

TOCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on
Wednesday 1st July 2026 at 7pm

Present: Cllr Diana Kirby; Chair (DK), Cllr Julie Marshall (JM), Cllr Ian Carter (IC), Cllr Janet Nicholls (JN), Emily Bourne; Clerk (EB) and one member of the public.

Public Question Time

None.

Reports from Wiltshire Councillor

Wiltshire Councillor Allison Bucknell had given her apologies for the meeting but provided a written report which the Clerk read out:-

‘There is not a huge amount to report at the moment from my perspective. There have been some bits and bobs of highways repairs and gully cleaning, which is always good news.

The biggy that is now looming is the commencement of the new Local Development Plan. There is a very ambitious timescale (30 months!) to also include the minerals and waste planning and Gypsies and Travellers.

The new Local Plan will need to plan for around 3,500 homes per year, an increase from just under 2,000 homes per year. I have heard a figure of 66,000 homes being suggested over the plan period. To put that in perspective this is equivalent to building another Salisbury, Trowbridge, Chippenham and Melksham AT LEAST.

More locally, I have asked for an update on the 20mph through Tockenham. Just had this from the officer dealing with the Traffic Reg Orders.

“We had two comments come in during the consultation period. Both were supportive of the proposals, although both requested extensions to the proposed speed limits. I'm currently reviewing the responses and preparing a report to consider the comments received. I'll keep you updated as the process progresses.”.

I was expecting more comments, it could have been worse but yet another delay.’

Presentation from Richard Walker on ‘People’s Emergency Briefing’ film

Richard Walker provided a verbal report on the film and sent out written details after the meeting:-

The Documentary The People's Emergency Briefing

Before seeing the Documentary, which was presented by Spring Watch's Chris Packham, everybody was asked to take part in a Bath University Survey regarding this subject Part 1 before and then after the showing and discussion, they were asked to complete part 2.

The documentary **The People's Emergency Briefing** is structured around presentations from leading UK scientists and subject experts. While it contains many statistics, the following five

are among the most striking and are repeatedly highlighted in promotional material and the accompanying expert briefings.

Worrying statistic	Expert	Why it matters
1. By 2050, around 8 million properties (about 1 in 4) in England could be at risk of flooding.	Professor Hayley Fowler	Fowler explains that heavier winter rainfall and more intense storms mean flood risk is increasing much faster than previously expected. She also notes the UK has already seen around 10% more winter rainfall since 1980 , equivalent to roughly 7.3 billion cubic metres of extra water each winter .
2. Three of the UK's five worst cereal harvests on record have happened in this decade.	Professor Paul Behrens	Behrens argues that climate change is already affecting UK food production. He also highlights that the UK imports 40–50% of its food , making the country increasingly vulnerable to global crop failures and food price shocks.
3. Only about 53% of the UK's original biodiversity remains, and roughly one in six species faces extinction.	Professor Nathalie Seddon	Seddon frames biodiversity loss not simply as a conservation issue but as a threat to infrastructure, food security, flood protection and economic resilience, describing nature as "critical national infrastructure."
4. The UK reached 40°C for the first time in 2022, a heatwave linked to around 3,000 excess deaths.	Professor Hayley Fowler	Fowler uses this as evidence that dangerous heat is no longer a future possibility but a present-day health risk, with extreme temperatures becoming increasingly likely as warming continues.
5. Before climate change, a major global corn harvest failure might occur once every 16 years; at 1.5°C warming it could occur once every 3 years, and at 2°C roughly every other year.	Professor Paul Behrens	This statistic illustrates how climate change increases the frequency of simultaneous crop failures across major food-producing regions, creating higher food prices and greater risks to food security worldwide, including in the UK.

Other memorable statistics featured in the film

Several other figures are also emphasised:

- **Around one-third of food price inflation in 2023 was attributed to extreme weather**, according to Professor Behrens.
- **More than 80% of UK farmers say climate change seriously threatens their livelihoods.**
- **Animal agriculture occupies about 85% of UK farmland**, a figure used to discuss land use and resilience.
- **The UK is one of the world's most nature-depleted countries**, according to Professor Seddon.

It's worth noting that these figures are presented as part of an advocacy documentary based on the **National Emergency Briefing** held in Westminster in late 2025. Most of the statistics are drawn from published scientific literature or UK government sources, but some—particularly future projections—depend on modelling assumptions and scenarios rather than certainties.

