

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council Alice Charlwood c/o Council Office, Memorial Hall, High Street, Ramsbury, Wilts SN8 2PB
Telephone: 01672 520045 (ansaphone) e-mail parishcouncil@ramsbury.org

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17th August 2026 at 7.45pm in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

2093

Present:

D. Barnett (DB) – Chairman
H Lloyd (HL) – Deputy Chairman
D. Gill (DGi)
S Glass (SG)
E Hodgson (EH)

M Tester (MT)
D Greenway (DGr)
R Greasley (RG)
A Charlwood (AC) – Clerk

No members of the public were present

1. **APOLOGIES** – were received from Bernard Murray, Denise Edwards, Maggie Waugh, Alison Foale and Chris Morgan. **Approved.**

2. **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST** – None.

3. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

With the amendments to Item 12 (Village Maintenance) as noted in the Agenda, the minutes of the meeting held on 20th July were approved and signed as a true record. **Proposed HL; Seconded EH. APPROVED**

4. MATTERS ARISING

- Publication of councillors' phone numbers – The Clerk asked if councillors were content to continue having their phone numbers published on the noticeboards and website. After some discussion it was agreed that this could be a matter of personal choice and councillors will notify the Clerk individually to let her know their preferences for the future. **ACTION – ALL**

In answer to a follow-up question from MT about implementation of the PC's policy regarding councillors' adoption of .gov.uk email addresses, SG said she and DB planned to meet asap after SG's return from holiday in September, to work out how emails should be re-directed when the new system is implemented.

ACTION - SG /DB

- DB reported on an email received from Stephen Hind (Wilts CC Principal Traffic Engineer) on 11th August asking for the PC's decision on whether they want to permanently adopt the one-way experiment in Union Street, or not. After some discussion councillors agreed that, in their view, and from the eleven positive emails received so far from Union Street residents, the trial appears to have been a success. One resident on the street has lodged an objection but no complaints have come in from the wider community during the trial. The matter will be on the Agenda for further discussion and will be voted on at the next meeting on 21st September.
- DB has been contacted by a resident asking if the PC would consider showing a National Emergency Briefing film featuring Chris Packham, the Roxy having declined to put it on. Following discussion, it was agreed that the PC did not need to take this on as the film will be shown in Aldbourne in mid-Sept and we will publicise that. **ACTION - DB**

5. NEW CORRESPONDENCE – Items for discussion

*The full list of incoming correspondence from 8th July-5th August can be viewed on the parish council website

Ref. No	Date Received	July-August 2026 From :	Subject *Highlighted for August meeting Agenda
A8688	08 July	Jason Lucas, Wilts CC Traffic Order Team	TTRO (for Openreach works) on part of C194 in Ramsbury commencing 14 Sept. Fwd. to Cllrs. For info.
A8690	09 July	Wilts CC Democratic & Member Services	Advertising for two new Co-opted Members of the Wilts Police & Crime Panel. Fwd. to Cllrs. For info.
A8691	09 July	Martin Cook, N. Wilts Highway Engineer	Instruction to the contractor to refresh white line markings. Fwd. to Cllrs. DB explained that Highways are unable to give us a timeline for when this work would be done.
A8693	10 July	Wilts CC Strategic Planning	Timetable for the preparation & commencement of the Wilts Local Plan. Fwd. to Planning C. For info.
A8699	19 July	Emily Johnson, Wilts. Police	Q2 parish crime report. Fwd. to Cllrs.
A8700	23 July	Fred Rendell, Parish Steward Supervisor	Pictures of work done at steward's June visit (already received). Sweeper has been requested for Knowledge Crescent gutters. Fwd. to Cllrs. PS's pictures of his July visit were received on 7th Aug. and circulated to Cllrs on the same day. For info.
A8701	23 July	Danny Austin, CPRE Wilts, BKV Project	Confirming Ramsbury was not the winner of the Large Village category this year. Fwd. to Cllrs. For info.
A8702	23 July	Resident	Reporting severe damage to garden wall following grass verge mowing. DB replied, giving details of whom to contact at Wilts CC so the resident can deal with them direct.
A8706	24 July	Wiltshire Council News	Upgrade to Planning Public Register. Fwd to Cllrs. For info.
A8707	27 July	Simon Garrett, Wilts Police	Rescheduling police public consultation, PCSO being off work long-term. DB said Sat. 26th Sept was a possible date, but this remains TBC.
A8708	27 July	Helen Broughton, Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments (SAAA)	Introduction of new digital AGAR portal, expected to become mandatory for the 2029 AGAR submission. For info.
A8710	28 July	Resident	Reporting dog poo bags are being dumped in the grass verge on the cut through near the surgery from the park to the footpath. DGi reported that she has been monitoring this and the problem is getting worse. The PC do not understand why those responsible do not use the bins provided. DB will write to the WCC to clarify if and when the bins are being emptied.
A8712	29 July	Resident	Speeding traffic at the Crowood Lane crossing point. DB has replied. After discussion councillors agreed that, in their view, the risk to pedestrians is no greater there than anywhere else in the village. However, as the matter has been referred to WCC Highways they will leave the decision to them. Meanwhile the Parish Steward will be asked to cut the greenery back to improve the visibility of the SLOW CHILDREN sign.

