



SHEPRETH PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council
Meeting held at Shepreth Village Hall
Monday 20th July 2026 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs Stone (Chair) Downer, Dutton, Fisher, Pankhurst, and White.
Also in attendance were nine members of the public, and the Shepreth Parish Council (SPC) Clerk.

Public Participation.

MOP1 gave information on the drainage at Pithayes Corner on Frog End. There are plans being made between CCC, Sustainable Shepreth and the landowner to improve drainage to prevent road flooding here. He also reported on drainage at Meldreth Road, where Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) are carrying out works as part of the Greenway.

MOP2 thanked SPC for all their work on the 29 Station Road planning applications, and reminded all concerned of the importance of avoiding emotive or divisive language, particularly on social media, as this may distract from the matter at hand.

MOP3 shared his views that the Greenway work is unnecessary and that the money would have been better spent elsewhere. He was reminded that the work is being carried out by GCP to their specifications.

26/92 Apologies for absence

Apologies accepted from Cllr Maison

26/93 Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda

- Cllr Pankhurst (26/98 Station Road development)

To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests – none received

To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate – none received.

26/94 Minutes of previous meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15th June 2026 with no amendments. Proposed by Cllr Downer, seconded by Cllr Pankhurst, all in favour.

26/95 County and District Councillor reports and updates.

Report noted. Cllr Downer is to investigate the possibility of establishing a food pantry supported by any available grants. .

26/96 Climate and Nature Action Plan (CANAP)

- a. Shepreth Nature Recovery Plan. Report noted.
- b. Bus and community transport survey. Report noted. Sustainable Shepreth are to draft some suggested wording for information on public transport to be shared on SPC website.

- c. Wellbeing workstream. It was noted that Sustainable Shepreth are researching costs of suitable insurance to cover this.
- d. Verge clearance. Deferred until September.
- e. Emergency Plan. Cllr Downer is to work with Sustainable Shepreth to draft a Parish Emergency Plan.

26/97 Community Energy

Cllr Fisher gave a report on both parts of the project.

- a. Retrofit project to increase efficiency of existing homes. There will be a Community Energy Day at the Village Hall on 5th September, sharing information on energy efficiency and retro fitting.
- b. Community Energy Generation. Report noted.

26/98 Planning Applications for consideration and agreement of response:

No new applications.

The public was excluded to allow for discussion of legal matters concerning application 26/01471/PRIOR. It was **RESOLVED** to obtain and to approve payment for further legal advice on this application. Proposed by Cllr White, seconded by Cllr Downer. Cllr Pankhurst abstained, all else in favour.

26/99 Internal audit report

It was **RESOLVED** to acknowledge receipt of the report. Proposed by Cllr Dutton, seconded by Cllr Fisher. All in favour. It was agreed that all recommended actions would be undertaken.

26/100 Review of website accessibility

It was agreed that the website was acceptably accessible and that annual testing of accessibility should be undertaken.

26/101 HR matters.

It was noted that Cllr Pankhurst is now Chair of the HR Committee. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the requested training for the Clerk. Proposed by Cllr Stone, seconded by Cllr White. It was **RESOLVED** to increase the Clerk's rate of pay by one salary point backdated to April. Proposed by Cllr Pankhurst, seconded by Cllr Fisher. It was **RESOLVED** to increase the Clerk's mileage rate in line with current guidelines. Proposed by Cllr White, seconded by Cllr Pankhurst. All in favour.

26/102 Litter bin

It was **RESOLVED** to buy a litter bin from SCDC at cost including installation of £417.75 and to ask for it to be added to the SCDC emptying schedule.

26/103 MVAS

It was decided to defer the purchase of a solar panel for the MVAS until after the completion of the Greenway works so that the most suitable permanent site for it can be chosen.

26/104 Notice boards

It was **RESOLVED** to install the notice boards on posts in front of the Village Hall. Proposed by Cllr Stone, seconded by Cllr Fisher. All in favour.

26/105 Information on ongoing works in the village

- a. Shepreth Spur of Melbourn Greenway – work continues.
- b. Allotments - Report noted. Cllrs Fisher and Maison have applied for a grant to fund a communal water harvesting system. Cllr Fisher suggested that it would be sensible to get another skip rather than burning the remaining discarded wood.
- c. Tree on Recreation Field. A sapling was run over and destroyed by the grass cutting contractors. Clerk is to contact the contractors to ask that they plant a replacement.
- d. Antisocial behaviour. Report noted.
- e. Meldreth Rd level crossing. Another pedestrian was almost caught between the gates. Network Rail have requested that if this happens it should be reported immediately on their 24 hour contact phone number. Clerk is to publicise the phone number.

26/106 Financial matters

- a. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the monthly finance report for end of June 2026. Proposed by Cllr Dutton, seconded by Cllr Downer, all in favour.
- b. It was **RESOLVED** to approve all invoices to be paid. Proposed by Cllr Fisher, seconded by Cllr White. All in favour.

Invoices to be paid:

Voucher No	Net	VAT	Total	Description	Supplier
78,76	£964.87	£0.00	£964.87	Staff costs - Aug 26	Staff
77, 75	£964.87	£0.00	£964.87	Staff costs - July 26	Staff
74	£72.00	£14.40	£86.40	Mapping software	Local Authority Technology CIC - Parish Online
73	£175.00	£35.00	£210.00	Grass cutting	Herts & Cambs Ground Maintenance Ltd
72	£310.00	£62.00	£372.00	Cut of verges	Herts & Cambs Ground Maintenance Ltd
71	£175.00	£35.00	£210.00	Grass cutting	Herts & Cambs Ground Maintenance Ltd
70	£120.00	£24.00	£144.00	Play area inspections	Broadmead Leisure Ltd
69	£105.00	£0.00	£105.00	Election costs	South Cambs District Council
68	£30.00	£0.00	£30.00	Village hall hire	Shepreth Village Hall
67	£68.00	£0.00	£68.00	Village hall hire	Shepreth Village Hall

66	£11.00	£0.00	£11.00	Village hall hire	Shepreth Village Hall
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June payments not on previous agenda:

Voucher No	Net	VAT	Total	Description	Supplier
65	£7.00	£0.00	£7.00	Bank Service Charge	Unity Trust Bank
64	£329.17	£65.83	£395.00	Planning application fee	PortalPlanQuest Limited
63	£52.30	£0.00	£52.30	NEST pension	NEST
62	£3.00	£0.00	£3.00	Bank Service Charge	Lloyds bank
61	£10.00	£0.00	£10.00	CCTV data	Giffgaff Ltd
60	£2.75	£0.00	£2.75	Refreshments for public meeting	Co Operative Group Ltd
59	£7.78	£1.56	£9.34	IT equipment	Amazon EU Sarl UL branch
58	£40.43	£8.09	£48.52	Street Lighting charges	SSE Energy Solutions
57	£11.00	£0.00	£11.00	CCTV data	Tescos

RECEIPTS in June 2026

Bank interest	£ 406.06
Drax Street lighting refund	£ 25.63

Bank Accounts at end of June 2026:

Unity Trust Savings account	£ 83,929.66
Unity Trust Current account	£ 36,016.24

The meeting was closed at 20.15

Signed..... (Chair)

Date.....