



Soulbury Parish Council Buckinghamshire

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 20th April 2026 at 7:30 pm

Those present:

Cllr Victor Wright	Chairman
Cllr John Bennett	Vice Chairman
Cllr Nigel Kemal	
Cllr David Morgan	
Cllr Margaret Rowe	
Cllr Alan Stevens	
Cllr Jilly Jordan	Bucks Council
Wendy Taylor	Clerk

2 members of the public were present (MOP)

1/26	Apologies for absence	
	Apologies received from Cllr Cross and noted.	
2/26	Public participation	
	Cllr Jordan read a couple of items from her report which will be added to the website: Buckingham Recycling Centre now open. Hackney carriage policy updated for safety. Applies from October 2026. Cllr Stephens raised the issue of further work for householders in terms of sorting rubbish at home to Cllr Jordan. Cllr Jordan confirmed this will be introduced but timing unsure. To some extent it has already happened in areas in the south of the county.	
3/26	Minutes of the previous Parish Meeting	
	Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2026 were agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.	
4/26	Matters arising	
	Re 9a Stewkley Road. Council obtained land registry document which confirms the new builds on the corner of Stewkley Road and The Mead land stops at the edge of their drive and 9a at their hedge so the area from that point to the road is the responsibility of Highways. Cllr Jordan will take this forward at a meeting with the new Senior Highways Inspector (Gavin Weaving).	Cllr Jordan
	Re French drains: it was felt this was not the best solution for this area as water goes to the lowest point and by encouraging it to the area in front of the cottage it could make matters a whole lot worse. Advice to be sought. Drains to be cleared. Cllr Jordan will cover this issue at her meeting with Highways.	Cllr Jordan
	Fire equipment servicing: Clerk to get the contact details for Chubb for Cllr Wright so he can stand them down.	Cllr Wright
5/26	To receive declarations of interest related to the business on the agenda	
	None	

6/26	Finance	
	a) Accounts paid Please see attached list. b) Monies received: Please see attached list. A further £40 received for the hire of the hall, £33.01 Wayleave, and final allotment fee of £24 since the agenda was created. Balance at bank as at 20th April 2026 was £26,674.65. Bank statement for February and March 2026 signed by Cllr Wright. Still awaiting devolution monies of £1,940.18. Document prepared for annual VAT claim of £3,739.87 All documentation for internal and external audit (AGAR) are ready for inspection.	Clerk Clerk
7/26	Update from Clerk on parish matters	
	a. Parish Council Action Plan: There were no items to add but the Clerk suggested that Council have a think about Council's strategy for the future - the future being the next few years. It was pointed out that residents rarely approach Councillors on what they want or discuss ideas for their village. As the Parish Council annual meeting is on 18 May this is a good opportunity for residents to come forward with ideas for discussion. b. Village green boundary: Clerk contacted Wellers Solicitors, experts in village green matters, for next stage advice. Clerk to write to them. c. Clerk advised on staffing arrangements for Highways. Cllr Jordan advised she is to have a meeting with them to discuss current issues. Our area inspector is Jessica Bougouneau. d. Charges for the RoSPA checks of both play areas are £83.00 + VAT for each site. e. Clerk advised that a nil invoice has been received from the National Non-Domestic rate for 2026-27 for the parish hall f. £33.01 has again been received for the Wayleave from UK Power Networks.	All Clerk
8/26	Planning	
	26/00908: The Old Cottage, Hollingdon Road, Soulbury, LU7 0DN - Listed building consent for re-thatching and roof reinforcement. No comment. 6/00945: Spring Farm, Dean Farm Lane, Soulbury, LU7 0DE - retention of cabin. Comment to say that the Welfare Unit should stay as that and not become a residential unit.	
9/26	Environment	
	a. Fountain Land Registry has finally responded saying that as it cannot be concluded with confidence that the applicant has been in adverse possession (ie squatting) of the land and that the documentary owner's title has been defeated, so the application (for possessory title) has been cancelled. However, subsequent to this Land Registry has offered to look again at this to find a way around the issue and will advise our solicitor.	

	b. Allotments Water bill of £425.74 paid. Metering and leaks needs to be investigated because of the huge increase in the water bill from £170 last year. It is known that a hose was left on overnight so notices will have to be put up to remind allotment holders to switch everything off when they leave. Allotment manager will be informed and consulted with. c. Millennium Green Curry night - 36 tickets sold, 4 left over. It is a test to ascertain interest for a curry event and to put curry on the menu for the evening of Soulfest. £100.80 was made at the Easter egg hunt which was well supported. d. Childrens Play Area, Mount Pleasant Straining wire and bolts purchased. New nets required for goals.	Cllr Kemal Cllr Wright Cllr Morgan
10/26	Correspondence that requires discussion	
	Proposed Wing New Town: Wing has asked for support from surrounding villages to oppose this development with all its inherent downsides. This request and more detail will be placed in the parish magazine.	
11/26	Councillors Open Forum	
	Village litter pick was carried out. Lot of people attended to help and a lot rubbish was collected. Bucks Council has collected it. The potential for a road closure for 4 days in Stapleford Mill Road has been averted for the timebeing. This was for extending the safety barriers by the bridge from 15m to 30m. Cllr Stevens contacted Highways, advised this was overkill and a waste of public money. Highways will now do a safety survey to decide on best practice for this area. Cllr Jordan was kept informed. Cllr Stevens will keep Council informed.	Cllr Stevens
12/26	Next meeting	
	The next Parish Council annual meeting will be held on Monday, 18 May, 2026 in Soulbury Parish Hall at 7:00 pm. Please note the dates for 2026: 15/6/26, 20/7/26, 21/9/26, 19/10/26, 16/11/26, 21/12/26	

Distribution: All Councillors/Parish Website/Parish News (a resume)

Payments and receipts as at 14th April 2026

Payments			£
12/3/26	Eon Next	Parish hall power	27.44
12/3/26	BMKALC	Planning Demystified course	110.00
23/3/26	Npower	Streetlighting	86.79
30/3/26	Wendy Taylor (Clerk)	Sage monthly software licence fee reimbursement	13.20
30/3/26	Victor Wright	Land Registry for title plan of 9a Stewkley Road	24.99
30/3/26	BMKALC	Training Course Inv 6730 Grrr out the AGAR	50.00
30/3/26	Victor Wright	Donation to South Central Ambulance for defib training	140.04
30/3/26	CS Maintenance	CSM 0540	220.00
30/3/26	Harlequin Press	April 26 newsletter printing	257.00
1/4/26	Victor Wright (First Aid4Less)	AED Prep kit	19.02
1/4/26	Victor Wright (Amazon)	Black bin bags for village litter pick	22.99
1/4/26	Wendy Taylor (Clerk)	Reimbursement for domain name for 2 yrs	43.19
1/4/26	Wendy Taylor (Clerk)	Reimbursement for authenticated SMTP access	150.95
1/4/26	J Dawson	Water for allotments	425.74
1/4/26	Victor Wright (First Aid4Less)	AED Prep kit	19.02
3/4/26	Eon Next	Parish hall power	36.42
3/4/26	Mrs Green	Parish Hall cleaning	50.00
10/4/26	Anglian Water	Parish Hall water	62.00
10/4/26	CS Maintenance	CSM0541	220.00
10/4/26	Harlequin Press	Parish Mag printing Feb 26	257.00
14/4/26	British Gas	Parish Hall gas	36.48
Receipts			
Mar 26	Hall hirers	Parish Hall bookings	150.00
Mar 26	Advertising	Parish Magazine	30.00
14/4/26	Bucks Council	Precept	19,125.00