

BLACKBIRD LEYS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the council held on Tuesday, 28th July 2026, at 7.00 pm at the Leys Leisure Centre.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Natalie Webb (Chair), David Newman (Vice-Chair), Imade Edosomwan, Hassan Sabriye, Barrie Finch, Morgan Wilkinson, Melissa Latchman, Brian Lester, Michael Osborne, Millie Henson and Steve James.

OFFICERS PRESENT: **Clerk to the Council:** Emma Kearney.
Peabody Development Manager: Kris Hall.
City Councillors: Trish Elphinstone and Simon Ottino.

OTHERS PRESENT: **Members of the Public:** 4

APOLOGIES: The following apologies were received:
Parish Councillors: Gillian Taylor, Maria Fancaria and Kathy Balsamo.
City Councillors: Linda Smith and Lubna Arshad.
Oxford City Council Regeneration Manager: Karoline Soisalo de Mendonca.

FC39/26 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION**
None.

FC40/26 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to accept the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 30th June 2026 as a true record.

FC41/26 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
None

FC42/26 **REGENERATION UPDATE**
A verbal update was received from Peabody.

FC43/26 **COUNTY, CITY AND PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS**
Councillors present gave their reports.

FC44/26 **CORRESPONDENCE OUT**

- 1. Gym Alarm Noise – Accessibility Concern**
It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to write to the Leys Leisure Centre regarding reports that alarm noise at the gym is causing distress to residents with sensory sensitivities.
- 2. Card Increase**
It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to approve the letter, signed per the banking mandate, requesting Unity Trust Bank increase the cardholder limit to £1,500 to cover the cost of future group mailboxes.

FC45/26 **CONSULTATIONS**

- 1. Local Government Reorganisation**
The outcome of the Government's decision on Local Government Reorganisation in Oxfordshire and West Berkshire was **NOTED**.
- 2. Blackbird Leys Footpath No. 2 (part) - Proposed Diversion Under the Highways Act 1980 s.119**
The Council considered Oxfordshire County Council's consultation on the proposed diversion of part of Footpath No. 2 at Knights Road.
It was **RESOLVED** by majority vote to respond to Oxfordshire County Council raising the following points:
 - Whether the footpath is also intended to be used as a cycle track.
 - The Council's request for clarification on why the existing route