



Benson Parish Council

Benson Parish Hall, Sunnyside, Benson, Wallingford. OX10 6LZ

Tel: 01491 825038 e-mail: clerk@bensontpc.org.uk

Full Council

Membership:

Councillor William Pattison (Chair), Councillor Patricia Baylis (Vice Chair), Councillor Robert Castelow-Sturges, Councillor David Dawkins, Councillor Rob Jordan, Councillor Fiona Lovesey, Councillor Gavin McLauchlan, Councillor Roger Moore, Councillor Phillip Murray, Councillor Ian Skeels, Councillor Tom Stevenson, Councillor Michael Winton.

Minutes of the Full Council meeting, held on Thursday 23rd April at 7.30pm at the Parish Hall.

Layla Johnston

5th May 2026.

Present: Cllr William Pattison (Chair), Cllr Patricia Baylis (Vice Chair), Cllr Rob Jordan, Cllr Gavin McLauchlan, Cllr Roger Moore, Cllr Phillip Murray, Cllr Ian Skeels, Cllr Tom Stevenson, Cllr Michael Winton.

Cllr Sue Cooper - SODC

Nicola Copland – Clerk

Several members of the public.

Izzy Thompson – Henley Standard

1. Apologies and absences.

Cllrs D Dawkins, F Lovesey and R Castelow-Sturges were absent and sent their apologies.

2. Declarations of interest

Members must ensure that they complete the Declaration of Interest sheet prior to the start of the meeting in respect of items other than Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and must indicate the action to be taken (i.e., to stay in the meeting, to leave the meeting or stay in the meeting to make representations and then leave the meeting prior to any considerations or determinations of the item). **None.**

3. To receive written reports from the following:

- a. **OCC** Cllr G McLauchlan Report circulated. LCWIP approved. Mobility Hub ongoing – still trying to get an update. The flags desist order is still being flouted, and OCC say they will take legal action. Cllrs McLauchlan and Moore have cut back vegetation on Brook St to allow installation of new SID.
- b. **SODC** Cllrs S Cooper and A Powell. report circulated. The webinar on the new planning application system is available.

4. Public session

To allow members of the public to ask questions and address the Chair.

The first parishioner addressed the meeting to complain about the state of the roads and footpaths in the village. He had observed a resident fall on uneven pavement, and he said they are particularly dangerous at night. Although this is not a parish council matter, Cllr McLauchlan, in his OCC capacity, advised him to put it onto FixMyStreet and encourage the resident to write to him so he can try and escalate it.

The second parishioner is arranging a free family friendly daytime event at the village hall and on Sunnyside called Saxofest. The event is raising money for Younger People With



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Dementia – a regional charity based in Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Surrey and the Music Hub a Benson/Wallingford/Ewelme charity. They are hoping to have musical activities to inspire children to take up instruments. Requesting subsidisation of the hall hire fee.

The third parishioner was representing “Cycle without Age” - a group of volunteers delivering wellbeing trike rides to the elderly and frail members of the community around Wallingford but would like to extend the service to Benson. The rides are free, so they need to raise money for the trikes. They are asking for a grant of £3000 from BPC to purchase a dedicated trike for Benson.

5. Minutes of the last meeting

It was resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the Full Council meeting on the 26th March 2026 as a true record of the meeting.

6. Exclusion of the Public to discuss an item.

Vote to resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the business, the Press and Public be excluded from the items at the end of this meeting. **Item 15**

7. Updates on previous actions.

Wash-up meeting – B/F

New transport rep – C/F

EV chargers - C/F. Difficulty finding a company interested in providing a service for one charger. Cllr Murray said we would be getting a second charger in due course.

Awards – Have been considered.

Cil WG – Dependent on spend on pavilion

Salt store - ongoing

8. Benson Parish Council Committees.

a. Finance and Staffing Committee

i To receive a report from the Chair of the Finance and Staffing Committee.

