AGENDA PACK

Meeting of Bladon Parish Council

11th September 2025

Agenda Item	Description
Item 4	Draft Minutes for the 3rd July 2025
Item 6a	Link to planning application 25/01860/LBC Folly Bridge, Bladon Link to 25/01860/LBC
Item 6b	Link to planning application 25/01859/HDD Folly Bridge, Bladon Link to 25/01859/HHD
Item 8a/b/c	Finance Report
Item 8d	Bank Reconciliation as at 30th June 2025
Item 8e	External Auditors' report
Item 9	Pay Claim
Item 12	Quote for replacement SID poles
Item 15	Memorial stone request

BLADON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Bladon Parish Council held on Thursday 3rd July 2025 at The Church Room, Church Street, Bladon at 7.30 pm

Present:

Councillors Rev. C Fletcher (Chair), Mrs S Richmond, Mrs A Vine & Mrs S Watkinson

District & County Councillors WODC Cllrs Cooper & Poskitt

Clerk Mrs K Howe **Members of the Public** 0

052/25	**1 - To receive apologies for absence** Apologies were received from Cllr Assandri and OCC Cllr Graham The meeting was informed that Cllr Tibble had resigned from the Council.
053/25	**2 - To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda** No interests declared
054/35	**3 - Public Participation/Forum** No items raised
055/25	**4 - To approve the minutes for the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 12th June 2025** It was **agreed** that the minutes of the 12th June 2025 be **approved** as a true and correct record of the Council, and they were duly signed by the Chair.
056/25	**5 - To receive reports from members of West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council** There was no report from OCC Cllr Graham. The report from WODC was circulated before the meeting (**Appendix A**). Cllr Fletcher asked about the Local Plan and the plans for smaller areas such as Bladon. Cllr Poskitt said it was not likely that there would be a big application, but there may be a small development if there was a location. Cllrs Poskitt and Cooper also commented on the Hensington Road Car Park review and said that the carpark may be split into short stay (4hrs) and long stay (12hrs).
057/25	**6 - To receive an update on the Botley Solar Farm and agree on any actions** The developer had until the 1st of July to respond to the planning inspector's questions and requests for more information, but as yet there is nothing on the PINs website. The Steering Group is looking at setting up a CIC to receive and manage the financial community benefits. The Steering Group is meeting again on the 21st July with representatives from the Local Authorities.
058/25	**7 - To receive an update on the Blenheim Liaison Meeting and agree on any actions** Cllr Fletcher provided a brief update, which included that a new path towards Begbroke has been opened (Heath Lane to Begbroke) and that there as also been improvements to the bridleway in the same area. During the item, the following issues were raised: - • Duck Shooting – The noise from the shooting can be heard in Park Street • Duck Shooting – The community path is affected and is sometimes closed. A suggestion that signage warning that a shoot would take place on X date should be put up in advance of the shoot.

	• Park Road Entrance/Exit – A resident has contacted Blenheim to complain that the recent use of this entrance has caused problems for residents accessing their properties. • Footpaths – The are several missing footpath markers **Action** - the Clerk to inform Blenheim of the issues raised
059/25	**8 - To discuss how to improve general village maintenance and to agree on any actions. Example of maintenance - keeping traffic signs free of vegetation, weeding encroaching turf and weeds from footways, stopping pavement parking and preventing obstructions on narrow footways such as signage and vegetation.** It was decided that Cllr Watkinson would meet with the Clerk to identify the areas in the village that need clearing.
060/25	**9 - Planning** **To consider the response to the follow consultations:-** **a) 25/01510/OUT – Land South of Perdiswell Farm, Shipton Road, Shipton on Cherwell** The clerk confirmed that this was a resubmission of a previously withdrawn application. **Decision** It was **agreed** that the council would submit an **objection** to the application and that the Clerk would draft a response that included the points raised to the previous application, including raising concerns regarding the lack of capacity at Woodstock GP and the isolated location of the development. **b) WODC Local Plan Preferred Policy Options Consultation (link provided in agenda pack)** **Decision** It was **agreed** that the Clerk would review the document and advise if a response was required, and if required, would draft the response.
061/25	**10 - Finance** **a) To approve payments due** The payments list was circulated before the meeting. **Decision** It was **agreed** unanimously to **approve** the payments in the table below:-