2095

A8713	29 July	Jake Hartley, Wilts CC Traffic Management Team	TTRN re. urgent closure of part of Newtown Road for WCC to carry out removal and maintenance of trees commencing 24 August. Fwd. to Cllrs. For info.
A8714	30 July	Andy Cole, Chief Fire Office, D&W Fire & Rescue	Re. securing fire station funding in 2027 precept by asking local MP to support an increase in the next Local Government Finance Settlement. Fwd. to Cllrs. For info.
A8717	01 Aug	Resident	Reporting poor installation of manhole cover, below road level, by the old Crown & Anchor, is a hazard to cyclists and pedestrians. DB replied and advised reporting on MyWilts.
A8722	04 Aug	Anna McBride, Wilts CC Strategic Planning Officer	Request that we review the availability of facilities they have compiled for our parish to confirm if it is accurate and up to date before 11 Sept. Fwd. to Planning C. DB has replied.
A8723	04 Aug	Wiltshire Council News	Work has started on new Local Plan. Fwd. to Planning C. For info.
A8724	05 Aug	Jason Lucas, Wilts CC Traffic Order Team	TTRO for part of C206 in Ramsbury (for Thames Water repairs and other works) commencing 26 Oct. Fwd to Cllrs. For info.
A8725	05 Aug	Resident	Need more signage to deter massive trucks from using the High Street. DB replied and is looking into it. DB will investigate whether there may be suitable locations for UNSUITABLE FOR HEAVY VEHICLES signs to be put up at each end, where HGV drivers who are simply passing through would have enough time and space to take Back Lane rather than the High Street

6 COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) Finance

Erica Hodgson

Quotes for pavement repairs – EH has been unable to secure an additional quote as yet, but she continues to seek a contractor interested in tendering. **ACTION - EH**

(ii) Planning

Diann Barnett

PLANNING REPORT RAMSBURY AND AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL – Aug 2026

Planning Applications Processed since July 2026 report

New applications-

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • PL/2026/04174 | Whittonditch House | Single-storey extension |
| • PL/2026/04359 | Maslin Close, Ramsbury | Treework |
| • PL/2026/04526 | Snellswood Dairy. W'ditch | Lean-to extension to animal unit. |
| • PL/2026/04230 | The Boot, Scholards lane | Treework |
| • PL/2026/04655 | Manor Farm, Ramsbury | Glazed extension. |

Still awaiting-

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|---|
| • PL/2025/01559 | Upcott Field, Whittonditch Rd | 9 houses and associated works. This application lay-out has been amended. |
| • PL/2025/09169 | West House, Ramsbury | Internal alterations, window change |
| • PL/2026/00995 | Bungalow, Whittonditch | Extension and remove S52 |
| • PL/2026/01214 | Dove Cottage, Axford | Loft space conversion + dormer windows |
| • PL/2026/03590 | Riverside Cottage, Axford | Retrospective 6 ft fence |

