

## ISLIP PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025, from 7.30 pm at Islip Village Hall.

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Parish Councillors:** Dennis Price (Chairman), Nathan Wiles, Nicola Richardson, Doreen Cole and Anneka Streule.

**OTHER COUNCILLORS: District Councillor:** None

**OFFICERS PRESENT: Clerk to the Council:** Emma Kearney

**OTHERS PRESENT: Members of the Public:** 1

**APOLOGIES: Parish Councillors:** Sophie Miller  
**County Councillor:** None

**0117/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION**

None

**0118/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**0119/24 MEETING MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to accept as a true record the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025

This was proposed by Cllr Price and seconded by Cllr Richardson.

**0120/24 COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

The councillors present gave their reports.

**0121/24 FOURWAYS PLANNING APPLICATION (24/00572/F)**

It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to submit a further response to **OBJECT** to the revised plans for the Fourways application (24/00572/F) to be considered at the planning committee meeting on 20th March 2025, noting that:

1. The changes made by the developer are negligible and don't effectively address the council's original objections
2. None of the concerns raised by villagers have been considered or incorporated
3. The parking arrangements remain inadequate - particularly the difficulty of a second car exiting onto the road
4. The development still presents as an overbearing "town wall" when viewed from Otmoor.
5. The roof height remains excessive and could be lowered without affecting the functionality
6. The overall design fails to take into account the character of the village and surrounding buildings.

This was proposed by Cllr Price and seconded by Cllr Richardson

**0122/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following 4 planning applications were discussed.

App Info	Address	Proposal	Ward	Deadline	Outcome
1. 25/00297/ CLUE	Lower House, Lower Street,	Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Development for demolition of existing outbuildings and erection of garden building to provide an office.	Islip	14.03.2025	No objection

App Info	Address	Proposal	Ward	Deadline	Outcome
2. 25/00230/ F	Os Parcel 6990 Adj B4027 Nw Of Reservoir, Wheatley Rd	Change of Use of site from Agricultural to Dog Day care and erection of associated buildings and infrastructure.	Islip	25.03.2025	No objection
3.APP/C31 05/W/24/3 358019 Appeal against Refusal	Land North Of Manor Farm, Noke	Development of a ground-mounted solar farm incorporating the installation of solar PV panels, associated infrastructure and access, as well as landscape planting and designated ecological enhancement areas.	Noke	19.03.2025	Objection maintained
4. 25/00360/ F	Manor House, 6 Mill Street.	Erect small single storey timber summerhouse	Islip	19.03.2025	No objection

1. It was **NOTED** the council had **NO OBJECTION** to planning application 25/00297/CLUE for Lower House, Lower Street.
2. It was **NOTED** the council had **NO OBJECTION** to planning application 25/00230/F for OS Parcel 6990 Adj B4027 NW of Reservoir, Wheatley Rd.
3. It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to **MAINTAIN OBJECTION** to Appeal APP/C3105/W/24/3358019 for Land North of Manor Farm, Noke.  
The council reviewed the appeal for the proposed solar farm development and resolved to make the following points to uphold our **OBJECTION**:
  1. While the appellant has made some modifications to the original proposal, these changes do not sufficiently address our fundamental objections to this inappropriate development
  2. The development would constitute an industrial installation on Green Belt land, undermining the open character of the Otmoor area that is crucial to the local landscape
  3. The solar farm would be highly visible for many miles and would be the only industrial development along the entire length of the Oxfordshire Way footpath, severely impacting this important recreational resource
  4. Despite claims of ecological enhancements, we remain concerned about the significant impact on local wildlife, particularly given the proximity to the RSPB reserve and potential effects on bird populations that may mistake the panels for water and crash into them
  5. We maintain serious concerns about flood risk and water management on the site. While some panels have been removed from flood risk areas, the overall development still presents risks to rain infiltration patterns and potential downstream flooding effects
  6. The appellant's claim of "very special circumstances" is not sufficiently demonstrated, as the harm to the Green Belt and local environment outweighs the renewable energy benefits when alternative sites could be considered
  7. The development would result in the loss of productive agricultural land for at least 40 years, contrary to food security interests, even if technically classified as Grade 3b

8. The proposed screening would take many years to become effective, leaving a highly visible industrial installation in the interim period

This was proposed by Cllr Price *and seconded* by Cllr Richardson.