In the next few days our full accounts will be circulated and published. This is a large document that gives a pound-by-pound breakdown of all our income and expenditure – it should answer any question you or our Parishioners have about our finances. Financial highlights from 2025/26 include;

A expected surplus of around £46k which is mainly because of the interest on the high levels of CIL we are holding (£35k) and some good halls income during the year. We have also been assisted by the commuted sum received for the skate park which has funded large expenses such as the fencing, un budgeted-for income from the Inpost lockers and payment for the use of Sunnyside by Thames Water.

A word about CIL - a large chunk must be committed in the coming financial year as we have been holding it for 5 years so to avoid a claim back we have to make significant progress on our larger projects.

Other financial highlights –



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A large spend over budget on software subscriptions, this is both increases in existing subscription costs and new ones such as survey tools and poster design packages.

Lower than budgeted expenditure on utilities for several reasons – regular boiler maintenance, removing the (stuck on) immersion heater in the Pavilion and very prompt repair of water leaks at the allotments.

Removal of the Youth Hall and the residual expenses we had for that (business rates, utility standing charges, insurance etc)

A large VAT liability. This was unavoidable but SLCC have provided some excellent support to address the issue going forward.

In summary we are in a good financial position. Most importantly our budgeting and forecasts were accurate and helped keep the precept increase low.

ii It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the updated Standing Orders

iii It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the updated Financial Regulations.

b Planning Committee

i To receive a report from the Chair of the Planning Committee – Cllr Moore raised the lack of secondary school places for Benson children and how this links with planning. School provision and modelling is done by OCC. Cllr Skeels has a meeting with Benson Primary School to discuss school numbers.

c. Halls Committee

i To receive a report from the Chair of the Halls Committee – Barhale have reinstated the overflow carpark. Community Hall gas cooker is being disconnected and has been sold. A more user-friendly cooker will be bought. Have received quotes to fix the leak on the flat roof at Parish Hall. The acoustic panels quote for the committee room was expensive. Intend to purchase the panels ourselves and get the grounds/caretakers to fix them to the walls.

ii It was **RESOLVED** to remove the piano from the main hall as it is rarely used and is untuned.

iii It was **RESOLVED** that the roof is repaired at a cost of no more than £5,700 including VAT.

d. Recreation and Lands Committee.

i To receive a report from the Chair of the Recreation and Lands Committee.

Update on Cuckoo Pen – clearance of vegetation has been done and removal of membrane is almost complete. Next step is to put down grass seed.

ii The Council **NOTED** that all external areas are under the control of this Committee. Eg car parks

c. Awards Committee.

i To receive a report from the Chair - The Awards Committee met and discussed the 4 nominations (2 in each category) and decided to award the Bob Griffiths Shield to Oscar Cowlard. The other nominee was the children from Benson Primary School who took part in a 5-mile run and raised a substantial amount of money for Cancer Research. Agreed to write to the school to commend their efforts.

ii The Don Fletcher Community Award will be given to Marie Finch. Agreed to write to Purely Plants to thank them for all their efforts.

The Chair brought item 12 forward due to members of the public waiting for decisions.

12. To discuss the following grant applications



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i SaxoFest have requested £1,160.30 to cover the cost of hall hire for their upcoming 'not for profit' event at Benson on 20th June, with all proceeds split between two charities- Younger People with Dementia and The Music Club.

It was **RESOLVED** to grant £1,160.30 towards the cost of hall hire.

ii Cycling Without Age Wallingford have requested £3000 to help purchase a dedicated to use in Benson and Ewelme.

It was **RESOLVED** to grant Cycling Without Age £3,000 to help purchase a trike dedicated to use in Benson and Ewelme.

iii Benson WI have requested £100 towards the cost of hiring the parish hall to host their 100th Birthday Afternoon Tea.

