West Ilsley Parish Council

Full Council Meeting

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held in West Ilsley Village Hall on Tuesday 10th February 2026. Commencing at 7:33 pm.

Members Present:	Councillor Alan Bloor (APB) – Deputy Chair Councillor Georgie Carlisle Smith (GCS) Councillor Rachel Hudson (RH) Councillor Katy Morris (KM) Councillor Jonny Rayfield (JR)
Members Absent:	Councillor Tim Pearey (TP) – Chair
Officers Present:	Sarah Marshman, Clerk/RFO
In Attendance:	2 Members of the Public

Minutes

25/078 **To receive apologies for absence from Council Members and consider their acceptance**
Resolved: That apologies from Councillor Tim Pearey be accepted for the reasons provided to the council.

25/079 **To receive any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registerable Interests or Non-Registerable Interests and to consider any Requests for Dispensation from Members declaring a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest**
There were no declarations of interests or requests for dispensation.

25/080 **To receive:**
Questions or comments from members of the public regarding items on the agenda
Representations from any member who has declared an Other Registerable Interest or Non-Registerable Interest
There were no questions, comments, or representations.

25/081 **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th November 2025**
Resolved: Members agreed to accept the minutes of the last meeting as a true record. The Chair signed the minutes.

25/082 To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting

The Council received an update on the weight-restriction petition for Bury Lane. West Berkshire Council and National Highways advised that a formal restriction is not viable due to the high cost of required signage. They will instead explore possible improvements to Bury Lane, including additional passing places. Recent traffic monitoring results will be shared when available.

25/083 To receive a report from the District Councillor

The District Councillor had sent their apologies.

25/084 To consider the following applications and to receive an update on planning application responses and decisions

26/00098/HOUSE The Retreat, Churchway, West Ilsley, RG20 7AH - Garage loft conversion with extended ridge and brickwork, front pitched roof dormer and three rooflights to the rear

Resolved: That a response of no objections be submitted.

26/00149/HOUSE Downlands, Main Street, West Ilsley, RG20 7AJ - Conversion of garage to residential accommodation. Demolition and replacement of lean-to conservatory. Landscaping improvements and cottage garden creation. Comprehensive whole-house energy efficiency retrofit. Associated works and access improvements.

Resolved: That a response of no objections be submitted.

West Berkshire District Council has confirmed the following decisions since the previous meeting:

Application Reference	Location	Proposed Work	Decision
25/02135/FUL	38 - 41 Churchway, West Ilsley, Newbury	Replace existing timber windows with uPVC and timber doors (external porch, internal porch and rear garden doors) with composite; Retain existing composite doors and uPVC windows.	Approved
25/02938/AGRIC	Folly Farm, Bury Lane, West Ilsley, Newbury	Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Steel portal framed lean to building.	Prior approval is not required

25/085 Finance:

To consider approving the payments listed on the Finance Report

Resolved: To approve the payments listed on the Finance Report in Appendix 1.

To note the most recent bank reconciliation

The bank reconciliation to 31st January 2026 was noted as shown in the Finance Report in Appendix 1.

To receive any reports from the Internal Controller
The Internal Controller has reviewed the accounts to the end of August 2025.

To receive the most recent Quarterly Budget Report
The quarterly budget report to 31st December 2025 was reviewed.

25/086 To receive an update on Assertion 10 of the 25/26 AGAR on data and digital compliance
The council will be able to confirm that it has met all the criteria for Assertion 10 once proof of completion of data protection training by Councillors AB and JR has been received and logged.

25/087 To consider ratifying the increased costs for providing email addresses related to the village website
Resolved: To approve the increased costs - currently £15.49+VAT per month - for the email system required to ensure the West Ilsley News can continue to operate correctly.

25/088 To consider the Call for Sites for the West Berkshire Local Plan
The council discussed the consultation and agreed to take no action.

25/089 To receive an update on WIRSA
The constitution is being revised by an external expert to clarify responsibilities between the organisations involved. Work is underway to confirm future Trustees and prepare the necessary documentation.

25/090 To receive an update on flood mitigation
The Flood Warden is continuing to monitor water levels and is updating residents via the WIN.

25/091 To receive an update on traffic management
The Council recently met with the consultant preparing proposals for West Berkshire Council. The Council requested that the initial design for the 20mph limit be extended further at both the west and east entrances to the village. The consultant was supportive of this approach and will now present the revised concept to West Berkshire Council. An update will be provided once further information is available.

The Council also asked West Berkshire Council to install a horse-crossing point on the road to the east of the village. This request has been declined, although some improvements to signage will be undertaken.

25/092 To discuss matters for future consideration or for information
The consultation on changes to the Admissions Policy for The Downs School was discussed, and the Clerk was requested to draft a response reflecting concerns on the impact on the children of West Ilsley and on the numbers attending local primary schools. After the meeting, it was confirmed that the consultation deadline had already passed, so no response could be submitted.

A concern was raised regarding rat activity in the village. The Clerk was requested to email the WIN advising residents on how they can help reduce the issue.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:21 pm.

Dates of forthcoming meetings:
Full Council: 19th May 2026 (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and Annual Parish Meeting)

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Appendix 1: Finance Report

Status at last bank reconciliation 31st January 2026	
Account	**Amount**
Lloyds Current	£2,397.39
Lloyds Savings	£29,527.82
Unity Current	£94.19
Unity Savings	£0.00
Total	**£32,019.40**

Income	**Amount**
Interest Nov, Dec, Jan	£45.69
Total	**£45.69**

Payments to be approved			
Date	**Payee**	**Payment Detail**	**Amount**
10-Nov-25	Just Host Me	Community emails	£18.59
17-Nov-25	Hugo Fox	Website	£11.99
21-Nov-25	Staff Costs	Staff costs Nov	£417.09
27-Nov-26	Kays Medical	Defibrillator battery	£246.00
01-Dec-25	Amazon	Clamp washers (goal repairs)	£5.99
01-Dec-25	Amazon	Ring washers (goal repairs)	£6.49
01-Dec-25	Amazon	Goal wheels	£102.90
09-Dec-25	Just Host Me	Community emails	£18.59
15-Dec-26	Hugo Fox	Website	£11.99
16-Dec-25	CCB	VAT on membership costs	£7.00
16-Dec-25	SLCC	Membership 26/27	£48.88
22-Dec-25	Staff Costs	Staff costs Dec	£537.09
09-Jan-26	Just Host Me	Community emails	£18.59
15-Jan-26	Hugo Fox	Website	£11.99
15-Jan-26	Hugo Fox	Council emails	£20.99
23-Jan-26	Staff Costs	Staff costs Jan	£405.22
31-Jan-26	Unity Trust Bank	Account fee	£5.81
10-Feb-26	A Councillor	Reimburse training costs	£16.00
10-Feb-26	SLCC Enterprises	Training	£3.12
10-Feb-26	A Councillor	Reimburse bark chippings	£112.00
		Total	**£2,026.32**

Transfers			
Date	**From Account**	**To Account**	**Amount**
10-Dec-25	Lloyds Current	Unity Current	£100.00
15-Dec-25	Lloyds Savings	Lloyds Current	£1,000.00
03-Feb-26	Lloyds Savings	Lloyds Current	£29,527.82
10-Oct-25	Lloyds Current	Unity Current	£25,000.00
		Total	**£55,627.82**