4. It was **NOTED** the council had **NO OBJECTION** to planning application 25/00360/F for Manor House, 6 Mill Street.

**0123/25**

#### **PLAYGROUND**

The following quotes from Reids were reviewed.

1. It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to retrospectively approve Quote 8739 for playground repairs totaling £3,890 + VAT.  
This was proposed by Cllr Streule and seconded by Cllr Wiles
2. The council discussed Quote 8933 for replacement of Junior Swing Seats and Chains (£875 + VAT).  
It was **AGREED** to **DEFER** the decision to allow time to resolve outstanding issues with the contractor regarding the gate mechanism repair.

**0124/25**

#### **GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT REVIEW**

1. **Grass Cutting Contract**  
The council discussed the grass cutting requirements for 2025-26, noting Green Scythe Ltd's proposed small increase costs, and proposed a higher frequency in cuts.
2. **'No Mow' May**  
It was **RESOLVED** by majority vote to implement a No Mow May initiative for 2025.  
This was proposed by Cllr Price and seconded by Cllr Streule.
3. **Grass Cutting Quotations**  
It was **NOTED** that the Clerk is awaiting quotes for the grass cutting contract.  
Decisions were deferred to the next meeting pending receipt of quotations.

**0125/25**

#### **FINANCIAL REGULATION 2024**

It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to adopt the Financial Regulations 2024.  
This was proposed by Cllr Price and seconded by Cllr Wiles.

**0126/25**

#### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1. **Income**  
The following income was **NOTED**.

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
20/1/2025	Allotment - Morrison	Rent 2025-26	£5.00
20/1/2025	Allotment - Dickman	Rent 2025-26	£5.00

2. **Defibrillator Sundry Items Purchases**  
It was **NOTED** replacement parts for the defibrillator had been purchased and would be installed after the meeting, once fitted the service can be scheduled.
3. **Burial Ground Maintenance Payment**  
It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to approve payment for burial ground maintenance up to the budgeted amount of £1,100 upon receipt of the annual invoice.  
This was proposed by Cllr Price and seconded by Cllr Wiles
4. **Cashbook Purchases and Payments March 2025**

Date	Payee	Description	Invoice	Total
11/03/2025	Clerk	WFA - March	See form	£24.00
14/03/2025	Clerk	Wages - March	See Payslip	£810.17
11/03/2025	Wix	Website Fee	11575	£230.40
11/03/2025	HMRC	Employee cont	See print out	£594.98
11/03/2025	Defibrillator Shop	Sundries	1000263655	£373.20
11/03/2025	Reids	Repairs to play equipment	INV-6884	£4,368.00
11/03/2025	Wix	7 Councillor Emails	11558200945	£191.60

Date	Payee	Description	Invoice	Total
11/03/2025	Green Scythe	Gang Mowing Field - September	17424	£84.00
11/03/2025	ICO	Membership	Bank Card Payment	£52.00
12/03/2025	Martin Pauling	Burial Ground mowing and maint 23-24	Awaiting Invoice	£400.00
12/03/2025	Martin Pauling	Meadow Maint 4 days @ £175	Awaiting Invoice	£700.00
12/03/2025	Islip Village Hall	Hire of Village Hall	20251524	£38.00
12/03/2025	Martin Pauling	Spreading topsoil over sunken graves	Inv0002	£1,050.00
			<b>Total</b>	<b>£8,916.35</b>

It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote to approve the cashbook purchases and payments for March 2025.

This was proposed by Cllr Price and seconded by Cllr Wiles.

#### **0127/25 CLERK UPDATE**

##### **1. VAT Update**

The Clerk reported that the VAT claim was being finalised.

##### **2. Potholes**

It was **NOTED** that potholes had been reported to the clerk and escalated to the county council for action.

#### **0128/25 COMMUNICATION**

The items to include in the newsletter were **AGREED**.

#### **0129/25 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Cricket club request for use of playing field
2. School football pitch maintenance request
3. Annual meeting of the electorate.

#### **0130/25 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 8th April 2025 at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at 21.03.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

Councillor Price: - Chair