

ARDLEY with FEWCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ardley with Fewcott Parish Council on Monday 10th November 2025 in the Norman Fraser Room of the Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs H Jenkins, J Sparrow, S Hazelwonder, N Lewis, and J Mills

Apologies: M Ellis, Cllr N Simpson (CDC) and Cllr W Boucher-Giles

In Attendance: Representatives to present details of the Strategic Rail freight Interchange (SRFI) proposals.

Members of the public: 12 residents.

31. Declarations of interest

The Chairman declared an ongoing interest in the proposed development by Puy du Fou at Bucknell.

32. The SRFI proposals.

Representatives of the developer explained the proposals to the meeting, and confirmed that the expected date for submission of a planning application was early 2026. Consultations are currently ongoing and comments welcomed. Currently the company proposes a rail siding with loading and unloading facilities to the south west of Ardley village, with proposals to add a new northern slip road onto the M40 and J9 eventually) construct a bypass around Ardley. Once the bypass is constructed though access to the B430 will be blocked.

In discussion concern was expressed about proposals for the B430, the noise level from the development during a 24 hour working day, the additional number of traffic movements to and from the area, and the fact that the proposals, added to other proposals, would have a major impact on traffic in the area – increasing congestion on local roads, and causing more difficulties for local residents.

Following the presentation the Parish Council agreed to oppose the proposals in the strongest possible terms on the basis that:

The proposals plan for a bypass around Ardley to be constructed some 3 years after the commencement of the development – meaning that construction traffic will be passing through the area and generate nuisance for residents. The Parish council would request that proposed new infrastructure is constructed before any further development takes place.

The proposals will change the current rural nature of the area into an industrial landscape.

The company should offer compensation to all residents for the disturbance the development will cause, both during construction and when it is operational.

Adequate space for an access to a possible passenger rail station and car park on the south side of the proposed new bypass should be recognised and safeguarded in any proposals.

Traffic calming measures for the villages of Ardley and Fewcott.

Adequate compensation for the Parish of Ardley with Fewcott for the significant effect the development will have on residents should be included in any s106 agreement.

33. Minutes of the meeting of 8th September 2025

The Council agreed that the minutes of the meeting of the 8th September were an accurate record.

34. Residents' Issues

A number of concerns about the safety of trees in the village were raised, and will be referred to the contractor currently carrying out maintenance work on the Quarry field.

35. Progress on Parish Matters

Traffic matters (including traffic calming)

The Clerk was asked to invite OCC Councillor Gareth Epps to a meeting of the Parish Council, as he seems to be taking a lead on traffic matters in the area. It was also agreed that Councillors would contact OCC Highways to discuss traffic calming measures, as OCC are already holding monies under the terms of s 106 agreements, to cover the cost of carrying out works.

Vehicle activated speed signs will be erected shortly in Somerton Road and Fritwell Road.

Quarry Field

A contractor has been instructed to maintain the trees, using the grant provided by Viridor. The Clerk was asked to report that the litter bin on Quarry Field is not being emptied, and also that the dog bin near Quarry Cottage also requires attention.

Website

The Domain name has now been paid and retrieved. Work is now progressing to move the site to a gov.uk address.

36. Finance

The Council also noted the financial report contained in Appendix 1 and authorised the following payments:-

CDC	dog bins	302.02
Nick Hedges	quarry field	360.00
A Davies	salary	187.80
HMRC	cl tax	44.40
OCC	trasffic monitoring	228.00
AWFVH	room hire	13.00
HMRC	cl tax	51.40
Sw Services	grass	350.00
A Davies	salary	205.40
Information Commissioner	registration	52.00

37. Planning

<u>25/02766/F</u>	66A Somerton Road Ardley OX27 7NT	RETROSPECTIVE mixed use (C1/C3) of existing annexe as self-contained holiday-let guest accommodation No objection.
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The Council noted that an application to develop a new town on the site of the Former airfield at Upper Heyford has been submitted. The Parish council agreed to object to the proposals, on the basis that no further development should proceed until a comprehensive scheme to manage the significant increase in traffic (including work to Junctions 9,10 and 11 of the M40 and local roads) has been proposed and all required road construction work has taken place.

38. Items for information or next Agenda

None

39. Date of next Meeting

12th January 2026.

Signed by.....

