SOUTHROP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 23rd JULY 2026

Present: **Cllr Guest** **Cllr Jones**
Cllrs C Brickley **Cllr P Brickley**

In attendance: **Vanessa Lawrence (Clerk), District Cllr Fowles**

029 26/27 Apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Cllr Giles

030 26/27 To appoint a Deputy Chair
Cllr Peter Brickley was appointed as Deputy Chair. Proposed Cllr Jones, seconded Cllr Guest – all in favour

031 26/27 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda
None received

032 26/27 To approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 22nd May 2026
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the 22nd May 2026. Proposed Cllr P Brickley, seconded Cllr Jones – all in favour.

033 26/27 To agree to adjourn the meeting for Public Participation, if members of the public are present - there is a 10 minute time limit
N/A

034 26/27 To agree to reconvene the meeting following Public Participation, if applicable.
N/A

035 26/27 Clerks Report
All items covered in the Agenda

036 26/27 Chairman's announcements
The Chair raised the following:-
1) Decision regarding the LGA – CDC & GCC becoming a Unitary Council
2) CHEQS magazine – continuation and possible contribution towards the magazine – to be further discussed when more information has been received.
3) Fete – Cllr P Brickley to report
4) Letter from Quenington PC regarding planning application for 47 houses.
5) Definitive map (footpaths), the recent application from SPC is now on the Planning portal. CDC are consultees.

Cllr P Brickley reported as follows:-
- Additional speaker – Following the purchase of two interactive speakers last year, Cllr P Brickley reported that these have been well

used, but these were not sufficient for the events held in the village and a further speaker was required. Cllrs agreed to go ahead with a purchase and the Clerk to obtain a quote from the supplier. This item to be added to the next agenda for formal approval.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain quote. This item to be added to the Agenda for the next meeting for formal approval.

- Complaints from residents about the quantity of seating on the pavement at the Swan and on the Green. It was agreed to draft a letter to Thyme.
- Notice to residents regarding the powers that the parish council has and has not and how residents can help themselves.
- Cllr P Brickley reported that the Fete raised £18k with £11500 having been put into the playground project.
- Wall at the Village Hall – owner of the wall adjacent to the village hall has been contacted due to unsafe condition, which could cause damage or injury should it fall.

Cllr C Brickley reported as follows:

- Grass on the Eastleach Road, is long and the Clerk was asked to contact the grass cutting contractor.

037 26/27 To receive report from District/County Councillor

Cllr Fowles report was circulated prior to the meeting and is attached to these minutes as an Addendum

FINANCE

038 26/27 To approve retrospectively, any payments made since the last meeting and to approve payments to be made.

No payments had been made since the last meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to approve payments to be made in July. Proposed Cllr P Brickley, seconded Cllr Jones – all in favour

ACTION: Clerk to pay invoices

039 26/27 To consider and agree cashbook & reconciliation figures at end of June 2026

It was **RESOLVED** to agree cashbook & reconciliation figures at the end of June. Proposed Cllr P Brickley, seconded Cllr Jones – all in favour

040 26/27 To consider and agree to review budget lines and revise as necessary

The Clerk reported that the budget lines needed to be adjusted to include other items. It was **RESOLVED** to agree the Clerk's proposals to amend the budget lines. Proposed Cllr Guest, seconded Cllr Jones – all in favour.

041 26/27 To consider and agree grant of £250 to Village Hall for Mid-summer party to celebrate 70th year.

It was **RESOLVED** to grant the Village Hall £250 towards the summer party to celebrate the hall's 70th year. Proposed Cllr Jones, seconded Cllr C Brickley – all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange payment

042 26/27 To consider and agree a Grant of £5k to Village Hall as contribution to new playground project.

It was **RESOLVED** to grant the Village Hall £5000 as a contribution towards the new playground project. Proposed Cllr P Brickley, seconded Cllr C Brickley – all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange payment

PLANNING

043 26/27 To receive Decision notices:-

26/01309/AGPA|Prior approval for erection of agricultural building (building 1) and associated hardstanding at Farm Buildings Homeleaze Farm Hatherop Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5DF|Validated 8 May 2026|Expiry date: 29 May 2026 – Application REFUSED

26/01308/AGPA|Prior approval for erection of an agricultural building (building 2) associated hardstanding at Farm Buildings Homeleaze Farm Hatherop Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5DF|Validated 8 May 2026|Expiry date: 29 May 2026 – Application REFUSED.

