

BLACKBIRD LEYS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 31st March 2026, at 7.00 pm at the Leys Leisure Centre

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- MEMBERS PRESENT:** **Parish Councillors:** Imade Edosomwan (Chair), Natalie Webb (Vice-chair David Newman, Dan Wadsworth, Melissa Latchman, and Kathy Balsamo and Brian Lester.
- OTHER COUNCILLORS:** **City Councillors:** None.
County Councillor: Imade Edosomwan.
- OFFICERS PRESENT:** **Clerk to the Council:** Emma Kearney
- OTHERS PRESENT:** **Members of the Public:** 3
Peabody Development Manager: Kris Hall
- APOLOGIES:** The following apologies were received:
Parish Councillors: Gill Taylor, Hassan Sabriye and Anthony Church.
City Councillors: Hosnieh Djafari-Marbini and Lubnar Arshad.
Oxford City Council Regeneration Manager: Karoline Soisalo de Mendonca.
Oxford City Council Leys Locality Manager: Shabnam Sabir.

FC0142/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION
None

FC0143/25 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to accept the minutes for the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th February 2026 as a true record.

FC0144/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
A resident introduced themselves and explained they have attended to observe the meeting.

FC0145/25 REGENERATION UPDATE
An update was received.

FC0146/25 COUNCILLOR UPDATE
Councillors present gave their reports.

FC0147/25 CASUAL VACANCY
The Council **NOTED** that a casual vacancy has arisen following the operation of section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, and that notice of the vacancy has been given to Oxford City Council.

FC0148/25 COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP UPDATE

- 1. Planning Committee**
An update was received.
- 2. Events Committee**
The events committee did not meet due to not being quorate.
- 3. Neighbourhood Plan Working Group**
Representatives of the Oxford Neighbourhood Plan Alliance attended and provided an overview of the Neighbourhood Plan project.

FC0149/25 600 BUS ROUTE - CONSULTATION RESPONSE
A consultation response request had been received from Oxfordshire County Council regarding financially supported bus services, with a deadline of 20 April 2026. Cllr Newman confirmed that the 700 bus route was not included in the consultation as it operates commercially; the relevant route for Blackbird Leys is the 600. The Clerk advised that an email had been sent to the county for clarification on the routes, and the parish was awaiting a response.

FC0150/25 ASSERTION 10

The council considered the following

1. IT Policy

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to adopt the IT policy.

2. Data Protection Policy

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to adopt the Data Protection Policy.

3. Accessibility Statement

It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to adopt the Accessibility Statement for publication on the council's website and to confirm that it will be reviewed and kept up to date.

4. ICO Model Publication Scheme transparency

It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to adopt the ICO Model Publication Scheme transparency.

FC0151/25 FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. Income

The clerk advised the council that the VAT return had been collated and a total of £3,580.75 would be submitted for a refund.

2. Finance Report

The following budget update was **RECEIVED**.

	Hall Hire	Stationery	Bank Charges	Travel	Mobile
SPENT	£1,721.00	£0.00	£112.00	£81.90	£156.64
BUDGETED	£2,125.00	£300.00	£108.00	£325.00	£180.00
REMAINING	£404.00	£300.00	-£4.00	£243.10	£23.36

	Budget				
	Office 365	Memberships	Insurance	Info Cert	Audit fee
SPENT	£0.00	£2,659.16	£564.27	£52.00	£678.00
BUDGETED	£80.00	£2,650.00	£900.00	£45.00	£700.00
REMAINING	£80.00	-£9.16	£335.73	-£7.00	£22.00

	Budget					
	Grants	Salary	WFHA	Pension	HMRC	Com Engage Promo
SPENT	£2,500.00	£18,758.64	£288.00	£5,776.17	£5,199.35	£1,046.57
BUDGETED	£3,000.00	£19,000.00	£288.00	£5,200.00	£5,400.00	£1,000.00
REMAINING	£500.00	£241.36	£0.00	-£576.17	£200.65	-£46.57

	Strategic Air			
	Comm mapping	Exploring R place	Learning about R com	Dropbox
SPENT	£0.00	£0.00	£283.16	£199.00
BUDGETED	£1,050.00	£850.00	£2,000.00	£200.00
REMAINING	£1,050.00	£850.00	£1,716.84	£1.00

	Strategic Aims			
	Training	Improving the place	Annual Meeting	Mailboxes
SPENT	£504.00	£480.00	£53.51	£1,048.00
BUDGETED	£2,000.00	£2,600.00	£200.00	£865.00
REMAINING	£1,496.00	£2,120.00	£146.49	-£183.00

	CIL Fund	General Reserves	Grant	Rebranding	Elections
SPENT	£7,077.94	£120.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
BUDGETED	£63,995.16	£5,000.00	£10,000.00	£8,000.00	£5,000.00
REMAINING	£56,917.22	£4,880.00	£10,000.00	£8,000.00	£5,000.00

	New Cll costs	Ins Excess	Crisis Fund	Staff Costs
SPENT	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
BUDGETED	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£3,000.00	£1,965.00
REMAINING	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£3,000.00	£1,965.00

	Reserves				
	Training	Events	Grants	Str.Aims	Legal Costs
SPENT	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
BUDGETED	£8,000.00	£2,300.00	£1,000.00	£5,000.00	£7,500.00
REMAINING	£8,000.00	£2,300.00	£1,000.00	£5,000.00	£7,500.00

3. Training

None

4. Internal Financial Auditor

Cllr Edosomwan confirmed review of invoices against the March 2026 cashbook as correct.

5. Cashbook Payments

The cashbook payments for March 2026 were circulated before the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to approve and pay the cashbook payments as presented.

Date	Payee	Description	Total
04/03/2026	HG3	March Mobile Phone Charge	£13.10
31/03/2026	Lloyds Bank	March Corp Card Monthly Fee	£7.00
12/03/2026	Unity Trust	March Corp Card Monthly Fee	£3.00
31/03/2026	OCC	March Pension	£489.03
31/03/2026	Clerk	March Wages	£1,548.68
31/03/2026	Clerk	WFHA - March 2026	£24.00
31/03/2026	Clerk	Mileage - 17th March	£11.70
31/03/2026	Wix	Mailbox for Parish Online	£23.62
		Total	£2,120.13

FC0152/25 SIGNED: _____
Councillor Edosomwan

The meeting closed at 20.45