It was **RESOLVED** to grant Benson WI £100 towards cost of hall hire.

iv The Oxfordshire Playday Association has requested £1000 to support the 2026 Benson Village/RAF Benson Play and Activity Day which offers both free entrance and free activities to ensure inclusion for all. This will be held at Benson Recreation Ground on Saturday 6th June.

It was **RESOLVED** to grant Oxfordshire Playday Association £1000 towards the Benson Village/RAF Activity Day

ii Wallingford Accessible Boat Club have requested £250 towards the costs of transporting people and equipment to their (80+) river trips.

It was **RESOLVED** to grant Wallingford Accessible Boat Club £250 towards the cost of the river trips.

Action - Going forward, look into creating a new way of funding the Library and Community Shed (i.e. not out of grants) and possibly take forward for discussion at Finance.

9...Benson Parish Council Working Groups and Outside Bodies

a. Neighbourhood Plan Delivery Team

To receive a report from the Chair of the NPDT WG – still awaiting the new NPPF and the joint local plan. These documents will provide the backdrop to the new revision. Looking to use a third party to do the work.

b. Parish Events Working Group.

i To receive a report from the Chair of the Parish Events WG. – Nothing further to report.

c. Transport Representative

i To receive a report from the Transport Representative.- no representative

d. Communications and Engagement Working Group.

i To receive a report from the Chair of the Communications and Engagement WG.

There was a big article including photos in the Henley Standard last week on the Benson litter pick. We're starting to heavily publicise the 16th May Benson Community Celebration (which we're also using for the APM) on Facebook and via posters around the village.

A new events page has been set up on the website in the "What's On" section which we will update with new details and timings as the event takes shape. Going forward we will use this for all our "bigger" Parish events. The QR code on the posters around the village links to this page.

Layla had met with the Engagement and Communities Officer for SOHA. Soha have around 200 residents in Benson split between Hopefield and Chiltern Grange sites. It's a mutual organisation



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which means that its members (residents) decide and participate in how it is run. To keep up involvement levels they run lots of events for tenants. The Officer is very keen to work with us and from our point of view it helps us to engage with people living in the new developments and a different demographic as they are often young families. So far, they have handed out our youth survey and will have a presence at the 16th May Community event. Another contribution towards integration of old and new Benson.

e. **Public Art Fund Working group.**

i To receive a report and an update from the Chair of the Public Art Fund WG – Frances Swann has requested a meeting with the Clerk to catch up, and this will be followed by a full meeting of the WG.

f. **CIL Working group.**

ii To receive a report from the Chair of the CIL WG – no meeting as waiting to get an idea of the cost of pavilion project to understand how much money will be left.

g. **Road safety Working group.**

iii To receive a report from the Chair of the Road Safety WG – waiting for a date for next meeting. Speed watch is active and still managing one session a month. They are very much in need of extra volunteers, Cllr Moore reported that a lot of people stop during the sessions and congratulate them on doing something about speeding in the village. The last session on Watlington Road recorded 220 vehicles in an hour and a half of which 42 exceeded the speed limit. The actual numbers may be double that as the sheer volume of traffic makes it difficult to write down the details of all the vehicles. Each person will receive a letter from TVP. It was suggested that they try to recruit some more volunteers at the Community Event.

h. **Rivermead Working Group.**

To receive a report from the Chair of the Rivermead WG – They have received quotes from pool and splash pad providers – 6 different options ranging from £135k-£330K. Still awaiting input from landscapers.

10 Finance

- i. It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the reconciled bank statements for the current account as of 31st March 2026.
- j. It was **RESOLVED** to approve payments for April 2026.
- k. It was **CONFIRMED** that a Councillor has checked and signed the monthly invoices.

l. To review correspondence received.

