

MINUTES OF THE ADDERBURY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT CHURCH HOUSE, HIGH STREET, ADDERBURY ON TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2026 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT: Councillor Diane Bratt (Chairman): Councillors Jacky Atkinson, Simon Davies, Mark Gerold, Joel Greenberg, Oliver Ighani, Sue Jelfs and Rachel Moffat.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Theresa Goss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer), District Councillor Rob Pattenden and seventeen members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Parish Councillors Oliver Ighani and Rachel Moffat.

01/26 Minutes – Prior to the meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 April 2025 had been circulated to the Parish Council.

A resident proposed an amendment regarding the discussion relating to The Leys under Minute 04/25. A sentence was removed and the following was inserted:

The Chairman advised that the matter relating to The Leys concerned a legal agreement and information could not be published. There were no restrictions on how the funds could be spent.

The amendment was proposed and seconded and carried by a majority vote. Therefore, the minutes were amended accordingly.

02/26 Matters Arising

Minute Number 03/25, Chairman's Report – Double Yellow Lines on High Street/The Green/ Oxford Road - This matter would be investigated with the County Council, however the Parish Council had not budgeted £4k for the costs of the Traffic Regulation Order, which was required prior to implementation, should this work be agreed by the County Council.

Minute Number 03/25, Chairman's Report – Adderbury Parish Institute – The Chairman confirmed that the sale of the Parish Institute did not form part of the plans for the new Community and Sports Centre. The Institute currently required repairs for a water leak. An update on the repairs would be requested. **Action TG**

Minute Number 03/25, Chairman's Report – Business Plan for Community & Sports Centre Project – The Chairman advised that a Business Plan had been produced, but it was at least two years old and now out of date. Once the new planning application had been approved, the Business Plan would be amended to reflect these amendments. There was also a Project Plan, but again that was out of date following the submission of the new planning application.

The Chairman agreed that the Parish Council would review the information which it had available and consider which documents were appropriate to publish. The main concern about publishing out of date information, much of which was no longer relevant, was that it would cause confusion amongst the community.

03/26 Chairman's Report 2025/2026 – The Chairman presented a report on the Parish Council's work during 2025/2026. The report included information on traffic calming, Adderbury Lakes, allotments and Millennium Cup Traffic calming and parking, grass cutting and Biodiversity areas, Community and Sports Centre Project (Milton Road), Day of Dance, play areas at the Rise and Lucy Plackett Field, News pages in Contact, Adderbury Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANP), Flood Mitigation actions in Adderbury,

A resident asked the Chairman about the project for a new Community and Sports Centre, including the costs and shortfall for the reduced sized building.

The Chairman reported that the project costs were approximately £1.4m and £900k was held by Cherwell District Council in the form of Section 106 funds, or future Section 106 funds which had been committed relating to future

developments. Approximately £500k was still required, but if the new Neighbourhood Plan was approved, the future development would provide Section 106 funds of circa £300k, therefore, £200k would still be required. This was a much more manageable amount, which could be achieved from various sources, including grant funding opportunities, which were being investigated.

A resident stated that the Parish Council had reported the project was ready to start as soon as funds were found, however, the build could not start without a Business Plan. The Chairman advised that a Business Plan had been produced, but was now out of date and would have to be amended to reflect the planning application for the reduced sized building.

A resident confirmed that the double yellow lines on the corner of Croft Lane and High Street had been laid about two weeks ago.

A resident raised the issue of a possible collapsed drainage inspection chamber on Horn Hill Road. The resident agreed to email the details to the Chairman after the meeting.

The Chairman thanked the Councillors and Clerk for all their work on the Parish Council.

The Chairman's full report was available on the Parish Council web site. www.adderburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

04/26 Parish Council Accounts 2025/2026 - The Clerk presented to the Annual Parish Meeting, the financial report for 2025/2026. The figures had been subject to internal audit and gave an accurate picture of the activities of the year.

A resident asked for further information on the increases in the Precept over the last few years and the Clerk gave a detailed explanation regarding why the increases had been necessary. The main reasons were that the Parish Council had historically kept the precept low to avoid increased bills for residents, but there had been a steady increase in costs over the last three years, plus there had been unexpected payments for expensive items such as repairs to walls, play equipment and fencing.

Residents asked about the donations and costs relating to The Leys and the Parish Council would consider publishing a statement on the matter.

The accounts for 2025/2026 were available on the Parish Council web site. www.adderburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

05/26 Adderbury Neighbourhood Plan – Councillor Mark Gerold presented information on the Neighbourhood Plan and the progress to date and that the Plan was currently in the formal Regulation 14 consultation process.

