

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at Bradstone Pavilion on Thursday 26th February 2026 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs S Crawford – Chairman; M Carter; T Romback; A Tindall; A Ellis; M Young; M Jeffery; C McMurtry; N Inzani.

In attendance: Wiltshire Cllr Berry, Fiona Ryder – Clerk, 2 x Members of Public.

25-26/122 Public Section

One member of public commented that the ditches from the bridge at the Copse to the back of Moreton Cullimore's need clearing out as they are overgrown and silted. Members of the Parish Council have previously spoken to the Environment Agency who had no concerns in that area. The comments will be raised with the riparian owners.

Does Kingswater have its own sewerage system? It is/will be connected to the village system which needs upgrading before the whole development can be connected.

There are two posts on the High Road opposite Gosditch, do they need painting/reflectors adding as they cannot be seen at night?

The Parish Steward will be asked to look at these.

One member of public asked if they were to collate a diary regarding noise from the Thames Water pump would the Parish Council pass it on to Thames Water.

The Parish Council would pass on collated information.

25-26/123 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

25-26/124 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

25-26/125 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15th January 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2026 were approved and signed.

25-26/126 Actions from Previous Meetings

25-26/116 – Two highways improvement requests were submitted to LHFIG regarding Rixon Gate.

25-26/127 Chairmans Report

The planned road works at the Spine Road junction have been delayed due to emergency gas works. The work is now planned for 27th March and will involve an overnight closure.

Thanks were expressed to Cllrs Tindall and Carter for attending the appeal hearing for application PL/2022/04776. A statement was prepared, this will be circulated along with the letter from Thames Water stating their requested conditions. The inspector will now consider the application and we will be notified in due course. Liaison with Wiltshire Council Planning will continue to ensure that we are kept informed of draft conditions. It was clear from the hearing that Wiltshire Council do not have the knowledge or confidence to challenge consultants reports, for any future contentious applications, the Parish Council should consider getting external consultation reports. The Parish Council should include a

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comment regarding Thames Water sewerage capacity on all future relevant planning applications.

A statement from the White Hart regarding the current closure has been provided: "Richard and I are still working with the relevant people to get us back open. We have submitted everything required, and are now waiting on everything being "processed", it's just a matter of when we are allowed to reopen.

I appreciate the pub being a community asset and I'm fully in agreement with that, that's why Rich and I took the pub on, we both strongly believe this village needs a good pub and are extremely frustrated by our forced closure.

We will be back open as soon as we are allowed and I'm sure all those parishioners that have expressed their sadness at us being closed will be down to support us once we are."

It is encouraging that the current landlords are looking to continue operating the pub.

Notification of the Annual Cotswold Triathlon has been received asking for any comment, this will be shared with all Councillors. Councillors wishing to comment were asked to contact the Clerk.

Two members of the Parish Council have resigned, Ken and Louise were thanked for the work that they had done during their short time on the Council.

25-26/128 Clerks Report

The Clerks report was circulated prior to the meeting. The Parish Council resolved to apply for a business debit card.

Action: Clerk

One proof of life validation was carried out last month. A refund of £3593.61 has been received from Yorkshire Gas and Power.

The Clerks additional working hours were noted.

A List of correspondence is attached as Appendix A.

25-26/129 Financial Report

The Finance report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Income since the last meeting:

Community First Refund £ 96.00

Expenditure since the last meeting:

Scribe £ 42.00
Clerks Expenses £ 128.35
Payroll Services £ 11.98
O2 Mobile Phone £ 15.42
Bank Charges £ 10.25

Playing Fields

Income since the last meeting:

Hire: £ 480.00
Electricity Refund £ 3593.61

Expenditure since the last meeting:

Electricity £ 62.18
Hills Waste £ 196.32
Castle Water £ 13.50

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Bradstone Cleaning	£ 150.00
Supplies (Gutter Brush/Locks)	£ 65.57

The Council approved the finance report and income and expenditure.

25-26/130 Highways Improvement Request Speed Indicator Device

A Highways Improvement Request from Community Speed Watch was discussed. The Parish Council approved the request for an additional SID and two poles. The HIR will be sent to LHFIFG.

Action: Clerk

25-26/131 Village Gates

The Parish Council approved proposed locations for village gates and costs of up to £2050.

Action: Cllr Crawford

25-26/132 Traffic Regulation Order

A traffic regulation order introducing "No Waiting at any time" on the B4696 east side for 16 metres in a southerly direction and 78 metres in a northerly direction and west side for a distance of 7 metres in a southerly direction and 78 metres in a northerly direction, was received. The Parish Council approved a comment of support.

Action: Clerk

25-26/133 Grant Funding Request

The Parish Council approved a grant funding request of £500 for the Ashton Keynes Mother and Toddler Group. It was noted that the biggest cost for the group is village hall hire, this will be shared with the Village Hall Management Committee.

The Clerk was asked to suggest the Malmesbury Area Community Trust to the group for potential future funding.

Action: Clerk

25-26/134 Tennis Club Letter

A letter received from Ashton Keynes Tennis Club proposing various upgrades had been discussed at the recent Playing Fields Committee meeting where it was agreed that further information was required. The Parish Council noted that impact on neighbours needs to be considered. Awaiting further information.

