

BLACKBIRD LEYS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 29th July 2025, at 7.00 pm held at the Leys Leisure Centre

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** **Parish Councillors:** Imade Edosomwan (Chair), Natalie Webb (Vice-chair), Gill Taylor, David Newman, Dan Wadsworth, Melissa Latchman, Kieran Watson, Hassan Sabriye and Kathy Balsamo.
- OTHER COUNCILLORS:** **City Councillors:** Hosnieh Djafari-Marbini and Simon Ottino.
County Councillor: Imade Edosomwan.
- OFFICERS PRESENT:** **Clerk to the Council:** Emma Kearney
- OTHERS PRESENT:** **Members of the Public:** 18
- APOLOGIES:** The following apologies were received:
Parish Councillors: Anthony Church
Oxford City Council Regeneration Manager: Karoline Soisalo de Mendonca.
Peabody Development Manager: Kristina Hall

A minute's silence was observed for former Cllr Lewis who had passed away.

- FC051/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION**
None
- FC052/25 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to accept the minutes for the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 24th June 2025 as a true record.
- FC053/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
Members of the public raised points not pertaining to items on the agenda.
- FC054/25 REGENERATION UPDATE**
A written update was received.
- FC055/25 COUNCILLOR UPDATE**
The councillors, officers and community groups present gave their update.
- FC056/25 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**
The following planning applications as they expire before the August planning committee meeting.

	Application	Address	Ward	Deadline	Outcome
1.	25/01452/FUL Erection of a single storey front extension with canopy. Relocation of existing staff entrance to rear. Alterations to fenestration and front facade. Provision of a new car park and drop-off area. Associated landscaping.	Mabel Prichard Cuddesdon Way	Blackbird Leys	17.08.2025	No objection
2.	25/01588/FUL Demolition of existing commercial and leisure buildings (Class E/Sui Generis) and erection of a phased redevelopment of the site comprising of mixed use R&D laboratories (Class E(g)) with active ground floor uses (Class E), restoration of Grade II* Listed	Ozone Leisure Park Grenoble Road Oxford	Northfield Brook & Littlemore border	16.08.2025	Object due to lack of information

	Minchery Priory public house (sui generis), construction of community leisure building (sui generis), construction of Cowley Branch Line mobility hub, construction of electrical substation, hard and soft amenity and biodiversity landscape and public realm and other supporting or ancillary works and infrastructure including access and servicing.				
3.	25/01567/FUL Demolition of existing single storey buildings. Erection of a two storey building to create unloading area/storage unit. Provision of car parking, bin and cycle stores.	Old Station Yard Watlington Road Cowley	Blackbird Leys	17.08.2025	No objection
4.	25/01387/FUL Demolition of existing side mono pitched roof extension, rear conservatory and single storey side extension. Erection of a single storey side extension. Erection of a replacement rear store shed. Provision of bin and cycle stores.	2 Overmead Green Oxford	Northfield Brook	17.08.2025	No objection
5.	PP-13594765 Erection of a part single, part two storey side and rear extension and external stair to create 2 x 1 bed flats (Use Class C3). Erection of a single storey rear extension to existing dwelling. Provision of car parking, bin and cycle storage, and alterations to landscaping. (Amended description, plans and additional information)	33 Blackbird Leys Road Oxford Oxfordshire OX4 6HJ	Blackbird Leys Parish	12.08.2025	No objection

FC057/25 GRANT AWARD - WEMPOWERED CIC

It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to approve the grant of £500 to WEmpowered CIC for the purchase of fence materials for the community allotment on Sorrel Road. This was awarded under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s 19.

FC058/25 NOTICEBOARD REPLACEMENT

Cllr Wadsworth's written proposal was circulated in advance of the meeting, including two detailed quotes to replace the existing 3 noticeboards. It was established that Cllr Wadsworth's recommendation for the ODS quote which included the removal and disposal of existing boards, supply and installation of 3x notice boards with accessories for £6,836.95 including VAT was the best option, as the Nexus Civils quote of £2,985 plus VAT was for installation only. It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to approve the ODS quote of £6,836.95 to be paid from CIL funds.

FC059/25

ID Badges and Pictures on Website

It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to approve

1. Official ID badges for councillors.
2. Councillor photographs on badges and website (with consent).
3. Cllr Webb to produce initial badges.
4. Future budget provision for materials to be confirmed.

FC060/25

PARISH COUNCIL LOGO REVIEW

Cllr Webb presented logo options.

It was **RESOLVED** by majority vote to proceed with design consultations and report back with recommendations.

FC061/25

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP

Cllr Newman reported successful engagement at Leys Festival with 33 suggestions received and strong public participation.

It was **RESOLVED** by majority vote to approve:

1. Allocation of £18,000 from CIL funds for Neighbourhood Plan project (allocation only, not immediate expenditure).
2. Summer community engagement with a stall at Oxford Afrobeats Festival (the same as at the Leys Festival) with £130 budget for materials.
3. Neighbourhood Plan logo selection (option #6 - "The Leys" with "Blackbird Leys Parish Council" underneath in bolder text).
4. Appointment of new working group member with relevant qualifications.

FC062/25

FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. Income

None

2. Internal Financial Controller

Cllr Edosomwan confirmed review of invoices against the July and August 2025 cashbook as correct.

3. Cashbook

It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to approve to purchase and pay the invoices listed on the July and August 2025 cashbook.

Date	Payee	Description	Total
02/07/2025	HG3	July Mobile Phone Charge	£12.54
09/07/2025	Lloyds Bank	July Corporate Card Monthly Fee	£3.00
10/07/2025	Oxfordshire County Council	July Pension	£474.10
10/07/2025	Unity Trust	Bank Account Fee	£6.00
25/07/2025	Clerk	July Wages	£1,532.22
25/07/2025	HMRC	Employee Contributions	£1,697.44
27/07/2025	Clerk	WFHA - July 2025	£24.00
28/07/2025	Clerk	WFHA - Aug 2025	£24.00
29/07/2025	More Leisure	July Hall Hire	£187.50
29/07/2025	WEmpowered CIC	Small Grant	£500.00
29/07/2025	More Leisure	Feb Hall Hire - Missed	£125.00
02/08/2025	HG3	Aug Mobile Phone Charge	£13.10
09/08/2025	Lloyds Bank	Aug Corporate Card Monthly Fee	£3.00
10/08/2025	Oxfordshire County Council	Aug Pension	£474.10
10/08/2025	Unity Trust	Bank Account Fee	£6.00
25/08/2025	Clerk	Aug Wages	£1,532.22

Total £6,614.22

FC063/25

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

All proposals to be submitted to the clerk in writing at least 10 clear days before the meeting as per Standing Order 9B.

FC064/25

SIGNED: _____

Councillor Edosomwan

The meeting closed at 20.58