lines at Water Eaton Lane have still not been actioned. The clerk will ask Cllr Middleton will follow up with Highways again. There is no update in this meeting as Cllr Middleton is not in this meeting.

26/027 Updates from District and County Councillors:

(26/027.01) Cllr Simpson – the next phase of Oxford Technology Park has moved to the next stage of consultation.

26/028 Clerks report summarise and questions:

No questions to the clerk's report which listed financial payments and planning information. Playground covered in finances.

26/029 Financial Matters

(26/029.01) To approve the financial payments. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the financial payments.

Finance committee receive copies of the invoices to review ahead of the meeting. Statutory payments were already authorised and have been paid via standing order.

Statutory salaries, HMRC, pensions already approved and set up – All to be made via online banking. These are set up by the RFO to be clicked in the approvals list.

Other immediate payments – budgeted and approved in annual budget:

West Kidlington venue Mar - £89

Clerk office expenses (Feb) £53.75

Legal fees – RWK Goodman (advice for SB leases) invoice 16897 - £930

Vision ICT – hosting May 26- Apr 27 – inv 21611 - £191.58

OALC – invoice 6140 – annual fees £312

CDC – February 26 – SB management fee £985.50

CDC – March 26 – SB management fee £985.50

(26/029.02) Playground at Cromwell Way needs to be refurbished. It is in quite a state in some areas. RFO has shared what budget available, need to consider what we can spend now and what we can plan for. There is £13,500 in play area improvements - but we do have extra in the general reserves if they wanted another £7k. The clerk has also asked if there are further funds we could use from bin budget / VAT reclaim funds.

Councillor's **RESOLVED** that the clerk could obtain quotes and we will look to spend around £25,000 if the RFO can assist with finding further funds in the budget. Play equipment is very expensive and it was felt this spend would be needed. Cllr Stayt will support in meeting with playground providers.

Suggestion is that we may need to remove a couple of pieces of equipment and add some picnic benches whilst we wait to add further funds for additional equipment. Quotations will come back to council.

Ongoing council will need to budget further sums for additional play equipment provision. There are currently no CDC grants available and S106 money will not cover this as it is an existing park.

26/030 Planning:

(26/030.01) To consider all recent applications received from Cherwell District Council since the last meeting.

Application No.: 26/00362/F

Applicant's Name: Tim Wyatt

Proposal: Garage conversion with new roof, single storey side extension, new roof and rooflights to

existing rear extension and front canopy

Location: 13 Hampden Drive, Kidlington, OX5 2LR

Parish(es): Gosford and Water Eaton

No comment or objection.

(26/030.02) Gosford Hill School – 11th March – open evening. Parents, carers, prospective families and members of our local community are warmly invited to a special evening at Gosford Hill School as we begin an exciting new chapter with our school rebuild. Cllr M Smith is planning to attend and will update the council at the next meeting.

(26/030.03) To receive an update from the Stratfield Brake user group and to consider and approve the SB documentation provided from KPC with regards to managing the site from 1st April 2026. We received documentation from KPC that is being put forward to their next full council meeting.

The numbers represent what is believed to be the worst-case cost wise.

This council awaits legal documentation confirming that KPC is the main management user which GWEPC supports.

GWEPC councillors RESOLVED to approve of the documentation shared by KPC and the clerk will let the clerk to Kidlington Council know. Proposed Cllr N Simpson, Seconded Cllr S McIvor.

26/031 Items for information and next agenda only.

To confirm a date for the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) in May. Proposal is to use the date 12th May 2026 for APM. The clerk will see if Edward Feild can accommodate us for this meeting. 6pm start for full council and APM to follow.

26/032 Date of the next full council meeting – 14th April 2026 – 7pm West Kidlington Primary School.

Meeting ends 9pm