- Email from Freddie Van Mierlo re Thames Water. Cllr Moore thinks we should write to Freddie to support what he's doing as we are a river bordering PC. Cllrs supported this. **Action** – Cllr McLauchlan to speak to FVM and ask how we can support him.
- Complaint from DWH resident about the quality of the green spaces which are full of rocks and pieces of flint. BPC have asked the developer if they could put more topsoil on, but they said no as the stones rise to the top as soon as it rains. Cllr Murray has spoken to DWH to ask for further consideration.
- 22nd- 26th May A4130 Nettlebed to Crowmarsh road closure, on the website.
- OALC newsletter and courses on offer
- Barhale new footpath – very successful. Great improvement.
- Benson Community Celebration – Cllr Baylis voiced her thoughts on how much staff time this was taking up.



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m. To review Parish Office Notes – no parish notes

13i The purchase of a tripod mounted ANPR speed device for Benson Speed Watch group was discussed. The cost would be no more than £4,100+ VAT (50% of the cost possibly to be shared with Watlington)

ii The purchase of an additional SID and solar charger for use on Brook Street at a cost of no more than £2,600+VAT was also discussed. Cllrs suggested adjusting the cameras to show a smiley or cross face rather than “slow down”. Also moving the cameras and line of sight needed.

Councillors voted **IN FAVOUR** to purchase both cameras at the stated cost.

14 Questions to the Chair.

No questions were received for the Chair.

15. Items for Councillors to note.

Benshed are having their grand opening on Saturday 9th May 2-4pm. **Action** – Clerk to forward the details to all Councillors to read and reply themselves if they want to attend.

16 The date of the next Full Council meeting. Thursday 28th May (incorporating the APCM) 2026. 7.30pm.

Please note the change for the APM - we will have a presence at the Community Celebration Event - Saturday 16th May 10am - 2pm.

17. Dates of next meetings.

Planning Committee TBA

Finance Committee Tuesday 12th May. 6pm

Halls Committee- Tuesday 6th May 7pm.

Recreation and Lands Committee Thursday 21st May 10.30am.

Awards Committee TBA

Confidential Item

Cllrs discussed the acquisition of green spaces from the developers.



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OCC News April 2026

Cllr Gavin McLauchlan (Benson & Crowmarsh)

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Mob: +44 7710 255569



Yes, it is that time! The Dorchester Festival starts on May 2nd with some “volunteers” abseiling down the tower.

OCC headlines:

Welcome to my April Newsletter.

April is a fallow month when it comes to Full Council meetings, so there is no report on previous Full Council meetings – as that was last month, whilst normally I would comment on our motion for the following month this is going to be the annual ceremonial Full Council where the new Chair and Vice Chair get voted in. Frustratingly this means no motions and no questions to the cabinet (again, as per the February Budget Full Council).

We are still trying to change the constitution to enable more motions to be heard in each Full Council along with an improved rotational approach. It would appear that there is an appetite for this – to this end post the June Full Council we will be starting earlier, the Chair can extend the overall meeting if they feel we haven't got far enough and the rotational nature of motions will be slightly restructured to be fairer to all parties – obviously if it all gets ratified, which it should as a cross-party working group has structured these changes.

The Dorchester Festival: It is “D” Day on Saturday 2nd May (i.e. Dorchester Day!) where some 18 of us will be abseiling down the Abbey Tower to raise funds for the Abbey and Be Free Young Carers, which is something I'm looking forward to immensely! **Please do sponsor me [here](#)** (this will stay as a constant reminder here until done!). Also, the weather will hopefully be good, so why not come along and watch?

Road Resurfacing: OCC announced that **£8million** will be invested in surface treatment for the



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county's roads. This is a preventative measure, hopefully reducing the chance of having as many potholes next winter. The full report is [here](#).

Crime statistics: If you are interested in the crime statistics for our area please see this [URL](#).

Councillor Grants: The full £10k of my Councillor Priority Fund has now been allocated.

Flags: OCC has issued a formal legal [notice](#) to Raise the Colours to stop flagging street furniture. To date this doesn't seem to have worked, but some "incidents" have focussed the collective minds of OCC and TVP.

My roles: No new roles to report.