Quotes about the film:-

"This excellent film delivers frank facts about the threats from climate and nature breakdown – but also the enormous benefits if the government leads genuine emergency action to combat them..."

I will continue to press the Government to take the climate emergency seriously to create a pathway to a better future." - **Wera Hobhouse, MP**

From <https://www.nebriefing.org/testimonials>

"The National Emergency Briefing yesterday was brutally honest, terrifying and urgently needed." - **Suzanne Wise, Chair CPRE London**

From <https://www.nebriefing.org/testimonials>

"Instead of the anxiety and frustration I usually feel around this topic, I felt relief. Finally naming the problem clearly... left me feeling more hopeful than anxious." - **Sarah Flyn, LinkedIn**

From <https://www.nebriefing.org/testimonials>

"I encourage everyone to watch the film or better still, set up a screening for your community to inform and empower them to lobby for more action on the climate." - **Chit Chong, LinkedIn**

From <https://www.nebriefing.org/testimonials>

Take Action

2 most impactful things we can do:

- a. Organise a screening in your community. <https://www.nebriefing.org/host-the-film>
- b. Ask your MP to join the Parliamentary Call for a televised Screening, our MP is Sarah Gibson of the Liberal Democrat Party who hasn't called for a screening yet.....

Councillors agreed this should be considered further. DK and JM to look at whether the Village Hall would be available for a screening of the film. All Councillors to go onto the website (<https://www.nebriefing.org/host-the-film>) for further information.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Kevin Woolnough and Wiltshire Cllr Allison Bucknell.

- 2. Declaration(s) of Interest** - In accordance with the Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001 and revised (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007.
None.

3. Minutes (20th May 2026) – Members had previously been circulated with the draft minutes and notes.

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20th May 2026; proposed by IC, seconded by JM, DK signed, agreed unanimously by members who were present.

4. Minutes (22nd May 2026) – Members had previously been circulated with the draft minutes and notes.

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20th May 2026; proposed by DK, seconded by JN, DK signed, agreed unanimously by members who were present.

5. Clerk's Report

All items were noted and the following were discussed:-

- Winter Preparation 2026/27 – PEAS Application – 22nd June 2026 – DK commented that KW is aware of this and will deal with it on his return.
- Wiltshire Council Residents update: Hot weather advice – 22nd, 23rd & 24th June 2026 – DK advised she had forwarded all these emails onto the village for information.

6. Planning

APP/Y3940/W/25/3364716

PL/2024/07098

Land to the North of 34 – 39 Clyffe Pypard, SN4 7PY

Change of use of land to form a 3 pitch traveller caravan site, with erection of day room and boundary fencing with access from Clyffe Pypard (Resubmission of PL/2023/10812)

Appeal under Section 78

Representations to be received by 11th May 2026

Short URL: <https://shorturl.at/8o0D6>

As of 25th June 2026; decision still awaited.

Members noted the above.

PL/2026/02788

Centre of pond 86m from 33 Greenway, 54m from Greenway, Greenway, Tockenham, SN4 7PW

Application Type: Full Planning Application

Change of use of land from agricultural to a mixed use of agricultural and equestrian

Consultation Date: 11th June 2026

Short URL: <https://shorturl.at/rDQmk>

As of 25th June 2026; decision still awaited.

Members noted the above. Members are aware the owner had spoken to the neighbour(s) about the application.

PL/2026/02600 (linked to previous applications PL/2026/01193 and ENF/2025/00570)

Haresbrook Farm, Greenway, Tockenham, Swindon, SN4 7PW

Application Type: Full Planning Permission

(1) The permanent retention of existing hardstanding at the site entrance (retrospective);

(2) The construction of a hard standing extension from (1) to the recently permitted agricultural building (Ref PL/2026/01193);

(3) A replacement market gardening potting tool shed and wash station;

(4) A replacement polytunnel.

Consultation Date: 15th June 2026

Short URL: <https://shorturl.at/H7mDo>

As of 25th June 2026; decision still awaited.

Members noted the above.