044 26/27 New Planning Applications

26/01839/FUL Full Application for Erection of two storey and first floor rear extension, and canopy behind garage. Felling of existing tree in rear garden at 9 Dawes Close Southrop Lechlade Gloucestershire GL7 3PR Received 12 June 2026 |Validated 23 June 2026 | Expiry 23rd July 2026 – NO OBJECTION from SPC Councillors

OTHER MATTERS

045 26/27 To consider and agree best way of managing the new website.

It was agreed to defer this item to allow for Cllr Giles' input.

ACTION: Clerk to add this item to the Agenda for the next Council meeting.

046 26/27 To consider and formally approve the purchase of a new Autospeedwatch camera

The Clerk reported that Autospeedwatch are trying to establish if there are any units that GCC hold that could be distributed. This is taking longer than was anticipated. Cllrs agreed that should there be no positive outcome to this the Council would buy one directly from Autospeedwatch. This item to be deferred to the next meeting,

ACTION: Clerk to add this item to the Agenda for the next meeting.

047 26/27 Update on purchase and installation of bin adjacent to Jubilee Field.

The Clerk reported that Ubico have now agreed the location in line with the Jubilee Close's request.

048 26/27 Anything the Chair considers urgent.

Nil of note.

049 26/27 Date of next meeting Thursday 1st October 2026

Chairman……

……2026

ADDENDUM

COLN VALLEY WARD
COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT
CDC JULY newsletter
Parliamentary constituency is North Cotswolds
CLIFTONBROWNG@parliament.uk

Forthcoming Committee Meetings (underlined texts are linked)
Wednesday **1 July** 6.00 pm Meeting of Cabinet
Wednesday **8 July** 2.00 pm Meeting of Planning and Licensing Committee
Thursday **9 July** 2.00 pm Meeting of Licensing Sub-Committee (Licensing Act 2003 Matters)
Wednesday **15 July** 6.00 pm Meeting of Council
Thursday **23 July** 2.00 pm Licensing Sub-Committee (Taxis, Private Hire, and Street Trading
Monday **27 July** 4.00 pm Meeting of Audit & Governance Committee

Recent Committee Meetings
Monday 1 June 4.00 pm Meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Thursday 4 June 6.00 pm Meeting of Cabinet
Wednesday 10 June 2.00 pm Meeting of Planning and Licensing Committee
Thursday 25 June 2.00 pm Licensing Sub-Committee (Taxis, Private Hire, and Street Trading
Monday 29 June 4.00 pm Meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee
There was no full Council Meeting in June

CABINET DECISIONS - 4 June 2026
Waste and Environment - Service Design Options
To set out a package of waste and recycling service design options to support a cohesive, compliant, and efficient approach to service delivery. (see below)
Cabinet RESOLVED to:
1. Agree to the withdrawal of the Bring Bank service.
2. Agree to the proposed approach for how residents would present the new recyclable plastics at the kerbside (i.e. in a tied, self-supplied, single-use sack).
3. Agree to a reduction in the size of the standard issue refuse bin (from 180 litre to 140 litre) on a replacement/ phased basis.Notification of Draft Decisions Thursday, 4 June 2026
4. Agree to the new arrangement for the combined collection of paper and card.
5. Note the financial implications.
6. Grant delegated authority to the Director of Communities and Place in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment & Regulatory Services to take the required steps to implement the recommendations above.

Asset Management - Abberley House/ Corinium Museum Roof Repair Project
To update the Cabinet on the Abberley House Roof Repair Project and seek delegated authority to proceed with the works post the procurement process.
Cabinet RESOLVED to:
1. Agree that repair work to the roof should be expedited
2. Delegate authority to the Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, to receive quotations for the repair work; to instruct work to be carried out; and to deal with minor matters arising during the works.

