

LITTLE RISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Little Rissington Parish Council held Monday August 10th 2026

Little Rissington Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Cole (Chair), Wilks, Whittington, MacKenzie-Charrington

Attending: Clerk Jane Carter, County Cllr Daryl Corps, District Cllr Craig Thurling, 6 Members of the Public

Apologies: Cllr Elkington (Vice Chair)

Minute	AGENDA ITEMS
260810/1	Welcome and Apologies: The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Elkington (Vice Chair).
260810/2	Minutes of the Annual Meeting held May 11th 2026: APPROVED as a true record and signed by the Chair.
260810/3	Declarations of Interest: Cllr Wilks declared an interest in the Church Lane naming/signage matter (minute 8(d) below).
260810/4	Representations from the Public: Members of the public raised concerns regarding road safety at the tight bend opposite the entrance to Baccus Farm in the village, overgrown hedges on the Manor Farm side are reducing visibility and forcing vehicles across the carriageway, and the frequency of large coaches and HGVs using the narrow lanes. A resident at May Cottage was noted to have prepared a template letter of complaint regarding highways safety concerns. These points were carried into the County Councillor's report and the Highways item below.
260810/5	Report from the County Councillor: County Cllr Daryl Corps gave an update on highways matters: Hedges and footpaths: Following a site visit with the local highway manager, letters have been sent to residents with hedges overgrowing the footpaths, and clearance works through to Bourton are due to start shortly. Fly-tipped material noted during the visit has been reported to Cotswold District Council. School coaches: There is no designated route requiring coaches through the village, only a pick-up/drop-off point elsewhere on the school run. Cllr Corps has written to the County school transport officer to ask whether coaches could instead be routed via the A429/A424. Speeding and VAS signs: Two vehicle-activated signs have been approved and budgeted by the County Council, with post installation dates of September 29th and November 13th; the Council asked whether both could be installed on the same day. The signs themselves are already held by the Parish Council and only need to be fitted once the posts are in. HGV/coach signage: Cllr Corps agreed to investigate advisory 'unsuitable for large vehicles' signage at the top and bottom of the village, and improved weight-limit signage near the Great Rissington junction. Thames Water works: Signage previously directing heavy earthmoving vehicles away from the uphill route appears to have been removed. Cllr Corps will raise this with the highways road space manager. Village entrance signage: Cllr Corps has secured permission for a similar scheme in Adlestrop and will investigate options and costs for Little Rissington. Hanover Coppice slippage/resurfacing: Timing of resurfacing remains contingent on the drainage/slippage design scheme and ongoing discussion with the landowner. A meeting between the landowner and highways was scheduled for September 1st to discuss a proposed one-way 'give and take' arrangement. Drainage and gullies: A request for highways to clear all roadside drains was declined as not meeting their criteria. Cllr Corps is arranging a site visit with Daniel Terry, the new North Cotswolds Head of Highways, to identify gullies and ditches along the hill road requiring clearance ahead of winter.

	Local government reorganisation: NOTED. Unitary elections are now scheduled for May 6th 2027. (Postscript: Local Government reorganisation has been placed on hold by govt)
260810/6	Report from the Ward (District) Councillor: District Cllr Craig Thurling reported: Local Plan 2026–2043: To be debated shortly, including removal of proposed housing from a nearby site [place name unclear in transcript — to be confirmed]; a six-week consultation period will follow if the plan is adopted, with final adoption not expected before 2028. Planning application off Delphin Way, Upper Rissington: The application for 26 houses remains live; officers are exploring an alternative community/nursery use for the site; a decision is expected around October. Heating grants: Grants are available for heat pump, off-gas-grid, biomass and air-to-air heat pump boiler upgrades; details to be circulated.
260810/7	Sweetings Corner: Land registration with the Land Registry remains in progress, with no further news; Cllr Corps advised it could be up to a year before an update is received. The request for GCC to install further protective posts around the green remains outstanding; Cllr Corps agreed to chase this.
260810/8a	Wisteria Cottage wall: Repair has been delayed due to the contractor's illness; he has now returned to work and the repair is expected within four to six weeks.
260810/8b	VAS (Swarco) equipment: The signs are held by the Parish Council; highways will install the posts, after which the battery- and solar-powered units can be fitted directly — see minute 5 above for installation dates.
260810/8c	Hanover Coppice footpath: Path clearance remains linked to the wider GCC resurfacing and drainage works — see minute 5 above.
260810/8d	Church Lane — street signs: Feedback has been received from CDC on naming Church Lane. Naming would require all addresses along the lane to be updated and could result in a postcode change. The last consultation on this was five years ago. Cllr Wilks, having declared an interest, noted that as a resident he would be ambivalent to a name change alone but would formally object if it resulted in a postcode change, citing insurance cost implications. AGREED that the Clerk establish whether a postcode change would in fact result before deciding whether a fresh round of consultation with affected households is needed.
260810/8e	Clearing of Bourton footpath: In hand as part of the hedge-cutting and footpath clearance programme — see minute 5 above.
260810/8f	Coach parking: The frequency and size of coaches and HGVs using the village's narrow lanes was discussed at length (see minute 4 above). Members noted that the road remains legally within weight limits for coaches, and that a Traffic Regulation Order would be required to restrict them further, which GCC Highways is not currently minded to pursue. Measures in progress — the VAS signs, Speedwatch activity, advisory HGV signage, and Cllr Corps' correspondence on school coach routing — were seen as the practical options available in the meantime.
260810/8g	Riparian owners — autumn ditch clearing: AGREED that a reminder be included in the village newsletter for riparian owners to clear ditches ahead of winter rainfall. The blocked gully outside of Orchard Cottage that empties into the drainage ditch in Sawpit Lane was identified for attention as part of the site visit referred to in minute 5 above.
260810/9a	Village Hall Refurbishment Project: The surveyor's inspection has been delayed over the summer but is expected within ten days, to be followed by formal drawings and a planning application.
260810/9b	Car Park Fence: A new contractor is to quote for picket fencing along the existing concrete posts, plus lapped panel fencing (approximately six feet high) to the boundary of the two neighbouring properties to address headlight glare, privacy and noise, subject to those