Payee	Description	Amount to be Paid	Vat to be reclaimed
CPA Horticulture	Pro-Fprma - Order 169282 - 4 Pallets of Wood Chip	£1,223.76	£203.96
CPA Horticulture	Pro-Fprma - Order 169283 - 4 Pallets of Wood Chip	£1,223.76	203.96
K Howe	Expenses -Net World Sports - Line Marking Equipment and paint	£160.63	£26.77
K Howe	Expenses - Alchemy Ferns York - Plants Village Green	£47.94	TBC
P Howe	Inv June 25 - Additional Work Rec Ground Shed Install - £180 Wood chip labour for 2 deliveries - £600 Village Green clear & replant Borders - £500 Village Green additional clearing and planting - £150	£1,430.00	n/a

P Howe	Inv June 25 - Village Maintenance Contract **Grass Cutting:-** Cemetery, Green & Churchyard Bank - Twice Rec Ground, Rec Orchard & Football Pitch - Once **Other:-** Raking Playground - Once	£750.00	n/a

b) To note the recurring payments between 1st June and 30th June 2025

In addition to the recurring payments between 1st June and 30th June, the Councillors were also asked to note the income in the same period.

The payments in the table below were noted: -

Payee	Description	Amount to be Paid	Vat to be reclaimed
K Howe	Salary May 25	£1,254.10	n/a
PATA	Payroll Service Qrt 1 Apr-June Inv 4/1185/PPS	£37.35	n/a
K Howe	Salary June 25	£1,254.10	n/a
OCC Pension Fund	LGPS June 25	£3,378.05	n/a
Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge -May 25	£7.50	n/a

The income in the table below was noted: -

Payer	Description	Amount Received
Unity Trust Bank	Instant Access Account Interest	£297.35

c) To approve the Bank Reconciliation as at 30th June 2025

The item was **Deferred** to the next meeting.

062/25 **11 - To approve the Clerk purchasing the HP Smart Tank 7305 or 7306 Wireless All-in-One Colour Printer at a maximum cost of £320 inc VAT and to approve repaying the Clerk once purchased.**

Decision

It was **agreed** unanimously to **approve** the purchase of the printer at a maximum cost of £320 inc VAT and to **approve** the repayment of the purchase to the clerk if needed.

063/25 **12 - To approve the Clerk purchasing an external hard drive, as recommended by the internal auditor, to a value of £60 inc VAT and to approve repaying the Clerk once purchased**

Decision

It was **agreed** unanimously to **approve** the purchase of an external hard drive at a maximum cost of £60 inc VAT and to **approve** the repayment of the purchase to the clerk if needed.

064/25 **13 - To approve the membership and payment to the Open Spaces Society at a cost of £45 per annum**

Decision

It was **agreed** unanimously to **approve** the membership to the Open Space Society and the required payment of £45.

065/25 **14 - To approve the membership and payment to the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association at a cost of £47 for April 25 to March 26**

Decision

	It was **agreed** unanimously to **approve** the membership to the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association and the required payment of £47.
066/25	**15 - To approve the annual RoSPA playground inspections by Play Safety Ltd at a cost of: Early Years Playground - Annual Inspection £80, MUGA - Annual Inspection £80, Outdoor Gym - Annual Inspection £80, Playing Field - Playing Field Inspection £80 And additional fee of £4 per item over 5 (fees above cover 5 play items)** **Decision** It was **agreed** unanimously to **approve** the quote of £340+VAT from Play Safery Ltd for the annual RoSPA playground/recreation ground inspections
067/25	**16 - To approve the Terms of Reference for the Recreation Ground Improvements Working Group (copy provided) and agree on any other actions regarding the project.** **Decision** It was **agreed** unanimously to **approve** the Terms of Reference for the Recreation Ground Improvements Working Group
068/25	**17 - Training** **a) To approve the Clerk enrolling on a two day playground inspection course (RPII Operational Training Course) being run by OALC for the next available date at a cost of £360+VAT** **Decision** It was **agreed** unanimously to **approve** the Clerk enrolling on the playground inspection course at a cost of £360+VAT **b) To discuss training for both Councillors and Clerk, and to approve the Clerk enrolling Councillors or the Clerk in any relevant training as and when available.** **Decision** It was **agreed** unanimously to **approve** the Clerk enrolling Councillors or the Clerk in any relevant training as and when available.
069/25	**18 - To receive an update on current workload/projects** A report was circulated before the meeting, and no questions were raised.
070/25	**19 - To raise matters for discussion without decision, or items for the next meeting.** A request to change the November meeting to 20th of November was made, this wil be brought to the next meeting for approval.
071/25	**20 - <u>Exclusion of Press and Public</u>** **To resolve the exclusion of the press and public in accordance with the Press and Public (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 by reason of the confidential nature of the business.** **Decision** It was **agreed** unanimously to **approve** the exclusion of the press and public.
072/25	**21 - To note the appraisal of the Clerk** Cllr Fletcher provided an update and the Clerk's appraisal was noted. In addition to noting the appraisal, it was **agreed** that the Clerk would enrol with SLCC to take the CILCA qualification, and it was **agreed** unanimously to pay the fee of £450.

APPENDIX A

Report of District Councillors for Bladon, Blenheim and Woodstock to Woodstock Town Council Thursday July 3rd 2025

CURRENT AND FUTURE PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS.

Several public consultations are currently underway or will open on the webpages shortly.

Local Government Changes
This is a public engagement to both inform and survey residents' ideas on proposals in relation to national government's plans for local government changes. We mentioned this in our last report to Bladon PC but the access was unclear. Go to https://theconversation.southandvale.gov.uk/corporate-services/two-councils/

Or attend the public event on **Thursday July 10th 3-7pm:**

- Unit 14a, Marriotts Walk Witney OX28 6GW 3-7pm

Your Plan for the Future: Preferred Policy Options Consultation
West Oxfordshire District Council is currently developing a new Local Plan, which will help steer future growth and development in the district and help to define our long-term vision. The consultation runs until the 8th August and can be accessed via:

https://yourvoice.westoxon.gov.uk/en-GB/folders/your-plan-for-the-future

This part of the consultation is to seek views on policies the Council is proposing for the new Local Plan 2042. At this point the consultation is not including preferred options for development since it seems more logical to develop policies for development (as well as other policies in the draft Local Plan) so we have some concept of how the public views the various policies. There will then be a later consultation on preferred option sites for development. So, your views are needed.

Off Street Parking Review.
West Oxfordshire Council owns a number of off-street car parks including the Hensington Road Car Park in Woodstock (but nothing in Bladon). OCC manages on street parking so that is not considered in this review.

The draft Review was discussed at the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on July 2nd and will be considered by Executive on July 9th. It will probably go out as a public consultation shortly after that. Keep your eyes on the webpages!

The Review, particularly its suggested solutions for parks such as the Hensington Road park which are saturated most of the working day, is quite controversial. We recommend you look at it and give your views when the consultation begins. (There is NO suggestion of imposing charges on WODC parks).

WODC CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY 2026-2030

This draft report was also discussed at the Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting on July 2nd. It provides an interesting and informative read about the aims and ambitions of the Council in relation to combatting and coping with Climate Change. However, the Committee was concerned that the document was not just seen as aspirational but should have objective measurable KPIs (Key Policy Indicators). It was seen as important not only to reach out to business to reach a common aim but also to communicate with residents on what Council was doing and advise how individuals could adjust their homes or ways of life

to combat Climate Change. There are already a number of local groups taking up local initiatives. Council is already working with many of them. One of us made the comment that water did not seem to feature in the report. We were assured consideration of use of water as well as control of flooding and pollution underlay much of the strategies in the document even if not actually mentioned……but the Climate Change officers would consider giving more focus in the report to water issues. Another recommendation was for something in the report about the possibilities of white hydrogen as a source of fuel.

DEVELOPMENT.

The Cherwell DC application for 500 homes on the land east of the A44 – the Perdiswell Farm site – was mentioned briefly at the last Bladon PC meeting. The consultation on the document is open until July 9th but residents should not be put off sending in their comment after that date as (certainly in WODC) comments continue to be posted on the planning pages and considered by officers until the report finally goes to Planning Committee. The proposal can be found on the Cherwell DC Planning webpages : https://planningregister.cherwell.gov.uk/ under the reference number 25/01510/OUT

West Oxfordshire Council (and Woodstock Town Council) is strongly opposed to the proposal.

WODC Cllrs Julian Cooper & Elizabeth Poskitt

Financial Report for 11th September 2025 Meeting

Payments to be Approved at the Meeting to be held 11th September 2025

Payee	Description	Amount to be Paid	Vat to be reclaimed
C Probbitts	Inv 28/8/25 - Grass Cutting in June (Meadow near War Memorial)	£110.00	n/a

Payments to be Noted at Meeting

Recurring Payments and Payments Made Under Delegated Powers(*) Between 1st July and 31st August 2025

Payee	Description	Amount to be Paid	Vat to be reclaimed
HMRC	Qtr. 1 PAYE	£615.84	n/a
Sheild Maintenance	Inv 9064 Monthly litter bin emptying (June)	£64.99	£10.83
Sheild Maintenance	Inv 9174 Monthly litter bin emptying (July)	£64.99	£10.83
OCC Pension Fund	LGPS July 25	£378.05	n/a
K Howe	Salary July 25	£1,254.10	n/a
Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge - June 25	£7.80	n/a
K Howe	Reclaim Expenses - Mobile SIM (July & Aug 25)	£10.00	£1.66
K Howe	Salary Aug 25	£1,254.10	n/a
OCC Pension Fund	LGPS August 25	£378.05	n/a
Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge - July 25	£8.70	n/a
*OALC	Inv 5786 - Training Course Playground Inspections	£432.00	£72.00
*Bladon PCC	Room Hire - Council Meetings 25/26	£330.00	n/a
*Playsafety Ltd	Inv 90889 - ROSPA inspection of the recreation ground	£408.00	£68.00
*P Howe	Inv July 25 - Village Maintenance Contract **Grass Cutting** Cemetery, Football Pitch and Rec Ground **Other** Raking Playground - Once Wasp Nest Treatment (Cemetery) - Twice	£345.00	n/a
*Moore	Inv 332461 - External Auditor Fees for 24/25 audit	£409.50	£68.25

Income to be Noted at Meeting

Income Received Between 1st July and 31st August 2025

Payer	Description	Amount Received
Peter Smith & Son	Funeral Fees	£544.00

Agenda Item 8d – Bank Reconciliation & Cash Book Transactions

1 July 2025 (2025-2026)

Bladon Parish Council

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____

Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

	Bank Reconciliation at 30/06/2025			
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2025			90,064.07
	ADD			
	Receipts 01/04/2025 - 30/06/2025			33,969.13
				124,033.20
	SUBTRACT			
	Payments 01/04/2025 - 30/06/2025			14,604.96
A	**Cash in Hand 30/06/2025** (per Cash Book)			**109,428.24**
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements			
	Petty Cash	31/03/2025	0.00	
	Current Account Unity	01/07/2025	58,295.68	
	Instant Access Unity	01/07/2025	51,132.56	
	Premium Account Barclays	01/07/2025	0.00	
				109,428.24
	Less unpresented payments			
				109,428.24
	Plus unpresented receipts			
B	**Adjusted Bank Balance**			**109,428.24**
	A = B Checks out OK			

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Bladon Parish Council

Transactions for All Banks

Voucher	Date	Bank	Cost Code	Chq/Rec No.	Description	Supplier	Net	VAT	Total	Balance	Cashed date
					STARTING BALANCE					**90,064.07**	
1	09/04/2025	Current Account U	Memberships		OALC Annual Membership	OALC	-200.00	-40.00	-240.00	89,824.07	30/04/2025
1	10/04/2025	Current Account U	To be Reallocated		VAT Reclaim	HMRC VTR		8,671.78	8,671.78	98,495.85	30/04/2025
4	15/04/2025	Current Account U	Memberships		ICCM Membership	ICCM	-105.00		-105.00	98,390.85	30/04/2025
5	15/04/2025	Current Account U	Accounting Softwa		Software	Starboard Systems Lt	-345.60	-69.12	-414.72	97,976.13	30/04/2025
6	15/04/2025	Current Account U	Subscriptions & So		Software	Geoxphere Ltd	-70.00	-14.00	-84.00	97,892.13	30/04/2025
2	15/04/2025	Current Account U	Sheds		Shed	Sixty Stores	-263.33	-52.67	-316.00	97,576.13	30/04/2025
3	15/04/2025	Current Account U	Litter Bins Emptyin		Bin Emptying	Shield Maintenance Lt	-54.16	-10.83	-64.99	97,511.14	30/04/2025
7	16/04/2025	Current Account U	Woodchip Top Up		Woodchip	CPA Horticulture	-1,019.80	-203.96	-1,223.76	96,287.38	30/04/2025
8	16/04/2025	Current Account U	Sheds		Shed	Flexiform Business Fu	-749.17	-149.83	-899.00	95,388.38	30/04/2025
2	17/04/2025	Current Account U	Precept		Precept	West Oxfordshire Dist	25,000.00		25,000.00	120,388.38	30/04/2025
9	24/04/2025	Current Account U	Celebration/Event		Celebration/Event Costs	King Ride A Lit	-295.00		-295.00	120,093.38	30/04/2025
10	24/04/2025	Current Account U	Celebration/Event		Expenses Reclaim - Celebrations/Events	Snap Ltd t/a Celebrity	-43.91	-8.78	-52.69	120,040.69	30/04/2025
11	24/04/2025	Current Account U	Celebration/Event		Expenses Reclaim - Celebrations/Events	Sainsbury's Supermar	-25.00	-5.00	-30.00	120,010.69	30/04/2025
12	30/04/2025	Current Account U	Basic Pay		Salary	[redacted]	-1,389.89		-1,389.89	118,620.80	30/04/2025
12	30/04/2025	Current Account U	National Insurance		Salary		27.35		27.35	118,648.15	30/04/2025
12	30/04/2025	Current Account U	Pension		Salary		76.44		76.44	118,724.59	30/04/2025
13	30/04/2025	Current Account U	Pension		Pension	Oxfordshire County C	-378.05		-378.05	118,346.54	30/04/2025
14	30/04/2025	Current Account U	Other		Bank Charges	Unity Trust Bank	-7.35		-7.35	118,339.19	30/04/2025
12	30/04/2025	Current Account U	PAYE		Salary	[redacted]	32.00		32.00	118,371.19	30/04/2025
21	28/05/2025	Current Account U	Audit		Internal Audit		-260.00		-260.00	118,111.19	31/05/2025
25	28/05/2025	Current Account U	Training		Training	OALC	-275.00	-55.00	-330.00	117,781.19	31/05/2025
17	28/05/2025	Current Account U	Room Hire		Room Hire	Bladon CE Primary Sc	-45.00		-45.00	117,736.19	31/05/2025
18	28/05/2025	Current Account U	Printing Costs		Expenses Reclaim - Ink	Argos Limited	-16.66	-3.33	-19.99	117,716.20	31/05/2025
19	28/05/2025	Current Account U	Printing Costs		Expenses Reclaim - Ink	Argos Limited	-16.66	-3.33	-19.99	117,696.21	31/05/2025
20	28/05/2025	Current Account U	Subscriptions & So		Software	Microsoft Ireland Oper	-70.83	-14.16	-84.99	117,611.22	31/05/2025
24	28/05/2025	Current Account U	Printing Costs		Expenses Reclaim - Flyers	VistaPrint	-43.28	-8.66	-51.94	117,559.28	31/05/2025
15	28/05/2025	Current Account U	Celebration/Event		Celebration/Event Costs	[redacted]	-80.00		-80.00	117,479.28	31/05/2025
16	28/05/2025	Current Account U	Mobile Phone		Expenses Reclaim - Mobile	Lebera	-12.50	-2.50	-15.00	117,464.28	31/05/2025
22	28/05/2025	Current Account U	Litter Bins Emptyin		Bin Emptying	Shield Maintenance Lt	-54.16	-10.83	-64.99	117,399.29	31/05/2025
23	28/05/2025	Current Account U	Woodchip Top Up		Project Work	[redacted]	-300.00		-300.00	117,099.29	31/05/2025
23	28/05/2025	Current Account U	Sheds		Project Work		-180.00		-180.00	116,919.29	31/05/2025
26	30/05/2025	Current Account U	Pension		Pension	Oxfordshire County C	-378.05		-378.05	116,541.24	31/05/2025
27	31/05/2025	Current Account U	Other		Bank Charges	Unity Trust Bank	-8.25		-8.25	116,532.99	31/05/2025

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Bladon Parish Council

Transactions for All Banks

Voucher	Date	Bank	Cost Code	Chq/Rec No.	Description	Supplier	Net	VAT	Total	Balance	Cashed date
29	02/06/2025	Current Account U	Basic Pay		Salary	[redacted]	-1,389.89		-1,389.89	115,143.10	30/06/2025
29	02/06/2025	Current Account U	National Insurance		Salary		27.35		27.35	115,170.45	30/06/2025
29	02/06/2025	Current Account U	Pension		Salary		76.44		76.44	115,246.89	30/06/2025
30	02/06/2025	Current Account U	Insurance		Insurance	Arthur J Gallagher Insu	-1,976.30		-1,976.30	113,270.59	30/06/2025
28	02/06/2025	Current Account U	VM - Grass & Hedg		Maintenance	[redacted]	-130.00		-130.00	113,140.59	30/06/2025
28	02/06/2025	Current Account U	CM - Grass & Hedg		Maintenance		-210.00		-210.00	112,930.59	30/06/2025
28	02/06/2025	Current Account U	RG - Grass & Hedg		Maintenance		-305.00		-305.00	112,625.59	30/06/2025
29	02/06/2025	Current Account U	PAYE		Salary		32.00		32.00	112,657.59	30/06/2025
31	17/06/2025	Current Account U	Payroll		Payroll	PATA (UK)	-37.35		-37.35	112,620.24	30/06/2025
33	17/06/2025	Current Account U	Printing Costs		Expenses Reclaim - Ink	Currys	-25.41	-5.08	-30.49	112,589.75	30/06/2025
34	17/06/2025	Current Account U	Printing Costs		Expenses Reclaim - Paper	The Midcounties Co-o	-6.66	-1.33	-7.99	112,581.76	30/06/2025
32	17/06/2025	Current Account U	Green Borders		Expenses Reclaim - Hose Pipe	B&Q	-58.33	-11.67	-70.00	112,511.76	30/06/2025
35	17/06/2025	Current Account U	Green Borders		Expenses Reclaim - Plants	Dorest Perennials	-116.00		-116.00	112,395.76	30/06/2025
36	17/06/2025	Current Account U	Green Borders		Expenses Reclaim - Plants	Naturescape Wildflow	-41.42	-8.28	-49.70	112,346.06	30/06/2025
37	17/06/2025	Current Account U	Green Borders		Expenses Reclaim - Plants	Ornamental Trees Ltd	-144.58	-28.92	-173.50	112,172.56	30/06/2025
38	17/06/2025	Current Account U	Green Borders		Expenses Reclaim - Plants	RHS Enterprise Ltd	-78.29	-15.66	-93.95	112,078.61	30/06/2025
39	17/06/2025	Current Account U	Celebration/Event		Donation	Bladon CE Primary Sc	-340.58		-340.58	111,738.03	30/06/2025
40	17/06/2025	Current Account U	Litter Bins Emptyin		Bin Emptying	Shield Maintenance Lt	-54.16	-10.83	-64.99	111,673.04	30/06/2025
41	18/06/2025	Current Account U	VM - Grass & Hedg		Maintenance	[redacted]	-102.50		-102.50	111,570.54	30/06/2025
41	18/06/2025	Current Account U	RG - Grass & Hedg		Maintenance		-705.00		-705.00	110,865.54	30/06/2025
41	18/06/2025	Current Account U	VM - Other Mainter		Maintenance		-25.00		-25.00	110,840.54	30/06/2025
41	18/06/2025	Current Account U	CM - Grass & Hedg		Maintenance		-70.00		-70.00	110,770.54	30/06/2025
3	30/06/2025	Instant Access Uni	Bank Interest		Interest	Unity Trust Bank	297.35		297.35	111,067.89	30/06/2025
43	30/06/2025	Current Account U	National Insurance		Salary	[redacted]	27.35		27.35	111,095.24	30/06/2025
43	30/06/2025	Current Account U	Basic Pay		Salary		-1,389.89		-1,389.89	109,705.35	30/06/2025
42	30/06/2025	Current Account U	Pension		Pension	Oxfordshire County Cc	-378.05		-378.05	109,327.30	30/06/2025
43	30/06/2025	Current Account U	Pension		Salary	[redacted]	76.44		76.44	109,403.74	30/06/2025
44	30/06/2025	Current Account U	Other		Bank Charges	Unity Trust Bank	-7.50		-7.50	109,396.24	30/06/2025
43	30/06/2025	Current Account U	PAYE		Salary	[redacted]	32.00		32.00	109,428.24	30/06/2025
					CLOSING BALANCE					**109,428.24**	
							11,426.16	**7,938.01**	**19,364.17**		

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Section 3 - External Auditor Report and Certificate 2024/25

In respect of **Bladon Parish Council**

1 Respective responsibilities of the auditor and the authority

Our responsibility as auditors to complete a **limited assurance review** is set out by the National Audit Office (NAO). A limited assurance review is **not a full statutory audit**, it does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and hence it **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would. The UK Government has determined that a lower level of assurance than that provided by a full statutory audit is appropriate for those local public bodies with the lowest levels of spending.

Under a limited assurance review, the auditor is responsible for reviewing Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with NAO Auditor Guidance Note 02 (AGN 02) as issued by the NAO on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General. AGN 02 is available from the NAO website – https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/guidance-and-information-for-auditors/

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2025; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors

2 External auditor limited assurance opinion 2024/25

On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with the Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

Insufficient information was provided with the initial supporting data submitted for review with regards to significant variances, which was later provided on request. The parish council should in future ensure that all the necessary supporting information is provided with their annual submission.

3 External auditor certificate 2024/25

We certify that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

External Auditor Name	External Auditor Signature	Date
MOORE	Moore	01/08/2025

Agenda Item 9 – Pay Claim 2026/26

Local Government Pay Claim 2025/26

24 July 2025

The trade unions have now accepted the pay negotiations for 2025/26.

GMB and UNISON have both indicated acceptance, however, UNITE for the fifth year running, have declined. This does not prevent a formal collective agreement being reached and the pay award can be implemented.

The two unions say that while the vote to reject the offer was very strong, unfortunately the number of those voting fell short of what is required for a formal postal ballot for industrial action to be undertaken. In the circumstances, they had no option but to vote to settle negotiations for 2025.

The trade unions will work with the employers on a review of the NJC pay spine as a priority given the impact of the National Living Wage.

They have also proposed that work on the 2026/27 pay claim be undertaken this autumn to prevent any delay in the implementation from 1 April 2026.

A reminder that the pay offer was for 3.2% on scale points 2 – 43, but it is normal that this be also applied to all scale points up to 62.

Backpay for employees who have left employment since 1 April 2025:

If requested by an ex-employee to do so, the employers recommend that any monies due to that employee from 1 April 2025 be paid to the employee's last day of employment. When salary arrears are paid to ex-employees who were in the LGPS, the employer must inform its local LGPS fund.

View the new pay rates **here**.

Article categories

Local Government Pay

All
Applicable in England only
Applicable in Wales only
Branch Community Update
Civility & Respect
Climate Change
Commercial News
Consultations
Coronavirus (COVID-19)
Devolution
Elisabeth Skinner's Blog
Funding
General Election
General Sector News
Government Announcements/Legislation
IIMC
Local Government Pay
Members only
Planning
President's Blog
SLCC Training and Updates

Agenda Item 12 – Quote for Replacement Poles for SIDS

ESTIMATE NO.	DATE	
1787	19/07/2025	

DATE	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	VAT	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
		Quote to Install 2 Replacement Poles for the existing SIDS in Bladon				
	Traffic Management - chapter 8 signs , barriers , cones, no carriage way incursion layout - per day	Traffic Management - chapter 8 signs , barriers , cones, no carriage way incursion layout - per day	T	2	105.00	210.00
	NR6A	NR6A Remove unit- Up to 6 metre 1 only	T	2	95.50	191.00
	NR7A	NR7ASupply & Intallation of new units- 89mm straight post 3.5mtrs tall - galvanised	T	2	235.00	470.00
		Option 2- Paint posts to OCC Black specification				
	14082	14082 Paint column up to 6mtr	T	2	51.43	102.86
		Install SID- optional				
	8.1	8.1 Installing SID only	T	2	29.50	59.00
	11.5a	11.5 Administration costs per hr Streetworks permit application	T	1	25.50	25.50

SUBTOTAL	1,058.36
VAT TOTAL	211.67
TOTAL	**£1,270.03**

TAX SUMMARY

RATE	TAX	NET
VAT @ 20%	211.67	1,058.36

Agenda Item 15 – Request to use Abbey Grey Granite for a Memorial

Currently, the rules and regulations for memorials in Bladon Cemetery only allow for Portland stone, York stone or Crown stone to be used for memorials.

The council has received a request for approval to use a different stone, Abby Grey Granite, for a cremation memorial stone.

Below is an example of the requested stone, which will be left unpolished if approve.



For comparison, the current stones used for cremation plot seem to vary in colour.



