

Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting held at Methodist Church Hall, Mortimer on Tuesday 19 May 2026 19:30

Steering Group Attendees

Doug Overett– Meeting Chair (DO); Tennant Barber (TB) and Jayne Todd (JT); Sallyann Taylor (ST – Minute Taker)

#JW was re-elected unanimously as chair. Although she was absent, she had communicated prior to the meeting that she was happy to remain as the Chair.

1. Apologies

Joanne Emberson-Wines (JW); Graham Bridgman (GB); Bob Coe (BobC); Neil Kiley (NK)

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

3. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meetings held on 31 March 2026 were approved without amendment.

4. Discuss email received regarding new neighbourhood plan compliance

It was agreed that ST would forward the email from the West Berkshire Planning Policy Team to Bell Cornwell to ensure the NP will be compliant.

Actions: ST

5. Neighbourhood Plan updates

TB reported that only DO had provided feedback on the 'consolidated policies' and the 'BC response to questions 13th May 2026' sent out by him. DO highlighted that the workload needs to be shared and people need to respond so the SG can form an opinion. JT to chase others to respond and section 5 of the BC response document needs particular attention from the whole SG.

The documents TB had sent out were then reviewed by the SG members present.

DO offered to do a write up for the Local Green Spaces.

JT hopes to complete the general write up by the end of this week.

Actions: TB, DO, JT

6. Regulation 14 tasks and timescale

TB anticipated that we would be ready for Regulation 14 in September.

7. AOB

- The 2 new planning applications 26/00748/HOUSE and 26/00773/HOUSE for 8 & 9 Cleveland Nook in Tower Gardens were discussed. DO had visited the properties and saw no issues with the planning applications.
- JT raised the issue of the maintenance of the retaining wall and the open space in Tower Gardens. West Berkshire Council (WBC) had initially stated that they would take on the maintenance of both the retaining wall and the open space. After their Engineer visited, they backtracked on that. TA Fisher will now setup a management company for the retaining wall. WBC will still maintain the open space and the ponds.

Close

Meeting ended 20:45

Next meeting 16-06 2026 at 19:30 at Methodist Church Hall.