

Minutes of the Bicester Town Council

A meeting of the **Bicester Town Council** was held on **Monday 9th March 2026** at **19:00 hrs** at **The Chamber Room, Bicester Town Council, The Garth, Launton Road, Bicester, Oxon OX26 6PS.**

Present:

Cllr Alisa Russell (Chair)
 Cllr Paul Wheatley (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Damien Maguire
 Cllr Tom Beckett
 Cllr Sam Holland
 Cllr Rachel Mallows
 Cllr Jim Webb
 Cllr Nick Cotter
 Cllr Donna Ford
 Cllr Dan Hallett
 Cllr Chris Pruden
 Cllr Harry Knight
 Cllr Les Sibley
 Cllr Nick Mawer

In Attendance:

Paul Canning – Deputy Town Clerk

Representatives from:

Cllr Sean Gaul (OCC)

Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED that apologies for absence were received from Cllr Sam Holland

Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED Declarations of interest were received from Cherwell District Councillors. Cllr Tom Becket, Cllr Nick Cotter, Cllr Conna Ford, Cllr Harry Knight, Cllr Nicholas Mawer, Cllr Chris Pruden, Cllr Alisa Russell, Cllr Les Sibley, Cllr John Willet.

Public Session

RESOLVED Presentation was made by Bicester Village representatives. An update was provided on the next phase of the Bicester Village development, including the Western Terrace building and associated highway works. Improvements to the Middleton Stoney roundabout were discussed, with emphasis on maintaining traffic flow and the role of the temporary car park during construction. Concerns were raised regarding communication with residents and noise mitigation during planned nighttime works at the car park site. Councillors were assured that residents would be kept informed and that measures would be implemented to minimise noise. The presentation also covered the public park and lease agreement, outlining the park's boundary, proposed barriers, and signage. The intention is for the park to be handed over to Bicester Town Council in early 2027.

CDC Update

Cllr Becket provided a brief update on CDC, including the approval of free car parking during Remembrance Sunday services and funding for local area developments. This funding includes the creation of a new 3G pitch at Whitelands and the resurfacing of the existing pitch at the leisure centre. Councillors raised questions regarding the allocation of Section 106 funding for sports provision within Bicester, and Cllr Becket will report back on this matter. Councillors also raised the issue of lack of bin collections by CDC and its impact on the environment including an increase in fly tipping.

OCC Update

60/ Minutes of Town Council Meeting

2425 **RESOLVED** that Council **DEFERRED** the **MINUTES** and **RESOLUTIONS** contained in the minutes of the following meeting to be approved and signed at the next Town Council Meeting:

- **BTC06/2425 – Monday 13th January 2025**

To amend Cllr Sibley as present in attendance.

61/ Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting

2425 **RESOLVED** that Council **APPROVED** the **MINUTES** and **RESOLUTIONS** contained in the minutes of the following meetings proposed by Cllr Russell and seconded by Cllr Sibley:

- **FIN03/2425 – Tuesday 24th September 2024**
- **FIN04/2425 – Wednesday 4th December 2024**

62/ Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting

2425 **RESOLVED** that Council **APPROVED** the **MINUTES** and **RESOLUTIONS** contained in the minutes of the following meetings proposed by Cllr Mallows and seconded by

Cllr Sibley:

- **EN02/2425 – Monday 22nd July 2024**
- **EN03/2425 – Monday 23rd September 2024**

63/ Minutes of the Planning committee Meeting

2425 **RESOLVED** that Council **APPROVED** the **MINUTES** and **RESOLUTIONS** contained in the minutes of the following meetings proposed Cllr Mawer and seconded by Cllr Beckett:

- **PL04/2425 – Tuesday 3rd September 2024**
- **PL05/2425 – Tuesday 19th November 2024**
- **PL06/2425 – Tuesday 14th January 2025**

64/ Minutes of the Working Parties Meeting

2425 **RESOLVED** that Council **APPROVED** the **MINUTES** and **RESOLUTIONS** contained in the minutes of the following meetings:

Minutes: BTC05/2425: Bicester Town Council
Monday 20th January 2025

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Signed

Dated

- **AWP01/2425 – Thursday 6th June 2024**
- **AWP02/2425 – Thursday 12th September 2024**
- **BE03/2425 – Thursday 14th November 2024**
- **BTAG02/2425 – Thursday 19th September 2024**
- **CSWG02/2425 – Thursday 26th September 2024**

65/ Mayors Report

2425 RESOLVED that the Committee **NOTED** the Mayors report.

66/ Calendar and Committees for 2025.2026

2425 RESOLVED that Committee **DEFERRED** the **APPROVAL** and raised the following **QUESTIONS** and **SUGGESTIONS** for the proposed calendar:

- Number of meetings in school holidays, of which 9 were accounted for
- Meetings are out of synchronisation with CDC
- Planning Committee may require more meetings as previous, 12 and membership is only 11
- Meetings should be flexible with the public as well as at Council level
- Appreciation in the difficulty of balancing Council meetings in conjunction with CDC and OCC
- Inconsistencies in public attendance to meetings, such as the Traffic Advisory Group
- Allotments is a closed meeting open only to Reps
- Traffic minutes are not published or accessible for others
- Traffic has only 1 CDC rep and further reps need to be appointed

RESOLVED that Committee **APPROVED** the Standing Order Alteration recommendations proposed by Cllr Wheatley and seconded by Cllr Mawer. Councillors raised suggestions for a flow diagram to clarify motion rules for debate.

67/ Date of Next Meeting:

2425 Monday 28th April 2025 – 7pm, The Chamber Room, Garth House
Close of meeting: 20:10 hrs