25-26/135 CIL Working Group

The Parish Council approved adoption of the Terms of Reference circulated prior to the meeting.

The Parish Council approved the rectification of the ownership details at land registry of the MUGA site. Ownership should be listed as Ashton Keynes Parish Council as per original documents, Land Registry currently have Ashton Keynes Millennium Green as the owner of the land.

The Parish Council is awaiting further details on costings and scope of works regarding Bradstone Pavilion. Increased engagement and visibility is needed from the CIL working group going forward.

25-26/136 Playing Fields Committee

Minutes from the meeting held on 5th February had been circulated and published. The Skate Ramp is being cut up and disposed of next week. A new noticeboard has gone up in the foyer of Bradstone for safety notices. This is a lockable noticeboard and a key has been provided to the Clerk. Quotes for electrical works as per recent inspection are being sought.

Climbing frame quotes are to be sent to the Clerk.

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The Parish Council approved quote number 3 at the cost of £1567.20 for fence and gate works at The Lotts Play Area.

Action: Cllr Young

Action: Clerk

The High Road Pavilion needs to be cleared and deep cleaned, this will bring it up to an acceptable safe standard for being hired out and allow for the building to be assessed for any repairs that may be required. Regular users have been contacted and asked to remove any of their items being stored in the building by 1st March.

If anyone can help with Playing Field Committee admin please contact Cllr Ellis.

25-26/137 Best Kept Village Competition

Enquiries will be made with those who have previously been involved in the Best Kept Village entry.

Action: Cllr Crawford

25-26/138 GDPR Data Map

The GDPR Data Map circulated prior to the meeting was adopted.

25-26/139 Publication Scheme

The Publication Scheme circulated prior to the meeting was adopted and will be published on the website.

Action: Clerk

25-26/140 Future Meetings

The Parish Council approved meeting on the first Thursday of the month at Bradstone Pavilion from 7th May.

Action: Clerk

25-26/141 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

To respond to any questions relating to reports circulated prior to the meeting.

- a) Planning Committee (AT) – Minutes and Agendas circulated.
- b) Internal Affairs Committee () – Nothing to report.
- c) Village Hall (MC) – Nothing to report.
- d) Cotswold Lake Trust (MJ) – Nothing to report.
- e) School Governors (SC) – Nothing to report.
- f) Police (SC) – Nothing to report.
- g) Highways (SC/AE) – Nothing to report.
- h) Footpaths, Rights of Way and Waterways (LM) – Nothing to report.
- i) Ashton Keynes Charities (NI) – Nothing to report.
- j) Parochial Church Council (LM) – Nothing to report.
- k) Millennium Green (NI) – Nothing to report.
- l) B4696 Road Safety (SC/AE) – Nothing to report.
- m) CIL Funds (TR) – Covered as an agenda item.
- n) WC Operational Flood Risk Working Group (MC) – Nothing to report.

25-26/142 Matters for the next meeting

Councillors were reminded to contact the Clerk with any items to be put forward for the agenda and to submit any reports for the Committees, Working Groups and Representatives section at least 10 days in advance of the next meeting.

Proposals for the Council need to include sufficient information for the Council to be able to make an informed decision.

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25-26/143 Date for the next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 12th March, 7.30pm at Bradstone Pavilion.

The meeting concluded at 9.13pm.

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Appendix A: List of Correspondence from Clerks Report

Cordoned off Play Equipment: Email received asking if and when the 2 x pieces of cordoned off play equipment (one at High Road and one at The Lotts) will be replaced.

Playing Fields Committee are researching options and costs.

Anti-social Behaviour: Email received reporting ASB in the village, this has been reported to the Police.

South Western Ambulance Service – Email received asking to advertise SWAST are establishing a new group of Community First Responders and are looking to recruit volunteers from Cricklade and the surrounding villages.

Advertised on Facebook

CIL Working Group Membership – 3 members of public have made contact with an interest in joining the CIL Working Group.

Storm Chandra/Flooding Evidence Request from Wiltshire Council – One member of public has responded to the request for flooding evidence, this has been passed on to the Drainage Team at Wiltshire Council.

Bradstone – Email received reporting activity at Bradstone.

The Cricket Club had arranged collection of their roller to be taken away for repairs, they had moved the skate ramps and not returned the blue fencing when they had finished.

Park Place – Email received reporting the state of the road in Park Place.

Advised to report to Wiltshire Council as the Highways Authority.

Proposed withdrawal of Wiltshire Council Funding for Link Scheme – Email received notifying that there is a possibility of withdrawal of funding by Wiltshire Council for the Link Scheme. Decision to be made by Wiltshire Council on 24th February. AKLS have sufficient funds to continue support for some time but may approach the Parish Council in Future.

I have contacted Cllr Berry for further information.

White Hart – Email received asking what action the Parish Council were taking regarding the White Hart currently being closed.

The Parish Council have not received any formal notification regarding the closure.

White Hart – Email received asking the Parish Council to “let the village know what is happening with the pub”.

The Parish Council are not aware of anything happening with the pub.

Ashton Road Potholes – Email from neighbouring parish regarding potholes and asking if any remedial work is planned.

The only planned works known are those at Spine Road/North End crossroads.

Acorn Anaerobic Digester – Phone call asking for information regarding AKPC objection for information being put together for Roz Savage.

Information from November PC meeting given.