

**Minutes of the Fyfield and Tubney Parish Meeting
held on Thursday 9th January 2025.**

1. Present.

Mrs Penny Budgen – Chair.
Mrs Claire Cable-Alexander.
Dr Dimitrios Hatzis.
Dr. Sarah Stanhope.
Dr Stephen Fraser – Clerk.

Mr. Mark Coleman – VofWH Councillor.

Five members of the general public.

2. Apologies.

Apologies had been received from

Mr Nicholas Keene.
Mr Alan Woodward.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting.

These were signed as a true record by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising.

1. Parish Web Site & Facebook.

The Clerk informed the meeting that a Facebook Group entitled 'Fyfield and Tubney Parish Council' had been created and had 28 members. There were 93 parishioners on the email list so this group would not replace email as the best means of communicating with parishioners.

The clerk was still working on the revised web site.

2. Fyfield Bus Stop Lighting.

OCC contractors had attended and found that the solar panel was not aligned to the south. This had been corrected. The contractor also offered to contact Mrs Budgen independently about replacing the old panels on the shelter which should mean that those will also be working in the near future.

3. Village Deep Clean.

The Clerk had chased Biffa several times in respect to getting Main Road pavements cleaned following the non action of the original deep clean work request. As yet, no date had been forthcoming and it would not be long before requests were made for the 2025 deep clean schedule.

5. District Councillor's Report.

Mr Mark Coleman's report had been circulated to councillors.

With respect to the reorganisation of District wards, Fyfield would become part of an extended two councillor Kingston Bagpuize ward. He anticipated that the villages would come under one councillor whilst the other covered the enlarged Kingston Bagpuize village.

Following the recent government announcement that it preferred the setting up of unitary authorities, The Vale and South Oxfordshire had made representation to OCC that they be part of an early request for such an authority. Given the government's suggestions on sizes, it was felt that a merger of the Vale, South Oxfordshire and West Berkshire would be optimal. Other Oxfordshire areas would also be merged and come under an elected mayor for a Thames region.

6. Proposed Hills Quarry & Tubney Action Group.

Mr Richard Willden gave a detailed update on the progress of TAG's response to the quarry application. Hills had responded to the Regulation 25 submission by the inspector and this had resulted in a revised paper for circulation guiding residents as to how they could object.

The main change was the removal of the Batching Plant and changes to the manner of access and egress to the site onto the A420.

Hydrology and the impact on the SSI remains a serious issue.

In the light of the Regulation 25 response, TAG were anticipating further calls on their independent planning consultants. There was a general call for more funding to meet a charge of about £10k.

Mrs Budgen proposed that the Parish Council contribute £1,000 which was carried unanimously.

7. Flooding Issues;

1. Digging Lane.

Mrs Budgen would meet shortly with the District Council, Mr Lay and Savills to examine how best to ensure adequate drainage into Osse Brook.

Mr Varney stated he had been forced to pump both foul and surface water on an almost continual basis. The situation had only started with the development of the Bloor Homes estate. Since then, there had been surface water flooding over the proposed Lioncourt development, the apple orchard and the fields around his home. He anticipated the situation becoming worse with the Lioncourt development.

The TAG group would assist Mr Varney in respect to their experience with hydrology surveys.

2. Netherton Road.

The farmers, Mr Christenson and Mr Lay, had dug out the ditches in the area and this appeared to have alleviated the issue. The pipe under the road would be tackled in February.

3. Abingdon Road, Tubney.

Residents had reported flooding issues at the A420 end of Abingdon Road via FMS. Despite the gullys being pumped, the issue has not been solved and the connection pipework is suspected of a blockage. Mrs Budgen would expedite via her FMS contact.

8. Actions from Neighbourhood Priorities Statement.

1. Public Space/Play Area.

Dr Hatzis's proposal document was with Savills and a response was awaited.

2. Fyfield/Tubney Connectivity.

The application for making this route a Restricted Bridleway had been submitted and nothing further could be done until that application was resolved.

A resident had proposed a wooden walkway under the underpass to circumvent the regular flooding. However, nothing could be legally done until a right of way was declared. However, once the right of way was established, then OCC would be responsible for keeping the route open.

3. Circular Walking Route.

It had proven impossible to identify any route which did not impact the farmer's business so this proposal was now dropped.

9. Highways Issues.

1. 20mph Speed Limits.

The Fyfield restriction had been implemented.

Abingdon Road, Tubney and Digging Lane had been rejected by OCC and the window for applications was now closed.

It was decided to review the safety of Abingdon Road with respect to the positioning of the SIDs, possible new pole positions at the A420 end, the frequency of Speed Watch monitoring and the numerous pot holes and kerb damage by Thames Water at the eastern end of the road.

2. Kerb/Pavement at entrance to Manor Farm.

Mrs Budgen was still pursuing this issue.

3. A420 40mph through Tubney.

This would be considered by OCC in April 2025.

4. Highways Engagement Meeting.

Mrs Budgen and the Clerk had met with Ms Tracy Morton who has been designated as a single point of contact for all OCC Highways issues.

10. Church Community Space.

Mr MacElvogue's latest report had been circulated prior to the meeting. There was now a second round of fundraising to progress a number of areas, such as heating, flooring, path access and audio/visual capability.

11. Memorial Garden.

This was ongoing but was held up by a Gigaclear cable that needed moving as it had been installed just below surface level and was in the way. The Clerk had been in touch with Gigaclear several times but they had not responded to date with engineers on site.

12. Planning.

The following applications have been returned as Supported.

- P24/V2176/HH Sandy Lodge, Tubney
- P24/V2492/HH The Elms, Fyfield

13. Lioncourt.

The Parish Council would be meeting with representatives of David Wilson Homes on the 22nd January. This company was in the process of purchasing the rights to build the development. It was understood that they were speaking to Kingston Bagpuize PC at this moment.

14. Finance.

The Clerk reported the following transactions since the last meeting.

• Precept Account brought forward.	£6,695.43
• Mrs Budgen – Climbing High Tree Care	£180.00
• Comet Bus Grant	£600.00
• Climbing High Tree Care	£1,380.00
• The Oxford Cow Dairy Ltd. - Ice Cream for Fete	£160.00
• Precept 2 nd Instalment received.	£2,500.00
• Available Precept	£7,325.43

As reported above, the grant cheque for the Comet Bus had been reissued on the understanding that the original cheque, if subsequently found, would not be presented.

• CIL Account brought forward.	£27,861.57
• OCC – Fyfield Bus Stop Light	£3,060.00
• Available CIL	£24,801.57

The Clerk stated that it was unlikely there would be any more CIL payments.

15. Budget 2025/6.

The Clerk had circulated a document outlining the spend for 2025/6 that could be anticipated. However, as could be seen from all the previous year's accounts, most of the parish's spend was on ad hoc items. The current level of precept was adequate for the known spend. It was accepted that a full budget for the year could not be set.

16. Precept 2025/6.

It was noted that there would be no more CIL payments in the foreseeable future so all expenditure would have to be met from the precept. Given that there were a number of projects under consideration for the future which had not yet reached a stage where they could be costed, it was suggested that the precept be increased to ensure that we had sufficient reserves.

It was **resolved** that the precept for 2025/6 be set at £10,000 and the chair duly signed the appropriate documentation for submission to District.

17. Dates for 2025 Meetings.

The Clerk had booked the White Hart for the following dates.

Thursday March 13th.

Thursday May 8th – Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Thursday September 11th.

Thursday November 13th.

All meetings to commence at 7:30pm.

18. AOB.

No points were raised as AOB.

There being no other items, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:02pm.

Next Meeting Thursday 13^h March 2025.