	residents' agreement; a pedestrian latch gate through the gap in the laurel hedge was also discussed. It was confirmed the works are being organised by councillors acting as village hall trustees, with costs met by the village hall rather than individuals. Any permission for Airbnb-style parking on the car park must come from the village hall trustees, who must in turn notify their insurer; the village hall management have indicated no objection in principle.
260810/9c	Grant Funding: The CDC CILL match-funding round closes in mid-October, with a further round expected around February; three quotations will be required to apply. Clerk to confirm exact dates and criteria.
260810/10a	GDPR/Data Protection Training: CONFIRMED all councillors have completed the training.
260810/10b	Internal Controls Review 2025/26: Cllr Wilks to review the relevant documents once accounts software is set up and report back.
260810/10c	Internal Audit 2026/27: The Clerk advised that the internal audit for 2025/26 remains incomplete and the deadline has been missed; the external auditor has issued a reminder and a fine is possible. In light of continuing delay and uncertainty as to whether the outgoing auditor will continue to offer the service, AGREED that the Clerk identify an alternative internal auditor for 2026/27 for the Council's consideration, rather than reappoint the current audit service
260810/11	Finance and Governance: i) Payments and receipts (as circulated): APPROVED ii) Bank reconciliation (as circulated): APPROVED iii) Direct Debits/Standing Orders: Continuation CONFIRMED iv) EasyPC accounting software (£117 plus VAT): APPROVED for purchase, to replace spreadsheet-based records; the Clerk to conduct the first internal controls review using the new software.
260810/12	Planning Matters: i) Applications commented on between meetings: NOTED, including the Council's earlier objection to 26/01689/FUL below. i) TPO 26/00005 Land Parcel, Wisteria Cottage, Little Rissington: The temporary Tree Preservation Order on the apple and fir trees will become permanent under officers' delegated powers if no objections are received; the Council has already submitted support for retention. If objections are received the matter will go to committee, where Cllr Thurling agreed to speak in favour of the order remaining permanent. A separate application to extend Wisteria Cottage itself (a listed building, adjacent to but not part of this land parcel) is also pending — no objection in principle, left to planning/heritage officers to determine. ii) 26/01689/FUL Erection of gym, fitness studio & cafe associated with luxury holiday lets Church Farm, Little Rissington: The Council's objection submitted prior to this meeting stands. The planning officer is awaiting an updated biodiversity report before making a recommendation; a decision is expected shortly. ii) Other applications arising: NOTED — approval of a nearby self-build house conversion from stables (a comparable neighbouring self-build application was refused).
260810/13	Phone Box: Redecoration is complete and an offer to repair the hole in the floor has been accepted. The book-exchange light fitting remains faulty; it requires a specialist key to access and this could not be opened even by an electrician. The Clerk will check whether Great Rissington's phone box uses the same lock/key.
260810/14	Allotments: Rabbit management: NOTED as satisfactorily resolved at a previous meeting.

	Hedge and gate: The boundary hedge is to be attended to by the contractor on his next visit. The gate is showing rot/timber loss near the top rail; to be inspected and treated with a suitable preservative rather than replaced outright, subject to further inspection. Plot numbering: Several plot number markers are missing, damaged or dislodged; the contractor to reinstate these. Vacant/neglected plots: Three plots were identified as significantly overgrown and neglected; one holder is believed to be recovering from a period of hospital treatment. The Clerk will compile a full list of plot numbers, contact the relevant plot holders regarding their intentions, and reconcile payment records following on from the partial billing exercise carried out in April.
260810/15	Chairman's Matters: ETRO (Bourton): Carried forward. NOTED that highways remain unsupportive of the scheme; no further action proposed. Station Road, Bourton closure signage: Carried forward, no update this meeting. Copper beech watering: Members were asked to help keep the newly planted tree's irrigation bag topped up during dry weather, using the outside tap at the corner cottage.
260810/16	Date of Next Meeting: Monday November 23rd 2026.

Approved By _____ Date _____