OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Oxspring Parish Council held on the 3 March 2025, at 7.15pm in St Aidans Church Hall.

Present: Cllr Ann Walker (Chair)
Cllr Graham Sedgwick (Vice Chair)
Cllr Lisa Chambers
Cllr Ian Stanley
Cllr Ian Yems
The Parish Clerk
Jenny Abdy (OUFC) for 8.1

1. The Chair opened the meeting and provided a reminder to all in attendance on the Council's expectations about audio or visual recordings of the meeting.

Public Participation
None.

2.1 **To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Alan Harley and Cllr Emily Gratton-Rayson.

2.2 **To consider the approval of reasons for absence given by councillors**

The reasons for the apologies were approved.

3.1 **To receive, consider and decide upon any applications for dispensation**

No members of the council had any requests for dispensation.

3.2 **To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

None.

4. **To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2025, as a true and correct record**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of Oxspring Parish Council held on 3 February 2025 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

5. **To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary**

5.1 In Cllr Harleys absence it was not possible to check whether his email is now working on his phone. To carry forward to the next meeting.
5.2 The lamp posts on Sheffield Road are now working.
5.3 The Clerks laptop has been purchased and is set up.
5.4 The Christmas tree installation parts have been received and the procedure is in place.
5.5 A new bin is on order for Roughbirchworth Lane near the TPT.
5.6 G Hinchcliffe has agreed to repair the wall on Sheffield Road. Cllr Chambers will check if a price has been agreed with the company that caused the damage.

6. **To consider and decide upon the following planning applications**

None.

7. **Planning Decisions and information**

7.1 2024/1047 – 15 Psalters Drive – single storey side extension – approved.

8. **Matters requested by councillors**

8.1 **To discuss grass cutting with OUFC**
Jenny Abdy on behalf of OUFC discussed the cutting of the playingfield. A quote for pitch cutting and cutting of the remaining field obtained by OUFC was discussed. It was agreed to accept the quote and for the grass cutting contract to be with the Parish Council. It was agreed that OUFC would contribute to the quote for the cutting of the pitches. The amount of the contribution required will be agreed at the April meeting.

RESOLVED to accept the quote and to obtain a new quote from BMBC to not include the playingfield.

The OUFC clubhouse plans were also discussed and it was reported that plans are in the process of being drawn and pre planning approval will be applied for shortly.

8.2 **To discuss allotments.**
The Clerk reported that allotment invoices had been issued.

It was RESOLVED to charge the normal fee for the three plots that had not been charged during 2024 due to the flooding in 2023.

8.3 **Community Allotment & Orchard**
Nothing to report.

8.4 **Titivator Report**
Nothing to report.

8.5 ***Playarea Inspections***
Cllrs EG Rayson and Sedgwick have met with A Walker to go through the inspection procedure and are now able to cover this work if required.

During the recent inspection it was noted that some rotten timber in the fence and the toddler multi-unit will need to be replaced, and the chains on the swings will need to be replaced. Prices will be obtained.

It was also noted that the side fences to the swings are no longer required. RESOLVED that the Clerk get this in writing from BMBC should the fences need repairing in the future.

8.6 **To discuss Hanging Basket issues**
The Clerk reported that hanging basket invoices had been issued. There are a few sponsors that are not renewing. It was agreed to advertise for more sponsors on social media.

It was noted that BMBC were not allowing one lamppost to be used as it is due to be replaced with a metal one soon.

It was also reported that BMBC will be requiring sponsor signs to be removed and reinstalled each winter. This information has come from the contractor, not BMBC. The fee to remove, store and reattach will be £6/plaque. (£2 – remove & store, £4 to reattach)

It was RESOLVED to review the hanging basket fees for future years and look at the amount that the Parish Council is subsidising the costs at the April meeting. The cost of the Willows baskets will also be reviewed.

8.7 **To received SID readings**

SID readings for the last year were discussed.

It was RESOLVED to do a month on month comparison between 2024 and 2025 for the month of February.

9. **To receive and consider for decision any recommendations from the Council's Committees**

None.

10. **Financial Matters**

Relevant documents had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting with the agenda.

10.1 RESOLVED to note the balances in the current, savings & money market accounts.

10.2 RESOLVED to accept the bank reconciliation to 28/2/25.

10.3 RESOLVED to accept the Receipts and Payment report to 28/2/25.

10.4 RESOLVED to approve payment to:

Payments				
Date	**Ref**	**Name**	**Description**	**Gross amount**
Current Account				
03/03/2025	70	Dell	Laptop for Clerk	480.59
03/03/2025	71	Amazon	parts for xmas tree install	131.39
03/03/2025	72	St Aidans	Hall hire	90.00
03/03/2025	73	Gallagher Insurance	PC insurance	1209.29
03/03/2025	74	S Tolson	Clerks expenses	8.32
03/03/2025	75	David Austin Roses	Roses for rose garden	101.70
03/03/2025	76	Mower Magic Ltd	Lawnmower	379.00
12/02/2025		HSBC	Bank charges	8.00
25/02/2025		HSBC	Bank charges	8.00
				2416.29
Deposit Account				
NONE				0.00
				0.00
Receipts				
Date	**Ref**	**Name**	**Description**	**Amount**
Current Account				
28/02/2025	CR	various	hanging basket sponsorship Feb	1666.00
				1666.00
Deposit Account				
None				
				0.00
Transfers				
Date	**Ref**	**Name**	**Description**	**Amount**
none				

10.5 *To note payments already authorised*

It was noted that the Clerk's salary as per the contract of employment, had been paid for the month of February.

10.6 The earmarked fund report was reviewed.

11. **Correspondence received**

11.1 All correspondence already discussed under other agenda items.

12. **To receive items to report from Councillors**

12.1 The Chair enquired about website accessibility compliance. The Clerk will contact Tim Rivett re any work required.

12.2 The Chair enquired on behalf of Oxspring Friends as to whether they could store items in the Parish Council container. This was agreed. Oxspring Friends also asked the Parish Council to sponsor their 2025 calendar. The Chair and Cllr Sedgwick declared an interest in this agenda item and therefore did not participate in the discussion.

It was RESOLVED to have a discussion on making a donation to Oxspring Friends at the next meeting when more Councillors would be present.

12.3 Cllr Stanley reported on a Luncheon Club at the Travellers and that they were looking for raffle sponsors. It was RESOLVED to discuss on the next agenda as to whether to make a contribution.

13. **Items for the next ordinary meeting of the Council**

The Chair reminded members that the councillors are to provide specified agenda items to the Clerk at least one week prior to the next Council meeting in accordance with the Council's adopted policy.

14. **Employment matters**

14.1 None.

15. **Date of the next meeting**

It was noted that in accordance with the agreed schedule, the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council would be held on the 7th April 2025 at 7.15pm.

There being no other business, the Chair thanked all for attending and the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed:

Clerk: Date:

Chair: Date: