

**TADMARTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 29th SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7PM
IN TADMARTON VILLAGE HALL, MAIN STREET**

Councillors Present

Tim Turner (Chairperson), Paul Doust and Jane Fitzpatrick

Christine Coles (Parish Clerk), County and District Cllr Chris Brant and three villagers

25/62. Apologies

Cllr Higley (personal)

25/63. Co-option of New Councillor

Barbara Hall was co-opted onto the Parish Council. She signed an Acceptance of Office form.

25/64. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda

No interests were declared.

25/65. Public participation session

Two villagers were at the meeting to discuss the pub. The Chair spoke first to clarify that following local concerns, both he and Cllr Fitzpatrick have spoken to the owners to try and reach out to them. The pub is not what residents would like to use. As trade has dropped they suggested other ways to get income. 10 pubs a week are closing. The Plunkett Foundation help communities who have pubs that are failing. There is an option to register the pub as an Asset of Community Value. An Asset of Community Value (ACV) is a building or land whose current or recent use is primarily for the social well-being of the local community, such as a pub, shop, park, or community center. Listing an asset as an ACV gives community groups the right to make a bid if the owner decides to sell, a process known as the community right to bid. This gives them a six-week interim period to announce their intention to bid, followed by up to six months to prepare a full bid to purchase the property. The ACV needs to be submitted at the right time. Other local pubs are busy and successful ones are those which serve food. This pub is a huge community asset which villagers do not want to lose. Some other villagers have tried to reach out to them. The Bell Inn at Great Bourton was briefly mentioned. It has applied for change of use but been refused by CDC. The applicant has gone to appeal. Traffic and speeds were also mentioned at the Brookfield Rise end. An email has been received which will be discussed later in the meeting.

Action: The Chair and Cllr Fitzpatrick will try and reach out to the pub one more time. After this they will prepare a leaflet drop.

25/66. To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 21st July 2025

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

25/67. Highway Matters

i. *To acknowledge receipt of the consultation replies for the proposed parking restrictions on the Main Road.* The consultation replies have been received. 155 properties were consulted in May/June 2024. 40 responses were received. There were 15 objections (38%), 10 partially supporting/raising concerns (25%), 9 in support (22%) and six non objections (15%). A meeting was held with Highways in October 2024. There is no enforcement for parking on double yellow lines and it forces the parking elsewhere. Speeding and 20mph have been discussed numerous times.

ii. *To discuss the proposed enhancement of registered bus stops.* OCC is proposing to upgrade six registered bus stop locations in the village with poles and a new flag and timetable case.

These will be funded by the UK Government via BSIP (Bus Service Improvement Plan) monies awarded to the County Council to promote and increase the uses of buses across the county. Councillors agreed the current bus service is non-existent and these enhancements are needed. All the proposals were agreed but the stop outside the village hall requires more thinking. The Highlands estate does not have a bus service but a new community bus service could include this part of the village.

Action: The Parish Clerk to respond by OCC.

25/68. Village Matters

- i. *To note the checking of the three village defibrillators.*
All the defibrillators have been checked.
- ii. *To note replacement of pads in all the defibrillators and a new battery for the one in Lower Tadmarton.*
It was agreed to order six replacement pads and a battery.
Action: The Parish Clerk to order.
- iii. *To receive an update on Bridleway 12.*
There is no update on this bridleway. The Estate have made contact with nearby residents and a wayleave on a paddock.
- iv. *To receive an update on The Lampet Arms PH.*
Discussed under public participation.
- v. *To discuss the idea of a community bus.*
This idea has been discussed before. The Our Bus Bartons is successful and runs within a 15 mile radius of Middle Barton. They are currently fund raising to purchase a £70K bus. It is volunteer run and works. To be successful here it requires a co-ordinated effort with surrounding villages.
Action: Cllr Fitzpatrick to arrange a meeting with Richard Brown MBE and Director of Our Bus Bartons.
- vi. *To discuss the quote for wildflower turf/seeding in 3 areas on verges in Lower Tadmarton and the village and woodland clearance with pathway behind Brookfield Rise.*
4th Corner Landscaping have quoted to turf and seed three verge locations in Lower Tadmarton and Tadmarton village and clear some of the woodland behind Brookfield Rise to make a path. The quote was accepted. 4th Corner Landscaping will apply for the grant and if successful will carry out the work.
- vii. *To agree the cost to repair the damaged village gate in Lower Tadmarton.*
Nigel Prickett has quoted £190.00 & VAT to put the damaged village gate back in. It was agreed to accept his quote.
Action: The Parish Clerk to confirm acceptance of the quote.

25/69. To consider the report of the CDC Parish Remuneration Panel (circulated)

The full report was considered. It was agreed to approve travel and subsistence expenses when Councillors attend training sessions.

25/70. Finance Report

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:-

- £283.50 to Moore (external audit)
- £301.20 to Nigel Prickett (grass cutting 3rd cut)
- £650.00 to J Pursey (Clear arising and weeds from road kerb between the church gates and clear weeds, dirt and cut hedge on footpath between Beechfield and the Old Smithy)
- £786.51 to Parish Clerk and £196.40 to HMRC (pay and tax)
- £47.80 to Parish Clerk (mileage)

To approve a pay rise for the Parish Clerk

It was agreed to approve a pay rise (3.2%) based on the NJC (National Joint Council) pay agreement and back date to 1st April 2025.

25/71. To receive an update on planning

New

- 25/02422/TCA, T1 Lawson Cyprus - Fell T2 Lawson Cyprus - Fell T3 Walnut - Fell T4 Willow - Repollard T5 Hawthorne - Fell including all smaller dead stems T6 Willow - multi stemmed coppice at Beechfield, Main Street. The Parish Council to respond by 8th October.
- 25/02200/F, Variation of condition 2 (plans) of 23/00831/F - To account for design changes to the stable block which have come about during discussions with suppliers at Tadmarton Grove, Swalcliffe Road.
- New detached one bedroom dwelling with associated parking/pergola, gardens/cycle and bin storage. Includes new attached garage to Lantern Cottage, Main Street. It was agreed to object with concerns of scale of development, impact on privacy and overlooking and harm to the character of the local area.

Older

- 25/01913/TCA, T1 - Larch - Fell - Overmature tree with die back throughout major dead wood at Preedys Farm, Street from Main Street to Swalcliffe Lea. No further comments or objections by CDC.
- 25/01923/TCA, T1 - Ash - Remove T2 - Sycamore – Remove at Waters Edge, Hollow Road. No further comments or objections by CDC.
- 25/00411/F, Change of Use from annexe to separate dwelling at The Annex, Bridgeside, Hollow Road. Granted by CDC.
- 25/01290/F and 25/01291/LB, New wooden gate store and new wooden 6 bay bin store at Tadmarton Grange, Main Street. Granted by CDC.

25/72. To receive the following correspondence

- OALC, Launch of new website. Noted.
- CDC, The Duchess of Kent – Book of Condolence. Noted.
- Villager, Traffic and parking issues near to Brookfield Rise. Parked cars are on the increase on Brookfield Rise. A layby in front of 1-5 Brookfield Rise and extension of the layby in front of 7-8 Brookfield Rise has been suggested. This would fall under Highways remit and will be pursued. The area behind Brookfield Rise requires improvement. There are abandoned vehicles and an allotment plot that is not used. 20mph has been considered but parked cars do slow the traffic down. There is Speedwatch activity in place and there are traffic calming opportunities available with 20mph and no street lights.
Action: Cllr Fitzpatrick to draft a response.
- CDC, Parish Liaison Flooding Workshop on 16th October. Noted.
- Highways, Temporary Road Closure on Shutford Road from 14-16th October. Noted.

25/73. To receive Councillors Reports

There is a tree on private land in Lower Tadmarton which is damaging a stone wall.

Action: The Parish Council will try to help the villager and contact the land owner.

Cllr Doust gave an update on the allotments. One plot is now covered up and the hedge between the allotment plots and road requires another hard cut.

Action: Cllr Doust to take photos and the Clerk will contact the landowner.

Cllr Brant spoke about Local Government Re-organisation. Engagement exercises were held over the summer. Plans will be submitted to Central Government in November who will make the final decision next year. Some unitaries are already in place and were rolled out in the first phase.

25/74. To note next meeting date and time

Monday 3rd November 2025 at 7pm

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.