NEWS IN BRIEF:

Oxfordshire Highways Annual Report: The annual report can be found [here](#).

Local Government reorganisation (LGR): Work is happening in the background to be LGR ready, but full planning can only happen once we hear back from government. We should hear back prior to the summer parliamentary recess on July 16th.

Drain clearing: OCC has committed to cleaning every roadside gully, drain and manhole every year for the duration the current term. (more [here](#)). **I know some drains have been missed** – so please do report these directly to OCC via FixMyStreet.

SEND Improvement notice: The government has removed the improvement notice for services and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in Oxfordshire. Read more [here](#).

LOCAL QUESTIONS TO FULL COUNCIL:

No questions can be asked at the April Full Council.

Please contact me (details at top) if you wish me to raise any questions on your behalf in future Full Council meetings.

CURRENT CONSULTATIONS:

East West Rail (EWR) Consultation: EWR is running a public consultation to 9th June on updated proposals with particular reference to Oxfordshire at London Road, Bicester and Oxford Parkway. More details [here](#).

PARISH ROUND-UP

Please refer [here](#) for all Fix My Street queries in your area. There is a huge volume of these and cover the gamut of OCC responsibilities. Completed actions have been removed.

By Parish Council – in alphabetical order.

Benson:

Questions have been raised about:

- Drainage issues continue in Littleworth Road with three trucks removing sewage per day from Thames Water. Longer term TW and Cala need to come to an accord.
- Mobility Hub consultation now closed. Work on monitoring existing traffic flows completed. Should hear results of both (and funding available) soon. Still waiting...
- Speeding in Benson is still a considerable issue.
- Cameras to be set up to monitor lorry movements within Benson and Ewelme. Cameras purchased – still to be put in locations.
- Salt Store – OCC may be willing to rent this area out for a peppercorn rent to the Scouts / Guides etc. Waiting on Benson PC.
- Benson is having a "Freshers Day" on May 16th. This will include most clubs and societies in the village as well as the annual Benson Parish Council meeting (albeit in a different format).
- Flag removal at the MacDonalds roundabout is in planning at the moment.

Crowmarsh:

- All plans for Benson Lane questioned at last Full Council. Andrew Gant will be visiting the area, which we hope will give some certainty over the full plans. Awaiting timing.
- Need for a 30mph sign on the Port Way (Newnham Manor development dependant...).
- SID's now in North Stoke.
- Reduction in speed request for B4009 (in planning for before Spring 2027 along with other speed restriction changes).
- Consultation on 30mph limit along Benson Lane now complete.
- Councillor surgery to take place on the morning of 9th May.



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Dorchester:

- Armco repair alongside the barrier (which was repaired) which is over the pedestrian underpass of the A4074 from Dorchester – assured would be done, hasn't been. PC chased OCC.
- Lighting on path to Reading direction bus stop on A4074 going ahead £2k applied for and approved.
- Gulley clearance incomplete as per pictures provided by David Ross. Chasing. This has been "resolved", twice, but is still an issue.
- Continuation of path work to bus stop promised as part of the path refurb – on going.
- Provision of flooding signs to be sent to Mike for Watling Lane. Not yet received.

Ewelme:

- Cat Lane pathway / road repair discussions on-going.
- Hazell & Jeffries operating hours versus that defined in the CLEUD.
- Hazell & Jeffries traffic volumes – will be measured soon using trail cams – both in Ewelme and in Benson. Still need to agree on a date.
- Will have a meeting in Ewelme re Quiet Lane status for Cat Lane.
- Bicycle parking stands to be placed at the common and the watercress beds. Money applied for and approved.

Warborough / Shillingford:

- Bollards – now registered on FixMyStreet.
- Shillingford bridge railing repairs in progress – waiting on email response to request to meet at site.
- Drop curb agreed in village centre.
- Potholes have been chased up – question raised with Cabinet on when Thame Road will be resurfaced as in an awful state.
- Culvert on Warborough Road has now been put on FMS.
- Chased up on flag removal from the roundabout. It is on the list to be done.
- New Friday bus service to Wallingford being put into motion.