2096

- PL/2026/03716 51, High St, Ramsbury Remove existing outhouse and rebuild
- PL/2026/04025 1, High St, Ramsbury Change of use of shop + conservatory
- PL/2026/04088 Downside, 4, High St, Pollard willow
- PL/2026/04114 Holy Cross, Ramsbury Treework

Decisions-

PL/2026/02746 Swansdown, Axford Alterations and rear extension. **APPROVED**

DB reported that a new application had been received since her report (above) was compiled:-

Reference:	PL/2026/04856 - Householder planning permission
Site Location:	1 Parliament Piece Cottage, Orchard Close, Ramsbury, Marlborough, SN8 2QL
Proposal:	Single storey extension to front elevation, adding 1st floor extension to part of the existing building and rearrangement of room layout.

In connection with PL/2026/04025 there was a discussion about an objection that had been lodged about an internal staircase being “a feature” of No. 1 High Street that should be retained. DB was asked to check with English Heritage if this staircase was one of the features detailed in the building’s listing. **NB. Having done so, DB found that no interior features were included in listing.** **ACTION - DB**

DB will update councillors when the NPPF document comes out; it was supposed to be published today.

(iii) Rights of Way

Doug Greenway

- DGr said there was no monthly walk in August, and he will be publicising details of the rest of this year’s walk soon. **ACTION - DGr**
- An objection having been made about the diversion of the airfield footpaths 6 and 8C, DGr will attend the site meeting on 16th September to discuss it with the Rights Of Way Case Officer. Meanwhile he will write to confirm that the PC’s view has not changed and has no objection to the proposed diversion. **ACTION - DGr**

(iv) Play Areas and Seats

Denise Edwards

- DE was not at the meeting.
- DB thanked SG and CG for having repaired the bench by the Back Lane bus stop and said that the repairs to Knowledge Crescent equipment and are almost complete.
- DB and SG carried out an inspection of the Knowledge Crescent play area and concluded
 - (a) that the nest swing should be taken down without delay as the age and design of its timber frame give cause for concern about its safety. DB was asked to seek a supplier to replace it asap. **ACTION – DB**
 - (b) and the bolts on some of the other equipment need tightening. **NB. Since the meeting DB has done the ones that have not seized.** **ACTION – DB**

(v) Emergency Committee

Alison Foale

- Generator fuel – DB will purchase as soon as Lloyds have issued her with a VisaDebit card.
- SSE grant refund – the Clerk was asked to chase up the invoice for the electrical installation work so the matter of the SSE refund can be resolved. **ACTION - CLERK**
- The sub-committee will be meeting on 7th September at which they will discuss another CPR training course in September, the Emergency Plan update, setting up the generators, and carrying out a risk assessment in connection with the future water supply for the fire service.

(vi) Environment Committee

Maggie Waugh

- The orchard trees are still be watered and fruit is almost ready for picking.

Public Forum - Parish Council Standing Orders temporarily suspended for this item

- 7 AXFORD** *Di Barnett*
DB reported that the decision had been taken to cancel Axford fete as the Committee took the view that the fire risk from the prolonged drought was too great; the ground is too dry and the proximity of the field to thatched cottages made it unsafe. They may consider running a Duck Race later in the year, weather permitting.
- 8 ALLOTMENTS** *Denise Edwards*
No report
- 9 VANDALISM/CRIME** *Di Barnett*
DB has not been notified of any new incidents. MT commented briefly on the July crime report which he had circulated to councillors.
- 10 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE** *Di Barnett*
HL has put a piece in Whitton Ways and the Village Diary about the idea of a village scheme for residents to adopt a bench or a planter and maintain it; we wait to see if any messages expressing interest come in to the Clerk.
- 11 EXTERNAL MEETINGS** *Di Barnett*
- Next Local Highways & Footways Improvement Group meeting will be held on 10/09/26
 - Next Marlborough Area Board meeting will be held on 6th Oct at Winterbourne Monkton
 - Our PCSO did not turn up to the police community consultation on 22nd July 7-8pm. When DB complained we were told she is on long-term sick leave, yet no-one had seen fit to inform us. DB is trying to arrange another consultation for Sat 26th Sept with a different officer, but this remains TBC.
 - DB and the Clerk will attend the Town & Parish Clerks' meeting on 27th August. **ACTION DB/CLERK**
- 12 PARISH STEWARD'S ROTA**
The next visit is scheduled for 3rd September. **ACTION - CLERK**
- 13 MEMORIAL HALL AND MEMORIAL GARDEN** *Helen Lloyd*
HL reported that the next Trustees' meeting will be held on 18th August.
- 14 NATURE RESERVE** *Chris Morgan*
No report
- 15 DATA FROM SIDs** *Sheila Glass*
SG summarised the data from the first week of July which indicated, with a few inevitable outliers, the majority of traffic is complying with the 30mph speed limit. She is pleased with the way they are doing their job and will continue to collect the data monthly. **ACTION - SG**
- 16 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT IN AUGUST**
In answer to a question from MT about the cost of phone and broadband, the Clerk confirmed that she had emailed BT on 20th July, and again on 7th August (having had no response) requesting a transcript of her phone conversation with their salesman on 28th April. As BT have failed in their fiduciary duty to provide the transcript within 28 days, she was asked to draft a complaint to Ofcom about the matter. **ACTION - CLERK**

