

Blackbird Leys Parish Council Statement of Variance for the Year Ending 31 March 2026

Receipts and Payments Account 2025-26		
Yr 2024-25	Receipts	Yr 2025-26
	There was no increase in the precept request for 2025-26.	
£13,107	CIL Receipts	£0
	No CIL receipts were received in 2025-26 (2024-25 included two	
£10,000	Other Income (Neighbourhood Plan Grant)	£0
	The one-off £10,000 Neighbourhood Plan grant received in 2024-25 was not repeated in 2025-26.	
£77,496	Total Receipts	£54,389
Yr 2024-25	Staff Costs	Yr 2025-26
£30,580	Staff Costs, HMRC & Pension	£31,432
	The clerk is paid for 25 hours per week.	
£18,705.68	Salary	£18,758.64
£6,201.60	HMRC	£6,896.79
£5,672.41	Pension	£5,776.17
Yr 2024-25	Payments	Yr 2025-26
£216	Working From Home Allowance	£288
	The Clerk is entitled to claim a working from home allowance of £24 per month. The allowance was claimed for all 12 months of the financial year.	
WFHA Variance Explanation +33%		
2024-25 only covered 9 months of claims (commenced 1 July 2024) versus a full 12 months in 2025-26.		
£802.50	Hall Hire	£1,721
	The Parish Council hired rooms at the Leys Leisure Centre and Blackbird Leys Bowls Club to host Full Council, Planning Committee and Neighbourhood Plan Working Group meetings.	
Hall Hire Variance Explanation + 114%		
Hire costs increased due to new venue cost hourly rate increase and additional meetings.		
£2,248.68	Memberships	£2,659.16
£2,248.58	OALC - Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils	£2,495.96
£0.00	SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks)	£163.20
Memberships — Variance: +17%		
The increase reflects higher membership fee.		
£769.54	Insurance	£564.27
	Annual Policy	£554.58
	Additional cost	£9.69
Insurance Variance Explanation -27%		
Insurance costs decreased due to switching provider from Zurich to Ansvar, with a small mid-term policy amendment adding £9.69 to the premium.		
£0	Strategic Aims - Community Engagement	£1,120
	Amazon — Event Materials (easel pads, flip charts, stationery, whiteboard sheets)	£113.14
	Bowls Club - Venue Hire- January Event	£212.50
	Display Materials - historical photos	£72.00
	Expenses - Catering -January Event	£84.96
	Promotional Materials - Facebook ad	£19.35
	Promotional Materials - Poster printing	£21.00
	Amazon - retro - Parish Stall	£40.44
	AGA Printing - retro - Parish Stall	£32.84
	Wix - Mailbox for Parish Online	£23.62
	NP Video Work	£500.00

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NP Community Engagement - Cost Explanation		
Neighbourhood Plan costs recorded across two budget codes (Community Engagement Promotion and Nh Plan), which together tie out to the figures above.		
£877.48	Email Addresses / Mailboxes	£1,058.91
£799.48	12 mailboxes 13	£1,048.32
£78.00	GOV domain renewal - every 2 years	£0.00
£0.00	1 additional mailbox for Parish Online	£10.59
Email Addresses / Mailboxes — Variance: + 21% The increase reflects a rise in mailbox numbers from 12 to 13, an increase in Wix's per-mailbox annual rate, and the one-off cost of an additional mailbox for Parish Online. No GOV domain renewal fee fell due in 2025-26.		
£230.40	CIL Fund Expenditure	£7,067.35
£230.40	Annual Wix Website Fee	£230.40
	Supply and installation of three replacement noticeboards.	£6,836.95
CIL Fund Expenditure — Variance: + 2,967% The substantial increase reflects the one-off cost of supplying and installing three replacement noticeboards, funded from the CIL Fund, in addition to the recurring annual Wix website fee (£230.40), which Oxford City Council has confirmed is an eligible use of CIL funds.		
£246.00	Training	£504.00
£42.00	Communicating with your community	£0.00
£72.00	Training - Leading Your Council	£0.00
£132.00	Councillors attended Roles and Responsibilities	£276.00
£0.00	1 Councillor attended Social Media	£42.00
£0.00	Clerk attended Governance and Transparency	£60.00
£0.00	Clerk attended Data Protection 1	£42.00
£0.00	Clerk attended Data Protection 2	£42.00
£0.00	Clerk attended Data Protection 3	£42.00
Training — Variance: + 105% The increase reflects training required to meet new Assertion 10 obligations on digital and data compliance, including three Data Protection courses for the Clerk and a Governance and Transparency course, together with a Social Media course attended by a councillor and an adoption of the new Social Media Policy. Further councillor training, aligned to individual portfolio responsibilities, is anticipated to continue into 2026-27.		
£0.00	Zoom Business Account	£209.88
	Zoom Business Account, used for monthly Neighbourhood Plan check in sessions.	
£35.00	Information Commissioner Fee	£52.00
	Annual Fee	
ICO Fee — Variance: +49% The increase reflects the statutory ICO fee tier rising from £35 to £40 in 2025-26, plus a £5 shortfall payment made in respect of the prior year.		
£673.00	Audit Fee	£678.00
£295.00	Internal audit fee	£300.00
£378.00	External audit fee	£378.00
£19.50	Printing & Stationery	£0.00
	No stationery or printing costs were cashed in 2025-26	

