
Parish Council Meeting

13th July 2026, 7pm

Padworth Village Hall

Councillors: Rob Jones (Chair), Andy Williams, Andrew Griffin, Emily Robinson, Tom Tucker, Johnathan Johnson and Jacky Jones.

Members of the public: 2

1. To receive apologies

Apologies were received from District Councillor Dominic Boeck

2. To receive declarations of interest and dispensations

Councillor Emily Robinson declared an interest in relation to the planning application for Yew Tree Cottage.

3. To approve minutes of the last meeting of the council

Minutes were signed and dated for records

4. To receive the District Councillors report

It was noted that the District Councillor's report would be published on the Parish Council website.

PADWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

C/o Juniper House, Aldermaston, RG7 LJ
Email: clerk@padworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
Tel: 07877 122127

5. To receive the Clerks report

PADWORTH PARISH COUNCIL - CLERKS FINANCIAL REPORT

Bank Reconcilliation for Meeting 13/07/26

	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Balance as at 1st May 2026			
Treasurers Account			£ 944.64
Project Account			£ 56,856.71
			<u>£ 57,801.35</u>

Bank Interest received (May)	£	22.53
Bank Interest received (June)	£	22.20
Bank Interest received (July)	£	22.56

Payments

HALC membership fees	£	231.96
Ellie Brewer (Home workers allowance)	£	500.00
Service Charge (May)	£	4.25
ICO membership	£	47.00
Ellie Brewer (May)	£	406.19
Alice Owens (Norton Anti virus)	£	39.99
Insurance	£	599.51
Service Charge (June)	£	4.25
Ellie Brewer (June)	£	406.19
	£ 2,239.34	£ 67.29
		£ 55,629.30

Treasurers Account	£	705.30
Project Account	£	54,924.00
		<u>£ 55,629.30</u>

Members noted that the annual PlaySafety inspection invoice requires payment.

The Clerk reported that the new Parish Council website is now live. Members welcomed the new website and suggested that additional photographs of the parish be added to provide a more engaging appearance. It was also noted that the invoice for the new website requires approval and payment.

It was further noted that the newsletter page should be updated to include the most recent editions.

Members were advised that the Parish Council email migration to the new provider has also been completed. A WhatsApp group has also been established to improve communications between

Members. Councillor Tucker had not yet been added as his mobile telephone number had not previously been available.

ACTIONS – Clerk to arrange payment of the PlaySafety inspection and website invoices.

- Clerk to source alternative images for the Parish Council website.
- Clerk to update the website with the latest parish newsletters.
- Councillor Williams to add Councillor Tucker to the Parish Council WhatsApp group.
- Clerk to provide Councillor Tucker with his new Parish Council email details.

6. Village Hall matters

Councillors Jacky Jones and Rob Jones provided an update on Village Hall matters.

The Hall continues to operate successfully, with strong occupancy levels, particularly during weekends and evenings. Since the recent redecoration, there has been an increase in corporate bookings, training events and external organisations using the facilities, including the UK Ladies Circle for its annual event. The Hall's location on the A4 continues to attract new users.

Members were advised that flooding had recently occurred within the gentlemen's toilets following the changeover to the new borehole water supply. Altered water pressure caused the urinal to overflow, affecting the lobby and ladies' toilets. The main hall was not impacted and no lasting damage occurred. Whilst carrying out the repairs, three leaks within the boiler room were also identified and rectified. The unplanned expenditure of approximately £2,000 resolved several longstanding maintenance issues.

The Village Hall finances remain in a healthy position. Future investment is expected to focus on improvements to the kitchen.

Members noted that the soffit had been damaged following a vehicle strike.

An update was also provided regarding the ongoing boundary dispute with the neighbouring landowner. Discussions had taken place but no agreement had been reached. The neighbouring party had attended with legal representation and had threatened legal action. Members noted that concerns remained regarding further damage to the boundary fencing.