2098

Inv. No.	Payments to Suppliers – August 2026	Amount	Net	VAT	Paid By	S137
I4540	HMRC – Clerk's income tax and PC Employer's NI. Paid in July	556.16	556.16	0.00	DD	No
I4541	Waitrose – thank you gift for IT support to G Curtis. Paid in July	31.00	25.83	5.17	VisaDebit	No
I4542	Waitrose – internal auditor's thank you gift. Paid in July	50.00	50.00	0.00	VisaDebit	No
I4543	Kedel Ltd. – materials for repairing Knowledge Crescent bench . Paid in July	183.57	152.97	30.60	VisaDebit	No
I4544	Jeremy Hawkins – treeworks in The Paddocks. Paid in July	660.00	550.00	110.00	BACS	No
I4545	Coral Westall – public loo cleaning in Aug (incl. back-pay)	325.00	325.00	0.00	BACS	No
I4546	Castle Water – water charges for public loo in July	120.07	120.07	0.00	BACS	No
I4547	Robert Copp – mowing paths and watering apple trees in May	238.00	238.00	0.00	BACS	No
I4548	Lloyds Business Banking – Bank Charges in Aug	4.25	4.25	0.00	DD	No
I4549	WALC – Planning Enforcement & Appeals training course fee	36.00	30.00	6.00	BACS	No
I4550	BT – phone & broadband Aug-Oct	222.35	185.29	37.06	DD	No
I4551	Donation to Charity Shop for repairing Knowledge Cres. bench	100.00	100.00	0.00	BACS	No
I4552	Helen Lloyd – expenses reclaim for cost of scanning Mem Hall archive documents for the PC's records	11.00	9.17	1.83	BACS	No
	TOTAL (excl. Clerk's salary I4553)	£2,537.40	£2,346.74	£190.66		
	*TOTAL AMOUNT ON DEPOSIT on 31st July 2026	£128,365.69				
	incl. gross interest earned Dec 2022 to 31st July 2026	£7,365.69				
	INCOME					
	Charity shop rent	£320.00				
	Memorial Hall share of broadband	9.60				
	TOTAL INCOME	£329.60				
	Current A/c balance at 31st July 2026	£5,632.64				

*This sum includes monies held in reserve for parish initiatives such as the Ramsbury Flyer, defibrillators, provision of play equipment, pavement and road repairs, etc.

NB. In addition to the £2,537.40 due for payment as set out in the meeting agenda (as above) DB sought councillors' approval for three further payments to be settled this month:-

I4554	Galleon Supplies Ltd – toilet tissue for the public loo	31.20	26.00	5.20	VisaDebit	No
I4555	Director Payroll Ltd – payroll services August – January	108.00	90.00	18.00	BACS	No
I4556	Whitton PCC – Estimated extra cost of printing Diary 40 th anniversary edition	20.00	20.00	0.00	BACS	No

Bringing the total expenditure for approval up to £2,696.60

The Accounts were accepted and approved. Prop. MT; Sec. RG

2099

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.05p.m.

DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 7.45pm at RAMSBURY MEMORIAL HALL

ALL ARE WELCOME