

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOULDERN PARISH COUNCIL

### HELD IN THE VILAGE HALL

ON 30th April 2026

#### Present:

Nick Oakhill (NO) [Chair]  
Kate Green (KG)  
John Hoodless (JH)  
Amanda Sharman (AS)  
Rob Large (RL)  
Cathy Fleet (CF) CLERK

#### Members of the Public:

D/Cllr David Rogers

#### 04.26.01 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from C/Cllr Gareth Epps

#### 04.26.02 Declarations of Interests

KG declared an interest in the planning application for Park House 26/00796/F

#### 04.26.03 To receive the minutes of the last parish council meeting

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 26th March 2026 were checked for accuracy and content, agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

#### 04.26.04 Public participation

Colin Lester was attending the meeting in his capacity as the ex chair of the football club 8 years ago when the club used the Souldern pitch. The club folded and the bank account has recently been wound up and the remaining players wish to donate £174.50 to the PC. Thanks were expressed by all councillors.

#### 04.26.05 Clerks Report and Actions from previous meeting

No	Action	Owner	Update
Feb26.02	NO will set up email addresses from the existing .org system , linked to existing gmail accounts of councillors.	NO	On-going
March26.01	NO to discuss the possibility of sharing costs for repairing the churchyard stone wall with neighbours	NO	Agreed to share costs. Work to commence asap SPC share £400-£500 Action closed

#### 04.26.06 Cherry Tree proposal

An email had been received from a parishioner offering to plant cherry trees at the bottom of Bates Lane, between The Pound and the allotments. The trees

would be purchased by the parishioner and professionally planted and maintained (up to 20 years). It was agreed that KG will liaise with the parishioner and inform him that the scheme has the support of the parish council. **Clerk to respond to writer of the letter**

**04.26.07 SUC Trustees**

A letter had been received from the SUC informing the PC that Norma Jones has resigned as a trustee of the SUC representing the parish council. NO will write to Norma thanking her for her long standing work. The United Charities have asked the PC to nominate a replacement trustee for Norma Jones. It was agreed that the PC will nominate James Maw. **Clerk to respond to SUC - thanks to Norma and nominate James Maw.**

**04.26.08 Donation to PC**

Dealt with above under Public Participation

**04.26.09 Correspondence**

- NO has been given a Deed of Covenant relating to Stonecroft dated June 1964, indicating that only 1 house can be built on the plot and that the purchaser and successors are not allowed to sell the property except as one property. A copy will be made and given to the current owner.
- Mr Lillis has sadly passed away and the funeral will be held in the village hall.

**04.26.10 Reports from County/District Councillors (David Rogers CDC) (Gareth Epps OCC)**

Written reports had been received ahead of the meeting and circulated to all councillors.

**Cllr Rogers reported:**

He spoke of the PFAS (Forever Chemicals) pollution which has been found coming from the site at Upper Heyford which was used by firefighters in the days when the site was an airfield, and is now threatening Galloes Brook in Caulcott and other watercourses in the area. There is a meeting being held 30/4/26 to discuss with residents and Dorchester Living who now own the site. Cllr Rogers will be attending this meeting and asked if SPC has any questions which they would like him to put to the meeting. It was suggested that questions could be put regarding RAF Croughton and their heavy duty firefighting kit which could flow into Souldern waterways. Perhaps testing should be carried out on this site.

**04.26.11 Highways/Footpaths**

No further progress on the bridleway at present.

**04.26.12 Planning - the following planning documents had been received and discussed:**

[26/00795/F](#)

Grandpas Barn High Street

RETROSPECTIVE - Conversion of garden 21/04/2026

Souldern Bicester OX27 7JP store to ancillary accommodation with shower and erection of doors to the adjoining double carport  
NO OBJECTION

[26/00796/F](#)

Park House Souldern Oxfordshire OX27 7LA Two storey rear extension including basement and internal and external alterations to an existing dwelling and loft space  
NO OBJECTION

#### 04.26.13 Finance

The following accounts were approved for payment

Souldern PC Monthly Accounts payable April 2026						
Date	Invoice No	To	Detail	Amount	VAT	Notes
30/04/2026		Cathy Fleet	Clerk salary April			paid by S/O
30/04/2026		HMRC	PAYE			paid by S/O
30/04/2026		Helen White	Internal Audit	100		
30/04/2026	2729	Nigel Prickett	grasscutting	485	81	
		Rob Large	Reimbursement for purchase of signs for playground	108.00	18	
		OALC	Subs	288.00	38.00	

The bank reconciliation and bank balances were received

It was noted that Helen White has been appointed as Internal Auditor and has completed her audit which will be presented to the PC at the next meeting

#### 04.26.14 Website

No response regarding Alamay, so the matter is considered closed.

#### Other matters

**Date of next meetings :** last Thursday of the month 7.30pm:

**Dates for 2026:****20 May (APM & AMPC 7pm), 25 June, 30 July 24 Sept, 29 Oct, 26 Nov,****Signed .....****Chair, Souldern Parish Council****Date .....****ACTION LIST SUMMARY**

<b>No</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>
<b>April26.01</b>	<b>Cherry tree proposal</b> - Clerk to respond to writer of the letter	<b>CF</b>
<b>April26.02</b>	<b>SUC Trustee</b> - Clerk to respond to SUC - thanks to Norma and nominate James Maw.	<b>CF</b>