7. Finance and Administration

Retrospective Items:-

- Lloyds Bank charges (June) - £4.25

Invoices to be approved:-

- Lloyds Bank charges (July) - £4.25
- Clerk's Salary - £309.78
- HMRC for Clerk's salary - £77.40
- Clerk's salary for additional hours worked from 19th March to 22nd June 2026 in respect of the David Barnes Community Hall Trust (6 hours 15mins total) - £71.01
- HMRC for Clerk's salary for additional hours worked additional hours worked from 19th March to 22nd June 2026 in respect of the David Barnes Community Hall Trust - £17.80
- WALC for Councillor Training - £96
- E Bourne - £4 for car parking in Swindon re setting up Charity bank account
- E Bourne - £3 for David Barnes Community Hall Trust emails (21/05/26 to 20/06/26)
- E Bourne - £1.20 for David Barnes Community Hall Trust website (06/06/26 to 05/07/26)
- E Bourne - £3 for David Barnes Community Hall Trust emails (21/06/26 to 20/07/26)
- J Marshall - £21.46 for flowers and compost.
This item was brought up at the meeting.

Proposed by IC and seconded by JN, all invoices approved unanimously by members who were present. IC to set up payments and JM to authorise payments except for £21.46; this payment will be authorised by DK.

Members noted the bank balance.

8. Tockenham Parish Council Policies

Anti-bullying and Harassment Policy (Appendix A)

Members agreed to adopt the policy with no amendments. Policy to be reviewed every 5 years.

9. Highway Matters

- **Highways Annex table** (Appendix B)

Members went through the Highways Annex table. Members commented what a good job the Parish Steward did on his recent visit.

- **Visibility Splays**

Members commented that the C130 is still bad and needs cutting. The C120 is straighter and

therefore visibility is not as bad.

There is a Road Safety meeting on 17th July that KW is attending. JN has spoken to KW and asked him to raise concerns at the meeting about motorbike speeds on A3102 and around Tockenham, as well as their safety on the roads due to the bends etc.

10. Play Field / Play Area

- Playing equipment sign cover
- Matter still ongoing; JM to investigate.

The play area became the 'Children's Corner' at the Village Fair which worked well.

JM advised the play area is getting a lot of use and everyone is enjoying the new equipment.

There is still a plant pot covering the drain cover in the park until it has been made safe with a new cover.

JM to speak to KW about a hook for the gate for the play field; the gate could then be kept open; which might be beneficial for the Village Fair.

11. Rights of Way

- Arrow missing from post opposite track entrance
- IC advised this had been missing since autumn 2025 and had been reported the Wiltshire Council via 'MyWilts'. IC followed up with Stephen Leonard; Wiltshire Council Countryside Access Officer, who said he will replace the sign when he is next in the area.

Wiltshire Council are due to clear the blocked path at Becketts Copse in September 2026.

12. Tockenham Emergency Community Hub (ECH) Update

The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday 18th July; 10am to 12pm, in the village hall.

13. David Barnes Community Hall Trust

Members noted the conveyancing of the Village Hall is ongoing.

Members noted that the bank account should be opened by the middle of July.

The last Parish Council / Village Hall Committee Working Group Meeting was very positive.

14. Tockenham War Memorial

Matter still ongoing; JN to continue to investigate and speak to David Barnes.

- Grass Mowing and Strimmer

DK advised the person who normally cuts the grass around the War Memorial wants to retire and therefore DK has approached another resident regarding cutting the grass. However, a strimmer is required to cut the grass. JM to speak to the 'mower men' as to how often the strimmer is used for the playing field. JM to investigate a price for a new strimmer.

15. Councillor reports

A discussion was held regarding the change to Section 32A of the Localism Act 2011 which now states a member's usual residential address must not be included on the public register

of interests or other public webpages or documents unless the member has made a written request for it to be published. Members agreed that it would be better for their addresses not to be published. EB asked that all Councillors email her confirming they do NOT wish for their addresses to be published. The members' addresses on the public register of interests; held by Wiltshire Council, and Tockenham Parish Council's website will be replaced with the following wording:-

'Interest registered but home address removed in accordance with Section 32A of the Localism Act 2011.'

16. Date of Next Parish Meeting: 2nd September 2026

Dates for future meetings:-

4th November 2026

6th January 2027

17th March 2027 – Cllr Julie Marshall has given her apologies for this meeting.

Annual Parish Meeting: 7th April 2027

Annual Parish Council Meeting: 5th May 2027

Meeting closed: 8:25pm