Days off in May:

None planned.

Title	District Councillors' Report
Authors	Cllrs Andrea Powell & Sue Cooper
Parish	Benson Parish Council
Date	23rd April 2026

Planning appeals

The disappointing result of the planning appeal allowed housing on the unallocated site on the edge of Chalgrove. Despite agreeing with most of the very strong reasons for refusal, the Inspector determined that the lack of a five-year housing land supply tipped the balance in favour of the developer. It was a great relief, therefore, to hear that the site for elderly people's accommodation on the extreme outskirts of Benson was refused. But it highlights the need for having an up to date Neighbourhood Plan in place with allocated housing sites, which Benson has. District Councillors are now being offered regular update sessions on planning appeals. Although a recent appeal



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in Shiplake was dismissed, it was disappointing that the applicants were awarded costs.

Work is ongoing to get a detailed site by site calculation of our five-year land supply.

New Planning System Update

We are preparing to move to a new Planning and Land Charges system as the current system is nearing the end of its support lifecycle, which means it will no longer receive essential updates. Once complete, there will be changes to the look and feel of the new site. Key dates are as follows:

- Planning system downtime: **9–23 April 2026** so we should be back online now;
- Land Charges system downtime: **9 – 30 April 2026**.

A Town & Parish Council online briefing event about the new system was held on Tuesday this week and a recorded version of that is available for viewing.

Alongside the changes to the Planning and Land Charges system, the interactive mapping system on the Councils' websites (which are used to search for areas of the Districts, including planning applications, tree preservation orders and land owned by the Councils) is also being upgraded.

Also new software for our Environmental Services, Private Sector Housing, and Community Safety teams will be introduced soon.

If you have any queries please refer in the first instance to our [South Oxfordshire](#) news page, which has more details including a timeline and the various services impacted.

New Director of Planning – NB all Heads of Service are to be called Directors from now

A new Director of Planning has been selected, following Adrian Duffield's recent retirement. Jeni Jackson is currently Head of Planning and Infrastructure at Basingstoke and Deane Council, having previously worked in the London Boroughs of Richmond-upon-Thames and Wandsworth and the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. She is due to start on 1st July

Extra Garden Waste Collection

There will be an extra Garden Waste Collection next week for those with brown bins. Permit holders can put out a maximum of up to four additional sacks of garden waste, per brown bin subscription, next to their brown bin.



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To be eligible for a collection, residents are asked to follow this guidance:

- Only present garden waste, such as cut grass, plants or small branches as set out in the garden waste service terms and conditions.
- Please use standard sized (60 L) black refuse-style sacks or boxes / containers with a combined total capacity no more than a standard bin when it is full. Crews will only collect up to a maximum of four sacks for each garden waste permit. Additional sacks will not be emptied.
- Please DO NOT use sacks larger than 60 L (including one tonne builders' type waste bags) – our crews will not collect any garden waste from these, as they are too heavy to lift and empty into the vehicle.
- Sacks and containers must be left **open** so crews can easily empty them into the rear of the vehicle and be able to check there are no contaminants.
- All the garden waste collected will be taken to a facility near Wallingford where it is composted. The compost is then sold on to local farmers for use on their farmland as a soil conditioner.

More information on garden waste collections, including how you can purchase an annual permit, can be found on the [South Oxfordshire garden waste page](#) or the [Vale garden waste page](#).

TVP Anti-social behaviour action plan

Thames Valley Police has published an [anti-social behaviour \(ASB\) action plan](#) setting out how the force will prevent, reduce and respond to ASB.

The plan forms part of policing's commitment to the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee, a key element of the Government's Safer Streets mission, and is being launched by all police forces in England and Wales.

Everyone Active Grant – now open!

