

**Minutes of Hinton Waldrist Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on 10<sup>th</sup>  
December 2024 7pm**

**In attendance:** Alison Geary (Chairman), Vice Chairman Justin Davenport (JD), Councillors Melvyn Smith (MS), Martin Taylor (MT), Stephanie Stott (SS) and Judith Willis (JW)

**Present:** Allison Leigh (Clerk), Mark Coleman (District Councillor)

**24/73: Apologies for absence:** Councillors Peter Evans (PE)

**24/74: Declarations of Interest:** The Chairman and SS declared an interest in item 24/79.

**24/75: Public questions and statements:** Lee Evans, Conservative Candidate for the County Council for 2025, was in attendance to listen.

**24/76: Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the meeting of the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024 were agreed and signed as a true record.

**24/77: Reports from County and District Councillors:**

**Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC)**

The District Councillor sent a report. See Attachment 1.

He also reported that if a Parish Council would like to merge with another, all parishes need to be in agreement and then a public consultation needs to take place.

See report Attachment 1.

The Chair asked for an update on the Lioncourt development. He noted that approval to proceed has been granted, but S106 has not been approved as of yet.

**Oxfordshire County Council**

The County Councillor was not in attendance but sent a report. See Attachment 2.

**24/78: Finance:**

a. **Local Government Services Pay Award 2024/2025:** The Council noted the 2024/2025 increase backdated to 1/4/24.

b. **Payments and receipts:**

*Payments authorised*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Item</b>
31/10/24	Unity Trust Bank	5.40	Service charge
31/10/24	Allison Leigh	139.70	October salary
13/11/24	Zurich	214.00	Insurance renewal
30/11/24	Allison Leigh	139.70	November salary
31/12/24	Allison Leigh	185.20	December salary
30/11/24	Allison Leigh	61.00	Clerk expenses – September and October

10/12/24	Allison Leigh	107.48	Clerk expenses – November and December
10/12/24	HW Village Hall	20.00	Room hire

*Receipts since the last meeting: None*

**c. Bank Reconciliation:** The Council acknowledged the bank reconciliation of 30/11/24.

Date	Date
1st November 2024	30th November 2024

	Unity			6886.04
	Cheque no			
minus	payments not cashed			
equ	balance C/F			<b>6886.04</b>

Opening Balance	4826.17
Add receipts for period	4400.00
Less payments for period	2340.13
Equ closing balance	<b>6886.04</b>

- d. Donation Requests:** The Council consider the following donation requests:
- a. Hope after Harm:** The Council resolved not to donate to Hope after Harm.
  - b. Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice:** The Council resolved to donate £50 to Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice.
  - c. MyVision Oxfordshire:** The Council resolved to donate £50 to MyVision Oxfordshire.
  - d. Enrych:** The Council resolved to donate £50 to Enrych.
  - e. Marie Curie:** The Council resolved not to donate to Marie Curie.
  - f. Home Start:** The Council resolved not to donate to Home Start.

It was noted that the Cedar Club may be requesting a donation.

**e. 2025/2026 Budget:** The Council resolved a budget for 2025/2026 of £5,350.

- a.** The Council resolved a precept for 2025/2026 of £5,350.

The Council would like to look at a new noticeboard. JW will be in touch with a contact she has.

- f. Unity card:** The Council considered a Unity multipay card and resolved not to proceed with this.

**24/79: Allotments:** The Council considered the correspondence from Savills with regards to the allotments and resolved not to proceed with an agreement. The Council will ask Savills to maintain the fencing and cut the brambles and would like to consider contributing to increased maintenance costs. The Clerk will circulate a draft email to Savills to the Council.

**24/80: Merging with another Council:** The Council considered a merge with another Council as part of the boundary review in 2027. The Council resolved not to proceed with this at this time.

**24/81: Training:** There were no suggested training courses.

**24/82: Policies:** The Council considered the following policies

- Sexual and General Harassment Policy and Procedure: The Council resolved to adopt the policy.
- Financial Regulations: The Council resolved to adopt with 2 edits.

**24/83: Planning:**

[P24/V1984/HH](#)

Cornerstones High Street Hinton Waldrist Faringdon SN7 8RN

Construct a two storey side extension and a loft conversion.

Note: The Parish Council did not comment on this application.

**24/84: Defibrillator training:** The Council resolved to proceed with defibrillator training and a donation to the ambulance service of £10 per attendee.

**24/85: Publications and correspondence:** The Council considered the correspondence.

**24/86: Matters for report:** SS noted that the pavement on Church Road messy with weeds. The Clerk mentioned advertising the Fix My Street Superuser programme and the Council would like to proceed with this. AG will look into a litter pick.

**24/87: Date of the next meeting:** The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

**24/88: Confidential Item:** The Council resolved to exclude members of the public from agenda item 24/89 due to its confidential nature.

**24/89: Internal Audit:** The Council resolved to proceed with Jane Olds for the 24/25 internal audit.

The meeting closed at 20:08pm.

## **Attachment 1**

**Vale District Council – Member for Thames Ward Report to the Hinton Waldrist Parish Council – 10 December 2024**

### **Potential to Merge Parish Councils**

At the request of the Parish Clerk, I asked for guidance on the process for two parish councils to merge. The proposal would need to be considered via a community governance review which the Vale district council would undertake. For this process to progress, the Vale would need to receive a request from both parishes in support of the proposal. The community governance review would include a public consultation and if there was agreement to the merge it would be implemented for the May 2027 elections. Guidance on community governance reviews is available here: <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a78e983ed915d0422066530/1527635.pdf>

### **Council Services over the Christmas Period**

The Council offices at Abbey House will close from 4 p.m. on Tuesday 24 December 2024 and will reopen on Thursday 2 January 2025 at 8.30 a.m. The Council's webpage here (<https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/council-services-over-christmas-and-new-year-2024-25/>) has details of where residents can seek advice on a number of issue. The Council's housing out-of-hours service (01235 422410) may be contacted for support where anyone is at immediate risk of being made homeless. The Council's Community Hub offices will be closed over the holiday, but residents who require cost-of-living support may contact their emergency number (01235 422420).

You can report fallen trees on local Oxfordshire roads by calling: 0345 310 1111 or by making a report on: <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/> For main roads (such as the A34, M40), please contact National Highways on: 0300 123 5000.

Thank you to the Parish Council for your support and the warm welcome to your meetings. I wish you and all your families a peaceful and relaxing festive season.

Yours,  
Mark

Cllr Mark Coleman  
Vale of White Horse District Council Deputy Leader  
Lib Dem Member for Thames Ward  
Member for Environmental Services and Waste  
Armed Forces and Veterans Champion

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# HINTON WALDRIST PARISH COUNCIL

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## **Attachment 2**