

PADWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

C/o Juniper House, Aldermaston, RG7 LJ
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Parish Council Meeting

5th January 2026, 7pm

44 The Avenue, Mortimer, RG7 3QX

Councillors: Rob Jones (Chair), John Miller, Andy Williams, Andrew Griffin,
Dominic Boeck (District Councillor)

1. To receive apologies

Emily Robinson, Tom Tucker and Johnathan Johnson

2. To receive declarations of interest and dispensations

There were none

3. To receive the District Councillors report

The report will be posted to the parish council website

4. To receive the Clerks report

PADWORTH PARISH COUNCIL - CLERKS FINANCIAL REPORT

Bank Reconciliation for Meeting 05/01/26

	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Balance as at 1st November 2025			
Treasurers Account		£	816.28
Project Account		£	39,784.13
		£	40,600.41

Bank Interest received (Nov)	£	21.09
Bank Interest received (Dec)	£	27.77
West Berks - CIL	£	20,937.88

Payments

Service Charge (Nov)	£	4.25
Ellie Brewer (Nov)	£	406.19
Defib Replacement Parts	£	90.00
Vision ICT	£	192.00
Padworth Village Hall	£	900.00
Padworth Village Hall	£	10,000.00
Service Charge (Dec)	£	4.25
Ellie Brewer (Dec)	£	406.19
	£	12,002.88
	£	20,986.74
	£	49,584.27

Treasurers Account		£813.40
Project Account		£ 48,770.87
		£ 49,584.27

It was resolved that the parish council approve the 2026–27 budget and set the precept at £20,000.

5. Village Hall matters

Refurbishment

Councillors received an update on the Village Hall refurbishment programme. Works include the stripping and resealing of the main hall floor, full redecoration of the hall, and improvements to the front lobby toilets. The Parish Council has contributed £10,000 towards the refurbishment, with additional funding secured from the Greenham Trust and other sources. Members noted that kitchen equipment, including the oven and microwave, has been replaced previously, and that future replacement of kitchen cupboards may be considered.

Members were advised that the Village Hall is now in a significantly improved financial position, no longer employs a caretaker, and is less reliant on ongoing Parish Council support.

Recent damage to field

The Chair provided an update on an ongoing boundary dispute involving neighbouring land adjacent to the Village Hall. Damage has been caused to the fence and grassed area adjoining the football pitch. Police attended the incident and the individual involved was arrested and released on bail with conditions not to attend the Village Hall; however, an attempt to cause further damage subsequently occurred. Emergency works were required to reinstate the pitch, and the Parish Council approved £900 towards these works.

Members expressed a desire to avoid escalation to legal proceedings, noting that this is a civil matter rather than a police issue. The matter has been ongoing for several years, and councillors discussed whether arbitration or mediated discussions may be appropriate once bail conditions allow. District Cllr Boeck suggested contacting the Public Protection Partnership to explain the situation and explore whether they may be able to assist.

ACTION – Clerk to contact the Public Protection Partnership for advice and guidance.

6. To review Planning matters

6.1 Decisions

- **25/02642/CERTP** - The siting of a mobile home within the curtilage of June Rose, to be used as an annex for elderly parents of the occupiers of June Rose. – **APPROVED**
- **25/02041/HOUSE** - Fairview Bath Road. Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension and alterations - **APPROVED**

6.2 Awaiting Decisions

- **25/02133/FUL** - Exolum PSD Rectory Road. The installation of a 1.5MW ground mounted solar PV array. The system consists of 2,000 high-efficiency monocrystalline panels arranged in a ground-mount configuration

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- **25/00933/FUL** - Proposed 4No. terraced houses with ancillary parking and amenity space following demolition of existing bungalow and outbuildings. - Norbrek, Bath Road, Padworth, Reading RG7 5HR - **PC Objected**

6.3 Appeals

- **24/02625/HOUSE** - Ground floor extension, new pitched porch, loft conversion, new dormers, internal alterations. Externally red brick to match existing, horizontal timber slats for flat roof dormers, to match existing, and areas of white render - **Appeal in Progress**

7. To receive updates from Councillors

Speeding and Speed Limit Review on A4 Bath Road

Members discussed the ongoing request for a speed limit review, extending towards the top of Ufton. Councillors are awaiting confirmation of a review date. Issues highlighted included new housing, increased traffic linked to the Greggs development, missing signage, reduced road width, lack of safe crossings for school bus users, and the existing 50mph limit.

It was noted that West Berkshire Council's approach is data-driven, with speed and traffic volume surveys informing recommendations. Gareth Dowding was confirmed as the relevant contact.

ACTION – District Cllr Boeck to confirm the review process and report back.

Traveller site opposite AWE

An update was provided regarding the unauthorised traveller site opposite AWE. A stop notice has been served but remains under review. An entrance has been formed directly onto the road. Members noted this may be a prolonged issue and updates will be shared as they arise.

Church works

Cllr Miller reported that works at the church have now been completed. He suggested exploring whether regular maintenance could be incorporated into existing grass-cutting contracts. Members agreed this could be discussed once indicative costs are known and noted that contributions from the church and diocese would be expected.

ACTION – Cllr Miller to investigate maintenance options and report back.

Footpath at Padworth Park Farm

An update was also provided confirming that the culvert issue has been resolved, with no further Parish Council expenditure required at this time.

8. Speeding on Padworth lane

Concerns were raised about speeding and increased traffic on Padworth Lane, particularly between Padworth Lane and Rectory Road. Members noted tight passing places, limited

visibility due to bridges, increased commercial traffic, and safety concerns relating to nursery children crossing the road.

Residents have requested improved signage, clearer and wider passing places, and a review of the national speed limit. Members discussed whether this could be included within a wider speed limit review.

ACTION – District Cllr Boeck to explore whether Padworth Lane can be included in a speed review.

9. CIL Money

Councillors discussed the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds and noted that these must be allocated to capital projects. Ideas discussed included additional playground improvements, picnic tables, and other community assets. Further suggestions are welcomed.

ACTION – Clerk to research eligible uses of CIL funding and report back.

10. Next meeting

Monday 9th March

11. To record the time meeting closed

20.20