Local Government Reorganisation - Gloucestershire Structural Changes Order

To outline the governance, legal framework, and key arrangements for the Gloucestershire Structural Changes Order, and to seek Cabinet's agreement to submit representations to Government on behalf of Cotswold District Council. Cabinet noted that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had considered the matter and that its comments had informed the proposed response. It was also noted that all the Gloucestershire councils were working within their existing published meeting schedules to consider the consultation questions from MHCLG on local government reorganisation. The Overview and Scrutiny Panel at Cotswold District Council had been the first group of members to publicly consider the issues, with other councils due to follow shortly. It was explained that representations from all seven councils would be collated into a single submission. Where there was agreement, a unified position would be reflected; where differences existed across the proposals, these would be clearly identified along with the underlying rationale for differing views. The aim was to achieve as much consistency as possible across the county's response, which would be submitted to Government by the deadline of 16 June 2026.

An amendment to the first recommendation was noted.
The (amended) recommendations were proposed by Councillor Mike Evemy and seconded by Councillor Tristan Wilkinson.
Cabinet RESOLVED to:
1. Endorse the Cabinet response document as the basis for its response to the questions set out by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) regarding Gloucestershire's Structural Changes Order
2. Delegate authority to the Leader of the Council to submit formal representations to MHCLG by their deadline of 16 June 2026

Asset Management - Out-of-District Investment Properties
To seek Cabinet's approval to pursue options for the disposal of out-of-district investment properties. The report was in relation to the Council's three out-of-district investment properties, which were acquired in 2010 following funding approval in 2009 to generate a stable rental income stream. It was noted that the properties comprised retail assets within the commercial sector and that their financial performance had declined in recent years.
Reference was made to wider market conditions, including structural changes within the retail sector following the COVID-19 pandemic and evolving consumer behaviour, which had contributed to reduced returns and increased risk exposure. It was further noted that this reduced level of income had already been reflected within the Council's medium-term financial planning. It was reported that, having regard to financial performance, prevailing market conditions, and the Council's Asset Management Strategy, the continued holding of the assets would result in reduced ongoing revenue income and increased exposure to risk, and that their disposal was therefore considered appropriate. In addition, it was noted that the proposed approach could assist in simplifying the Council's asset position in the context of potential local government reorganisation. The report therefore sought Cabinet approval to actively market the properties for disposal in line with the Council's Asset Management Strategy.
Cabinet RESOLVED to:
1. Approve the recommendation to actively market all three out-of-district investment properties for disposal.
2. Delegate to the Strategic Head of Housing, Property and Assets to progress negotiations with support from the Assistant Director – Legal Services.

BY-ELECTIONS

Cllr Joe Harris has stepped down as councillor from Gloucestershire County Council for the Cirencester Park division and as councillor from Cotswold District Council for the St Michael's ward, Cirencester. Both by-elections took place on July 2.

Liberal Democrat candidate, Naomi Bloomer, has been elected to represent St Michael's ward on Cotswold District Council. Whilst, Andrea Pellegram, Liberal Democrat candidate, has been elected to represent Cirencester Park division on Gloucestershire County Council, following polls held on 2 July.

The district council by-election for St Michael's ward had a voter turnout of 32.23%. Following the result, the political composition of Cotswold District Council is now:

22 Liberal Democrat councillors
10 Conservative councillors
1 Green Party councillor
1 Independent councillor

PLANNING
Local Plan Update
The council set the stage for its upcoming Regulation 19 draft Local Plan consultation. The local plan process was structured to engage Town and Parish Councils on site allocations and development priorities .

Planning Appeals and Developments
Following significant shifts in national planning policy, CDC was forced to withdraw from defending a previously rejected appeal for a 195-home development in Moreton-in-Marsh. Consequently, planning inspectors green-lit the estate. Documentation regarding public appeals can be reviewed on the Planning Appeal Committee Page.