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£0	Improving the Place	£480
	Geosphere Ltd — Parish Online mapping subscription for Neighbourhood Plan Project	
£149.94	Telephone	£156.64
	Monthly mobile phone contract for the Clerk provided by HG3 (£12.54 in April 2025, £13.10 per month thereafter).	
£0	General Reserves Spend	£120
	Independent Review of Clerks Hours	
£749.00	Subscriptions (Dropbox)	£199.00
	Annual Dropbox cloud storage subscription (£199.00) for	
£107.40	Bank Charges	£103.00
	Monthly fees for the Unity Trust current account (£6 per month,	
£0.00	Annual Meeting	£53.51
	Light refreshments purchased from Tesco for the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27th May 2025 (FC014/25, FC048/25).	
£1,801.20	Planning Consultant	£0.00
	No planning consultant costs were incurred in 2025-26.	
£198.20	Travel	£93.60
	Mileage expenses claimed by the Clerk for attendance at meetings and training during the year. The reduction reflects fewer journeys required compared to 2024-25.	
£21,099.17	Total Payments	£19,628.17
Supporting Statement to the Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ending 31 March 2026		
Bank Balances		
Yr 2024-25		Yr 2025-26
£94,459	Bank Account Balance 1 April	£120,277
£77,496	Total Receipts	£54,389
£51,679	Total Payments	£19,628
£120,277		£155,038
CIL Fund		
Yr 2024-25		Yr 2025-26
£13,106.82	Total CIL Income	£0.00
£230.40	Total Expenditure	£7,067.35
£63,995.16	Balance	£56,927.81
Reserves		
Yr 2024-25		Yr 2025-26
£5,990	3 months running costs.	£5,990
Available Funds		
Yr 2024-25		Yr 2025-26
£120,277.00	Unity Trust Bank Account Balance 1 April 2026	£133,017.12
£288.76	Less Unpresented Cheques	£9,399.47
£63,995.16	Less CIL Fund	£56,927.81
£5,989.87	Less Reserves	£5,990
£50,003	Total Available to Spend	£60,700

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Assets		
Yr 2024-25		Yr 2025-26
£318.51	Additional Laptop purchased 11/12/2010	£318.51
£1,912.76	Large Printer/Copier purchased 29/03/2011	£1,912.76
£3,316.20	2 x Defibrillators and cases purchased 27/10/2015	£3,316.20
£4,200.00	3 x Memorial Garden Benches purchased 31/01/2016	£4,200.00
£228.00	12 x Dog Fouling signs purchased 28/06/2016	£228.00
£100.00	20 x 'Keep Britain Tidy' Dog Fouling signs 13/12/2016	£100.00
£1,260.00	3 Litter Bins purchased 13/12/2016	£1,260.00
£10.00	Hi-Visibility Jackets purchased 28/03/2017	£10.00
£104.45	Sundries & Colouring Competition purchased 25/07/2017	£104.45
£174.00	Board of Ideas purchased 05/12/2017	£174.00
£378.00	Clerk Laptop purchased 11/05/2018	£378.00
£205.93	Gazebo purchased 31/07/2019	£205.93
£2,936.27	3 x Noticeboards purchased 26/04/2019 — disposed 29/01/2026	£0.00
£229.97	Epson Workforce printer, scanner & copier 26/01/2021	£229.97
£369.00	Clerk Laptop purchased 28/04/2022	£369.00
£138.99	A copy of Arnold Baker 13th Edition	£138.99
£145.00	Mobile phone handset	£145.00
£115.00	Office desk	£115.00
£192.00	Defibrillator	£192.00
£0.00	3 x Noticeboards — Topshops, Dunnock Way & Balfour Road	£6,836.95
£16,334.08	Total Asset Value	£20,234.76
Borrowing		
Yr 2024-25		Yr 2025-26
£0.00	The Parish Council does not have any borrowings.	£0.00
Leases		
Yr 2024-25		Yr 2025-26
£0.00	The Parish Council does not have any leases.	£0.00
Tenancies		
Yr 2024-25		Yr 2025-26
£0.00	The Parish Council does not have any tenancies.	£0.00
Yr 2024-25	LGA (1972) s.137 Grants	Yr 2025-26
£10.81	Allowance per elector	£11.10
13,000	Number of electors	13,000
£140,530.00	Total amount available	£144,300.00
Yr 2024-25	Spent	Yr 2025-26
£500.00	Oxford Afrobeats Festival	£500.00
£500.00	WEmpowered CIC	£500.00
£500.00	Assisted Reading for Children (ARCh)	£500.00
£500.00	Agnes Smith Advice Centre	£500.00
	Oxford Play Association	£500.00
£2,000.00	Total Spent	£2,500.00
Signed:		
	Chairman	
Date:		
Signed:		
	Responsible Financial Officer	
Date:		