A resident referred to the Parish Council's approach to the site selection consultation, which included one site in West Adderbury and three sites in Twyford. He felt that the process was flawed and the outcome was inevitable as those residents in Twyford would have voted for the site in West Adderbury and vice versa. The majority of people would not support new houses being built near their own properties and would vote for the option furthest away from them.

Councillor Gerold advised that Appendix B to the draft Neighbourhood Plan provided details on the site selection process and how the decision was made to select the site in West Adderbury for inclusion in the Plan.

A resident highlighted that 52% of the response were for sites B, C & D and that within the Plan, there were a number of new areas of open spaces and strategic gaps, which offered no protection to the village.

Councillor Mark Gerold advised that the Plan was attempting to protect the boundaries of the village. However, the Parish Council was unable to respond to specific observations and questions on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan now that the Regulation 14 consultation had commenced. All comments on the Draft Plan should be fed into the consultation process and details were available on the Parish Council website.

The Chairman also advised that if there were policies in the Local Plan regarding any matters, including strategic gaps and open spaces, then these did not need to be repeated the Neighbourhood Plan as the Local Plan offered the protection.

A resident raised her concerns regarding the water run-off from the proposed site, which might contribute to the issues of flooding, once both the new houses had been built and the new Community and Sports Centre. The Chairman advised that any issues of water management on the future development, would be led by the Local Lead Flood Authority and the measures which were proposed as part of the construction, such as attenuation ponds, would help the issues of flooding.

A resident asked where the Pariah Council's Regulation 14 consultation was being advertised. It was confirmed there had been articles in Contact and also online on Facebook and the Parish Council website.

A resident thanked everyone who had worked on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan and was aware of the amount of work involved, because he had been part of the team who developed the first Plan. He felt that the County Council's comments on planning applications were led by the availability of Section 106 funds from applications and the success of the Neighbourhood Plan depended on the success of the Local Plan and whether it was subsequently approved by the Planning Inspector. If the Local Plan was not approved, then it could result in more than the original 75 houses being allocated to Adderbury and he was unsure the village could cope with an increase.

Councillor Mark Gerold advised that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group was aware of the Cherwell Local Plan and that an increase on the 75 houses was a possibility.

A resident thanked the Parish Council for all its work and also the work of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

A resident from Water Lane highlighted that she lived very close the road and had concerns about the volume of traffic going through the centre of the village. She felt that this road could not take any more traffic and the new 20mph speed limit had not made any difference to the speed of the traffic.

06/26 County and District Councillors Reports – Prior to the meeting, County/District Councillor David Hingley submitted his report to the Parish Council and was available on the Parish Council website. In Councillor Hingley's absence, District Councillor Rob Pattenden highlighted a number of issues in the report.

Councillor Mark Gerold raised the issue of potholes and the lack of road maintenance and felt the situation was an embarrassment for the County Council. Councillor Pattenden advised that the County Council accepted that it was a problem and highways had not been maintained as they should have been over many years and the winter weather had exasperated the situation. The County Council had received extra funding from the Government of £9m for pothole repairs, but the total cost was approximately £126m. However, repair works had started, albeit very slowly.

The Parish Council had been advised that the road closure in place around The Green and High Street/Oxford Road would be in place until 5 May 2026.

The Chairman thanked the District Councillors for their reports and support over the last 12 months.

07/26 Question from Residents

A resident asked whether the footpaths and roads from Colin Bulter Green down to the bus shelter on Water Lane and outside of Church House in Church Lane could be swept. This request would be submitted to Cherwell District Council. **Action TG**

A resident reported there had been a relaunch of the playgroup in the Lucy Placket Activity Centre and asked whether there was any grant funding available from the Parish Council. The Clerk advised that grants for 2026/2027 had already been allocated as part of the budget setting process for 2026/2027, however she would check and confirm whether there were any funds still available in the budget. **Action TG**

In respect of the Community and Sports Centre on Milton Road, a resident suggested that there could be a more sustainable option such as renovating the buildings in the Lucy Placket Playing Field, if funding was not available.

The Chairman advised that the Parish Council had completed a number of processes asking the village for its support such as Parish Polls and the land for the Community and Sports Centre was allocated, via a Section 106

agreement, specifically for a community facility and sports pitches and it could not be used for any other purpose. A lot of Section 106 funds had already been spent getting the project to the point it is at now and the village, as it continued to grow, desperately needed new community and sports facilities. There were also limited options for works at the Lucy Plackett Playing Field given the flooding issues and the Parish Institute was also an aging building, with its own repair and maintenance issues to deal with.

The Chairman thanked residents for attending the meeting and invited them to stay for refreshments.

(The meeting closed at 9.15pm)

Chairman
April 2027

DRAFT