7. To review Planning Matters

7.1 Decisions

- **25/02133/FUL** – Exolum PSD Rectory Road. The installation of a 1.5MW ground mounted solar PV array. The system consists of 2,000 high-efficiency monocrystalline panels arranged in a ground-mount configuration **APPROVED**
- **25/00933/FUL** - Proposed 4No. terraced houses with ancillary parking and amenity space following demolition of existing bungalow and outbuildings. - Norbrek, Bath Road, Padworth, Reading RG7 5HR - **PC Objected. APPROVED**
- **26/00155/CERTE** - Former Aldermaston Quarry Site Padworth Lane Lower Padworth Reading. Land is naturally regenerating and being managed by Berkshire Ornithological Club as a nature reserve without compliance with conditions 40, 41, 42 and 43 of planning permission 08/01023/MINMAJ - **PC Objected**

APPROVED

- **26/00550/PASOL** - Padworth IWME, Padworth Lane, Lower Padworth.
Application to determine if prior approval is required for a West Berks to install rooftop solar energy generation panels on selected buildings within the footprint of the Council's Padworth Integrated Waste Management Facility. **NOT REQUIRED**

7.2 Awaiting Decisions

- **25/01915/FULMAJ** - Padworth Saw Mills Rag Hill Aldermaston Reading RG7 4NU. Part retrospective: Retention of storage shed, entrance gates, hard surfacing and boundary treatments (including gabion walls, security railings, and mesh fencing), as well as the marginal extension of boundary treatments and additional hard surfacing. – **PC Objected**

Members noted that the application remains delayed.

- **26/01059/LBC & 26/01058/HOUSE** - Yew Tree Cottage Mays Lane Padworth Common Reading RG7 4QP. New windows to north elevation, internal alterations to move kitchen, new patio doors to new kitchen (south elevation).

Members briefly discussed the proposed alterations.

ACTION – Clerk to circulate the application again and submit Parish Council comments via the Planning Portal.

- **26/00783/CERTE** - Oakland House Silver Lane Padworth Reading RG7 4QR. Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an Existing Use or Operation or Activity: For the use of the site as a children's home.

Members discussed the retrospective nature of the application relating to the use of the property as a children's home.

ACTION – Clerk to circulate the application again and submit Parish Council comments via the Planning Portal.

8. To receive updates from Councillors

Speed Limit Review on A4 Bath Road

Members noted that the evidence gathered had proved inconclusive and that West Berkshire Council had no further action planned at this stage.

ACTION – District Councillor Dominic Boeck to be asked whether any further options remain available.

Playground

Members briefly discussed possible improvements to the playground, particularly the provision of equipment aimed at children aged approximately 5–10 years, as this age group is currently underrepresented.

Indicative costs of between £12,000 and £20,000 were discussed for equipment including climbing frames, slides and sensory features.

Members agreed that previous correspondence from Councillor Griffin should be recirculated following earlier email issues.

ACTION – Councillor Griffin to resend email

9. New Travellers site at Mill Lane

Two local residents attended the meeting to update Members regarding the recently established Traveller site at Mill Lane.

Residents explained that although the land falls within Aldermaston Parish, neighbouring Padworth residents have been significantly affected. The site, located between Willowmead and the fisheries, was purchased approximately 18 months ago and now contains two static caravans and approximately nine caravans in total.

Residents reported a noticeable increase in anti-social behaviour since the occupation of the site. Incidents reported included suspected attempts to obtain utility connections illegally during the night, increased Police attendance, reports of individuals appearing intoxicated or under the influence of drugs, late-night disturbance to neighbouring properties, and damage to privately maintained roads by heavy vehicles and plant machinery. Residents stated that they had increased home security measures and were maintaining logs of incidents.

Members heard that significant quantities of aggregate had been delivered to the site by heavy goods vehicles despite concerns regarding the suitability of the access road. Residents also reported concerns regarding intimidation of neighbouring residents and alleged welfare concerns involving individuals living on the site.

Residents advised that the land had originally been described as being purchased for equestrian use but had since undergone substantial development. Concerns were raised regarding the possibility of further expansion onto adjoining land.

Environmental concerns were also discussed, including flood risk, surface water runoff, emissions from diesel generators, removal of hedgerows and arrangements for foul waste disposal.

Members advised residents to continue maintaining detailed records of incidents and to report matters to the appropriate authorities where necessary. The Council discussed the importance of gathering evidence to support any future representations.

Residents were encouraged to engage with Aldermaston Parish Council, whose meetings were due to take place on 14th July and 11th August, and to monitor any associated planning applications.

ACTIONS – Clerk to provide relevant information for Abi, Clerk to Aldermaston Parish Council.
– Parish Council to write to West Berkshire Council outlining the concerns raised by residents.

10. Next meeting

7th September 2026

11. To record the time meeting closed

20:24