The *Everyone Active* grant, to improve the health and wellbeing of our residents and the role we play in providing high quality active opportunities for our communities, is now open for applications. We have a budget of £50,000 - with a maximum of £1,000 for each application.

Please help us to spread the word, the scheme will close at midday on **the 22 May** or once the funding has been allocated, whichever comes first! For more information organisations can visit the [Everyone Active grant scheme webpage](#) or email grants@southandvale.gov.uk



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Full Council

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If anyone asks about SODC's grants it is best to refer them to the Grants page of the website: <https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/community-support/grants/> Also, the Grants team are very helpful if you contact them,

There is an opportunity for organisations to find out more about the grants available and the criteria for applications.- Grants officers from South Oxfordshire District Council will be on hand to answer questions and offer advice at Holton Village Hall

Partnership event with OCVA and Oxfordshire Community Foundation: on 6 May
12.15 until 6pm

20's Plenty

If you'd like more stickers to adorn your wheelie bins and you live in an area with a 20mph speed limit you can now have *20's Plenty* stickers to put on them. See https://www.20splenty.org/oxon_wbs

Empty houses

National Empty Homes week was held in March. Between December and February, 163 empty properties across both Districts were brought back into use, many with the involvement of the Empty Homes Officer. If you know of any empty properties in the District which could be brought into use as much needed housing, please email EmptyHomes@SouthandVale.gov.uk

Recycling Update

We are disappointed to report that South Oxfordshire dropped to third place amongst English Council areas for our recycling rate for the year 2024/2025 having been top for the previous 2 years. Our rate actually dropped to 61.3% and the national figure for recycling also fell. These figures were for the year ending in March last year so let's try and get back to the top during this current year which has just started please? And better still would be to reduce the amount of waste we generate. The County Council has to pay a gate fee of so much per tonne to have our residual waste burned to generate electricity. That fee is quite high so reducing our residual waste would help ease the financial burden on OCC.

Just to note, the County Council provides the Oakley Wood household waste recycling centre and indeed others around the County like Redbridge. Since the booking system for these was introduced, there have been concerns this might increase flytipping. So incidences of this are being closely monitored by the District Councils. So please be alert and report any fly tips you see to Biffa please, carefully noting any evidence of where it might have come from - admin.southoxford@biffa.co.uk or call them on 01235 422123



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SODC has carried out a number of successful prosecutions of offenders.

Litter

Many thanks to the 60 parish councils, including Benson, which arranged litter picks

I have written a fairly detailed report on litter for the Benson Bulletin, so I won't repeat it here. But I hope you will read it please!



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1 April 2025 (2025-2026)

Benson Parish Council

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____
Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Approved by: _____ Date: _____
Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

Bank Reconciliation at 31/03/2026		
Cash in Hand 01/04/2025		2,366,632.16
ADD Receipts 01/04/2025 - 31/03/2026		698,490.95
		3,065,123.11
SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2025 - 31/03/2026		531,693.97
A Cash in Hand 31/03/2026 (per Cash Book)		2,533,429.14
Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
6 Coop Current 61006959 31/03/2026	75,277.34	
9 CCLA 31/03/2026	0.00	
3 Unity Trust Bloomfield Account 31/03/2026	58,779.55	
Stripe 28/02/2026	0.00	
Cheques Awaiting Banking 28/02/2026	0.00	
8 Natwest ex Bloomfield account - 28/02/2026	0.00	
4 Coop 61006975 31/03/2026	126,707.56	
5 Coop Public Sector Reserve 610 31/03/2026	12,637.26	
7 Nationwide Business 90183594 - 28/02/2026	0.00	
2 Unity Trust CIL Account 31/03/2026	1,589,282.75	
1 Unity Trust Bank Current Account 31/03/2026	669,800.93	
		2,533,485.39
Less unrepresented payments		
		2,533,485.39
Plus unrepresented receipts		-56.25
B Adjusted Bank Balance		2,533,429.14
A = B Checks out OK		



