



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CLIFTON HAMPTON ANNUAL PARISH
ASSEMBLY
HELD ON MONDAY 6th OCTOBER 2025 AT 7:30PM IN THE CLIFTON HAMPTON
VILLAGE HALL**

1/001 Present

Councillors: Chair: Dougie Anscombe-Stephen (DAS), Franck Doreau (FD), Kate Lowe (KL), Svea Cheeseman (SC), Rory Maxwell (RM), Alex Seal (AS), Paul Sanders (PS),

Clerk: Charlotte Ray

Oxford County Council: Cllr Robin Jones – Absent

South Oxfordshire District Council: Cllr Sam Casey Rerhaye – Absent

Modern Archery – Absent

Longbow Society – Present

St Michael & All Angles Church – Absent

Primary School – Absent

Scouts – Present

WI – Absent

Village Charity - Absent

Members of the public – 28

1/002 Apologies for absence:

Cricket Club, Tennis Club.

1/003 Minutes

Notes taken from the Annual Parish Assembly held on 19th May 2023 were shown to the community by the Chair.

1/004 Presentation of Finance Report for 2025/26

Councillor Sanders presented a PowerPoint which showed the community the funds in the bank account - £54,137.03 on the 30th of September 2025 which includes £7,608 of CIL funds. He explained that there is a 5year deadline to spend CIL funds and the money can be spent on infrastructure. Income and expenditure were presented through a graphical representation. A list of funds received by the parish—such as the precept and VAT reclaim was provided. The various categories of parish council expenditures were also outlined. Notably, land and amenities costs have been lower than in previous years, which has informed the decision to plan for an increase in these areas in the forthcoming budget.

1/005 Report from the Chair of Clifton Hampden Parish Council

The Chair read out the report to the community and fellow Parish Councillors. In the report he thanked his fellow councillors and both clerks for all their hard work. Discussed three main topics the first being Foundation – There are fundamental issues that need to be addressed regarding the effective operation of the council, as well as website management, financial oversight, and data controls. Secondly Parish Maintenance – The Wharf, recreation ground, and other areas require substantial improvements in order to restore these valued community spaces. Lastly Development – The recreation ground requires significant enhancements beyond a simple refresh; efforts should focus on elevating the quality and usability of the area. He finished off by strongly urging that there be unity and collaboration between Burcot and Clifton Hampden.

1/006 Reports from County and District Councillors

The report **received from OCC Cllr Jones was read out to the community in his absence.** The report discussed grants available, a walk around the **community** ? which had led to planning applications already being submitted for the bridge repairs and the project Oxrail2040.

1/007 To discuss & potentially approve whether to include Burcot in the PC's name.

Councillor Seal addressed the community, emphasizing that the council's name should include Burcot, as it represents the entire parish. The Parish Council maintains that, given the range of amenities provided by Burcot, its designation merits acknowledgment. It is proposed that the name be changed to Clifton Hampden and Burcot Parish Council. A formal resolution should be passed by the council, after which South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) should be notified, ensuring that Burcot residents are clearly consulted throughout the process. Councillor Seal recommended including this matter as an agenda item at the next Parish Council or Annual Parish Meeting for discussion and potential approval. The community has expressed support for the proposed name change.

1/008 Report from Parish Council Recreation Ground Committee

Councillor Cheeseman presented a PowerPoint slide summarising the factual results from a survey distributed by the committee. A total of 54 households responded, representing 177 individuals. The findings indicate that most of the community is dissatisfied with the recreation ground, social club, green space, and car parking facilities. Key priorities identified include improvements to the playground, green space, and social club. Additionally, 65% of respondents expressed an interest in using the recreation ground at least once per week. The most significant changes highlighted were enhancements to the playground, clubhouse, parking, and outdoor sports and fitness amenities. Furthermore, 75% of participants mentioned the need for repairs to the playground, specifically requesting that it be a securely fenced area to ensure children's safety. The intention is to maintain the football area and create a wildflower garden adjacent to the tennis court. Plans include extending the playground and installing additional benches. A proposal has been made to create a new footpath, with discussions underway with **representatives from the Gibbs Estate** regarding this initiative. To proceed effectively, it is essential to first address the overgrown condition of the area. The broken swing will be replaced with one infant swing, one basket swing, and two standard swings. In Step 3, three distinct design options, complete with cost estimates, will be developed and presented for community voting, with a target decision date set for mid-2026.

1/011 Reports from Organisations within Clifton Hampden & Burcot

Cllr Kate Lowe. A **representative** from The Social Club informed the community how the team assists with bar operations and venue maintenance, and they welcome anyone interested in volunteering. Their primary objective is to provide a welcoming space for the community,

rather than to generate profit. They have recently purchased games for children. However, the condition of the building is deteriorating, and there are ongoing Wi-Fi issues that need addressing. The team are currently brainstorming several event night ideas to help raise funds. **Cllr Lowe** emphasised how it is essential to secure significant funding to carry out necessary repairs to the facility for it to continue operating.

The Chair read out the report from the Tennis Club in their absence. The report discussed what they have been doing to ensure membership and funds and their plans going forward.

Miss Breeze from the School of Dance presented photographs of medals awarded to various groups of students. These accomplishments were achieved in Ballet and Tap classes held on Mondays, as well as Acro, Jazz, and Ballet classes conducted on Saturdays.

Sarah representing Culham Science Park, **gave a short presentation** and **she indicated that it is** home to approximately 4,000 individuals. The UK Atomic Energy Authority has been part of the local community for over 60 years and, in celebration of this legacy, is organising a series of open days. The site is at the forefront of fusion energy research, with a fusion cluster comprising companies specialising in materials, magnets, and robotics. Currently they are public funded however their future is to become private funded. Looking ahead, the campus plans to host a 100-megawatt physical facility and will launch a new visitor centre this Friday, followed by an open day over the weekend. Community engagement is a priority, with events such as open days facilitated by the campus team. The Round House provides meeting rooms available for hire, and future plans include a potential second entry point to help alleviate traffic congestion; however, this proposal is still under consideration.

A representative from the Longbow Society **said it** was established in 2003 by five founding members. Jo has been a member for 14 years. The club is supported by three local farmers and landowners who generously provide access to their land. Annually, the society participates in events held in France and Germany. Members presented their equipment—bows, flags, spears, and markers to the community, showcasing their skills and commitment. As an organisation, the club operates independently and maintains a welcoming and inclusive environment for anyone interested in participating.

David represented the Scouts which have successfully achieved the fundraising target of £17,000 to repair the roof of the hut. The hut is utilised weekly by 120 young people aged 6–18. Water activities are organised on weekends throughout the summer months. The group also participates in the Remembrance Day parade at Clifton Hampden Church. While several engaging activities are scheduled for the coming year, repairs to the boat store remain necessary. Additionally, the reinstatement of WIFI in the Recreation area is required, and it is requested that the Parish Council investigate this matter.

1/012 Public Question Time

A resident raised concerns regarding the stretch of road between Clifton and Burcot, where the speed limit is 40 mph, but vehicles are reportedly travelling more than 60 mph. The resident requested that the Parish Council please make it a priority to have the speed limit reduced to 30 mph. The Parish Council will review the potential measures it can undertake in response. Additionally, there have been repeated reports of Biffa vehicles seen speeding; The Chair requested that the clerks and himself further investigate this matter and address these concerns.

The meeting closed at: 21:18