Planning Enforcement and Committee Decisions
The council held its Planning and Licensing Committee on June 10 , followed by the Deputy Leader's decision meeting on June 15 covering the Siddington Neighbourhood Plan. CDC has actively been addressing enforcement capacity issues, publishing a comprehensive Planning Enforcement Update ahead of the July Cabinet meetings

Devolution
Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)
Final Submission Deadline: The government requested feedback from all seven Gloucestershire councils on transition arrangements, warding patterns, and governance, which was collated and submitted by June 16, 2026.
Unitary Options: Three main structures are currently on the table for central government consideration: a single countywide unitary, an east/west split (Cheltenham, Cotswold, and Tewkesbury grouped together), and a Greater Gloucester model.
Timeline: The government is expected to announce its preferred reorganisation footprint by mid-summer 2026.
Transition: Current councils (like Cotswold District Council) will continue to operate until the new unitary structure goes live, which is officially slated for April 2028.

Council Priorities & Actions

Devolution Push: Cotswold District Council is actively advocating that successor bodies grant town and parish councils more devolved powers to manage localized services like highways and roads.
Service Continuity: Leadership remains focused on maintaining "business as usual" for residents while working on the 2027/28 transition planning.
Local Plan: In response to housing pressures, the council is finalizing an updated Local Plan to align with the government's housing mandates and national policies.

Local government reorganisation in Gloucestershire - GOV.UK

Future Gloucestershire : Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation in Gloucestershire

A decision is expected this summer with elections for the new unitary authority or authorities planned for May 2027. Any new structure will come into effect no earlier than April 2028.

A417 MISSING LINK
Delayed Launch: Due to extreme summer heat impacting workforce safety and asphalt curing, the launch of the new temporary route has been pushed back from June 29 to Monday, 6 July at 6:00 AM.
The New Temporary Route: Traffic will shift to a new section of the A417/A436 between the A46 Brockworth interchange and the former Cowley roundabout for at least five weeks. This route will feature narrower lanes, a 40mph speed limit, and will be reduced to one lane in both directions between the A46 Brockworth Junction and the Air Balloon roundabout. It will also mark the permanent closure of the old A417 between Air Balloon and the B4070.

Expected Delays: Commuters are advised to plan ahead, allow extra time, or use alternative routes during peak hours to avoid significant expected delays.
Upcoming Closures & Diversions:
2-3 July (Overnight): Full closure between A46 Brockworth and Air Balloon roundabout (9 PM – 6 AM).
3-6 July (Weekend): Full closure between A429 Burford Road and Air Balloon roundabout (9 PM Friday to 6 AM Monday) to finalize the setup.
Note: Drivers must follow signed diversions rather than satellite navigation. Emergency access remains open.

Access Changes: Starting 6 July, Barrow Wake will be closed, cutting off site access via the existing B4070.

Any updates will be communicated on the project website nationalhighways.co.uk/a417-missing-link.

Check the National Highways website for updates and other works in the region.

To receive National Highways updates, opt in to ensure compliance with GDPR, please follow this link.
Visit the A417 Missing Link web page.
The Customer Hub, located at the crusher compound at Shab Hill, is open every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am until 2pm. You can visit any time during these hours, without pre-booking an appointment. Members of the team will be on hand to answer questions.
10 mph and site restrictions. Please Reverse Park.
A417 Project Office, Birdlip, Gloucester, GL4 8JX
What3words: https://what3words.com/shaped.quietest.payback

Site visits for members of the public. If you are interested, please contact A417MissingLink@nationalhighways.co.uk
All roadworks and planned road closures on motorways and major A roads, including the A417, are published here: https://www.trafficengland.com/
Road Closure Reports, which includes a seven day look ahead of planned road closures, are updated twice daily, Monday to Friday except for bank holidays: https://nationalhighways.co.uk/travel-updates/road-closure-report/
To find the latest information about local road closures, please visit: https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/roads/roadworks/
Webpage: https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/south-west/a417-missing-link/
Email: A417MissingLink@nationalhighways.co.uk
Phone: 0300 123 5000
X: @HighwaysSWEST Facebook: @HighwaysSWEST

Please report highway issues, such as potholes, and track their progress online at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/fixmystreet Or download the app: FixMyStreet

Cotswold District Council NEWS

Cllr David Fowles
Conservative District Councillor
Coln Valley ward Cotswold District Council
07747012256

Coln Valley Ward PCs: Coln St Dannis, Bibury, Quenington, Coln St Aldwyns, Eastleach, Southrop

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