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CARD						
20	20.04.2026	£19.00	£3.80	£22.80	Image copyright	Shutterstock
21	20.04.2026	£15.00	£3.00	£18.00	phones	Giff Gaff
22	20.04.2026	£22.95	£4.59	£27.54	e reception services	E-Receptionist
32	20.04.2026	£7.00	£0.00	£7.00	land registry search	LandRegistry
33	20.04.2026	£178.91	£35.79	£214.70	Amazon purchases - see invoices	Amazon
34	20.04.2026	£27.50	£5.50	£33.00	Legal docs	Law Depot
35	20.04.2026	£58.36	£11.67	£70.03	van fuel	BP
36	20.04.2026	£823.50	£164.70	£988.20	picnic table for Sunnyside play area	NBB Recycled Furniture
37	20.04.2026	£23.32	£4.66	£27.98	saw blade	Screwfix
DIRECT DEBITS FOR ANNUAL APPROVAL						
6	20.04.2026	£139.00	£0.00	£139.00	Business Rates	South Oxfordshire District Council
7	20.04.2026	£75.00	£15.00	£90.00	Scribe	Scribe - Starboard Systems
24	20.04.2026	£177.11	£8.86	£185.97	Elec ch	EDF
26	20.04.2026	£48.00	£9.60	£57.60	Scribe bookings	Scribe - Starboard Systems
30	20.04.2026	£253.97	£50.80	£304.77	IT Support	Oxford IT Solutions
31	20.04.2026	£666.00	£0.00	£666.00	CH Business Rates	South Oxfordshire District Council
39	20.04.2026	£78.00	£15.60	£93.60	hr & payroll	Iris
40	20.04.2026	£1,499.66	£255.41	£1,755.07	Gas all properties	Southern Electric Power Distribution plc
41	20.04.2026	£330.57	£0.00	£330.57	Water PH Allot Rmead YH	Everflow Water
25	20.04.2026	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00	ph broadband	Virgin Media
45	21.04.2026	£72.80	£14.56	£87.36	personal alarms	Vatix
ONLINE						
8	20.04.2026	£10,903.64	£0.00	£10,903.64	salaries	staff
15	20.04.2026	£2,867.52	£0.00	£2,867.52	Pension	OCC Pension Fund
16	20.04.2026	£4,024.41	£0.00	£4,024.41	PAYE Etc	HMRC Cumbernauld



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17	20.04.2026	£600.00	£0.00	£600.00	cleaning	Clear View Window cleaning
18	20.04.2026	£276.91	£54.34	£331.25	HR	Peninsula
19	20.04.2026	£29.28	£5.86	£35.14	photocopier	Clarity Copiers Ltd
23	20.04.2026	£49.37	£9.87	£59.24	wifi ch	British Telecommunications plc
28	20.04.2026	£454.97	£91.01	£545.98	Hygiene services	Cathedral Leasing Limited
29	20.04.2026	£155.65	£31.13	£186.78	waste removal	Grundon Waste Management Limited
38	20.04.2026	£166.84	£33.37	£200.21	Dog Waste collection	Shield Maintenance
42	21.04.2026	£125.93	£0.00	£125.93	refuse collection	South Oxfordshire District Council
43	21.04.2026	£41.99	£8.40	£50.39	hi viz and boots	Arco
44	21.04.2026	£599	£119.80	£718.80	website audit	Aqueous UK Ltd
46	21.04.2026	£1,300.84	£260.17	£1,561.01	boiler service	Lowe & Oliver
47	21.04.2026	£675.00	£135.00	£810.00	Braze Lane topo survey	Oxford Geospatial
48	21.04.2026	£120.00	£0.00	£120.00	advert for community event	Benson Bulletin
49	21.04.2026	£5.62	£1.13	£6.75	Expenses mileage	Tanya Ellis
50	21.04.2026	£114.67	£22.94	£137.61	Banners for APM	Printed Today



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