

CROPREDY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Cropredy Parish Council held in the Methodist Chapel on Monday 8th December 2025 at 7pm

Present: Councillors Tania Johnson, Des Knight, Clive Dunn, Jacqui Smith, Rachel Hughes, Carine Varaez, Carl Twynham, County Councillor & District Councillor Chris Brant and David Best (Clerk). Three members of the public attended the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs District Cllr Phil Chapman
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.
3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – The minutes of the meeting of 10th November were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **MATTERS ARISING:**
 - i. **Oak tree on an allotment** – Cllr Tania Johnson undertook to ask Mr Tim Batchellor for advice on removal or transplanting the oak tree and a tree on plot 5.
 - ii. **Installation of additional dog poo bin at Upper Prescote** – CDC has confirmed that they can empty the bin if it is on a road so a new bin will be ordered by the clerk.
 - iii. **Request from the school to fund a defibrillator cabinet** – The school has been asked to provide the cost so that the PC can decide whether to fund this.
5. **VILLAGE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT**

Canals and Rivers Trust – In November, the task force commenced renovation of a brick building at the Claydon flight of locks to establish another Lockkeepers Inn. This work will be continued at the next scheduled 'Towpath Taskforce' on Wednesday 29th January 2026.

Damaged manhole and sign – These were reported on Fix My Street. The manhole has been repaired but the signs has not been repaired yet, but OCC has acknowledged that it will be repaired.

Potholes on Oxhey Hill – These have now been repaired.

New waste bin in Vicarage Gardens – The PC would like to thank Mr Simon Bull for fitting this and removing the ivy on top of the churchyard wall.

Playground maintenance – A quote has been received for repairs identified in the last playground inspection report. A quote will also be obtained for the zip wire and then grant applications will be submitted.
6. **TRANSPORT, TRAFFIC & STREET LIGHTING**

Street Lighting – Cllr Clive Dunn has drafted a questionnaire on part night lighting to be distributed in the village when confirmation has been received of the conversion of lights to LED.

Blocked gulleys on Williamscot Road – These have been reported to OCC on Fix My Street
7. **VILLAGE EMERGENCY PLAN, CRIME PREVENTION & ENVIRONMENT** : No update
8. **PARISH COUNCIL USE OF INTERNET & SOCIAL MEDIA:** No update.
9. **PLANNING:**

New Planning Applications and Appeals:
25/02754/F – The Straw Barn – Addition of 1st floor windows – PC has no objections.
New Planning Decisions: None since last meeting.
10. **COUNTY COUNCIL AND DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:**

Parish Council Christmas Tree – Councillor Chris Brant congratulated the PC on their Christmas tree at the church

Highways issues – Councillor Chris Brant is meeting OCC Highways every 6 weeks and has offered to raise any issues on behalf of the PC.

Glass recycling in Blue Bins – Glass can be recycled in Blue Bins from 1st January.

Local Government reorganisation – Three proposals have been submitted to the Government who will consider them and carry out a public consultation next year.

11. SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB:

Parish Councillors representation on the Management Committee – The constitution provides for 2 councillors to be represented on the committee but there are currently none. Representation on the committee will be decided at the January PC meeting.

12. PARISH MATTERS:

- i. **Churchyard Wall repairs** – Mr Andrew Baxter, chartered surveyor, has met with Mr Stephen Wass to discuss the location of the wall ties. The clerk is organising a meeting between Mr Andrew Baxter and OCC Highways to seek their approval for the repairs.
- ii. **2026-27 Budget and Precept** – The draft budget had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was agreed to increase the precept by 5%.
- iii. **Letter from Obsidian requesting a meeting with the PC on the proposed planning application for 74 additional houses (Phase 2)** – In reply to the request from Obsidian to meet with the PC, the PC advised that it would meet with Obsidian at the public meeting with Cropredy residents. Obsidian advised that it was not holding a public meeting, so it was agreed to form a subcommittee with two members of Keep Cropredy Rural to meet with Obsidian to obtain more details on their proposal to build additional houses. It was agreed to contact the Hanwell group who opposed the application in their Parish for advice and details of the planning consultant that they engaged. A letter was sent to Thames Water as they had advised after the phase 1 planning had been granted that there was insufficient capacity in the system to process the sewage. Thames Water advised that it would respond to CDC on any new application after completing an assessment. A resident has asked the PC if it will contribute to the cost of an independent consultant to assess the sewage issue, but CDC has advised the PC that the planning department will use the report submitted by Thames Water (the statutory consultee) not a consultant. A subcommittee will also be formed with residents to ensure that the Phase 1 development is built in line with the conditions set by CDC. Obsidian has advised that a developer has agreed to take on the phase 1 development and is expected to submit the “Reserved Matters” application to CDC in the spring. Cropredy Surgery has advised the PC “We are discussing Heads of Terms with Obsidian and we are trying to get this finalised currently. We have passed our terms back to Obsidian and are awaiting their response. The ICB has been involved in the process and have been supportive.”

13. FINANCE.

Accounts to 30th November – These were circulated prior to the meeting and there were no requests for clarification.

14. CORRESPONDENCE: None outstanding

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS NOT OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE: None

16. ANY MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None

17. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Monday 12th January 2026.

There being no further matters the Chair closed the public meeting at 8.25pm

Chairman
12th January 2026