



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Shaw-cum-Donnington Village Hall on Wednesday 16 September 2026 at 7:30pm

Present

Councillors Margo Payne (MP) (Chair), Liam Anderson (LA), Richard Almond (RA), Paul Bryant (PB), Mary Carter (MC), Ian Miller (IM) (Vice Chair), Glyn Thomas (GT) and Colin Yates (CY). Gillian Durrant (Parish Clerk) and no members of the public in attendance.

Note: P – proposed, S = seconded (all decisions unanimous unless otherwise indicated)

27 Apologies Cllr Stephanie Bovell (SB),

28 Declarations of interest There were none.

29 Approval of minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2026, were approved (P – MC, S – RA).

30 Clerk's report and Matters arising (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

GD awaiting measurements for the four CSW signs before ordering replacements.

The Autumn newsletter has been printed and circulated. The next newsletter needs to go out before 29 November.

GD has compiled a list of alternative places to invest the Parish Council's money for the Investment Advisory Group to consider before the next meeting.

GD emailed WBC highways department to point out that there is no such place as 'North Newbury' accessible from Donnington Heights, and agreed that the sign should be changed to read 'Donnington Heights' and this has been replaced.

RA reported that Donnington Heights has not yet been adopted by WBC. Once it has been adopted we can request permission for a place sign and noticeboard.

The defibrillator pads at the cricket pavilion need replacing. CY to order them.

A fence panel has come down between the recreation ground and Oxford Road. A contractor has agreed to replace this shortly.

The stickers advising dog owners not to put dog poo in the litter bin by the pavilion have been put in place.

The pavilion padlock has become stuck and new one has been purchased.

Bulbs have been purchased for the planting session on 17 October.

RA confirmed the cycling signs on Donnington Heights are correct.

31 Questions from members of the public There were none.

32 District Councillor's report

MV has been in touch with the potential convenience store owner and he hopes to have definite news of the land purchase in the next few weeks.

WBC Executive Members for Education and Planning, Heather Codling and Denise Gaines, visited Shaw-cum-Donnington Primary school on the last day of the summer term. We should know soon the date of

the planning meeting for David Wilson Home's application to not provide land and money for the new school.

WBC have written to the Castle Pub landowners to see if they can have permission to use some land for the crossing. No reply as yet. MV has asked for their contact details so the PC can lobby for this too. David Wildish is the new WBC officer in charge of this and the VAS.

No update so far on the footpath, MV will look into this and see when it is due to come to a planning meeting. GT also asked if MV could find out if there was any news on lighting the Vodafone footpath in the winter months.

33 Finance

- a. The schedule of payments for July and August were approved (P – GT, S – IM); IM and GT will authorise the payments for August.
- b. Review of the council's investments: CCLA interest rate on 16 September was 3.76% for the Public Sector Deposit Fund.
- c. The bank reconciliations for July and August 2026 were approved (P - IM, S - RA).
- d. The clean external audit report for 2025-26 was noted and Gillian was thanked for her hard work.

34 Planning

Applications:

- a) 26/01803/FUL and 26/01804/LBC – Donnington Priory – installation of back-up power generator. No objection (P - PB, S - CY).
- b) 26/01780/HOUSE – 5 Sherrardmead – single storey rear extension. No objection (P - PB, S - CY).
- c) 26/01950/HOUSE – Glenorchy, Love Lane – new side porch and access. No objection (P - PB, S - CY).
- d) 26/01893/LBC and 26/01892/HOUSE – Donnington Castle House – internal and external alterations and erection of garden structures. No objection (P - PB, S - CY).
- e) 26/01767/LBC – 61 Shaw Road (adjacent parish) installation of replacement sash windows. No objection (P - PB, S - CY).

Decisions:

- a) 26/01193/FUL and 26/01194/ADV Vodafone – external alterations. Approved subject to conditions.
- b) 26/01556/HOUSE – 6 Bullrush Close – replacement of door. Approved subject to conditions.

35 Responses to the Parish Survey

All agreed the responses were interesting reading. MC mentioned that the responses echoed those of past surveys, particularly in regard to speeding and litter. Mary also commented regarding the community events suggested that these could be done with the Parish Council and Village Hall committee together with help from the CCB.

Litter was a big issue – including rubbish from paper and plastic recycling boxes on bin day. A recycling bin with a lid would avoid this problem.

Uneven paths, overgrown hedges etc were also a major issue. GD suggested each councillor walked their local paths to check that the hedges had been cut back. MP suggested each councillor send the clerk the items they feel are important. The working group will then look at amending the parish action plan to incorporate as many issues as possible.

36 Discussion of actions the Parish Council can take to encourage WBC to reject the DWH planning application to renege on providing land and money for the new primary school

MP reported that a number of councillors met over the summer and agreed a plan of action for when the planning application is heard at a WBC Western Area Planning meeting. There are also a number of actions to take in advance of this.

37 To consider a donation to the Citizens Advice Bureau

It was agreed to donate £500 to the CAB via the Good Exchange (P – RA, S – IM)

38 Road safety in the parish

A new volunteer has come forward for training for Community Speed Watch. The camera has been returned with a working battery and a session will be organised in the next few weeks.

GD has chased Cheryl Evans at WBC regarding the promised VAS in Oxford Road, which should be installed soon by WBC's new Highways contractors.

39 Council Assets:

a) Pavilion – Autumn maintenance check. RA and PB to arrange a visit.

b) Donnington Recreation Ground play area RoSPA report. RA has looked through it and will take a photo of the Zip wire for GD to send to the company that repaired it. RA to photo the older children's swings and send to GD to see get replacements organised as these are starting to show signs of wear. MP to ask John if he can put grip slips on the sleepers.

40 To consider whether to continue our membership of the CCB

The membership is £35 a year. MC said they do offer help with flood resilience and community activities, as well as help with grant applications. All agreed to continue with the subscription.

41 Members' reports and questions

GT reported that the Sunday 34 bus service has started, despite issues with the route originally not coming through the parish, but now it is. The contractors for the sewage pumping station have been very considerate and the work is going well. PB commented that he sees very few vehicles coming from Bastion Street into Love Lane via the ANPR cameras – PB asked if MV knows the figures.

RA and GT went to a WBC scrutiny meeting on flooding last night. WBC have an action list to respond to a Section 19 report on the 2024 flooding. One proposal was to raise the footpath in Shaw Park which is frequently under water for many months each winter, but officers have decided not to take action on this. This footpath is the most direct walking route into town for those living North of Love Lane. RA asked if councillors would be happy for the clerk to send an email to Paul Bacchus, which they were.

MC asked if the Parish Council would consider taking on the management of the Village Hall if the committee ceased to exist. This will be voted on at the next meeting.

MC asked if we could put the emergency plan on next agenda to consider an update, all agreed.

Chairperson

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.