

Great Milton Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mr C Ashworth

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Held at the Pavilion, Great Milton on Monday 20th March 2023 at 7:30 pm.

Present: Cllrs S Harrod (Chair), B Fox (Vice-chair), D Harms, M Horsley and C Deacon.

In attendance: Chris Ashworth (Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

AGENDA

12/23 Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr P Allen, Cllr F V Mierlo (OCC) and Cllr C Newton (SODC)

13/23 Variation of order of business

Item 27/23 was discussed during item 16/23.

14/23 Declarations of members' interests

Cllrs S Harrod and B Fox declared their interest in item 24/23 and did not participate in the vote. Cllr M Horsley declared his interest in items 25/23 and 26/23 and did not participate in the discussions.

15/23 Matters to report

The County Councillor's monthly report was received and reviewed and is available on the Parish Council website.

16/23 Correspondence and public discussion

A litter pick has recently been completed on Thame Road up to the A239. There was a considerable number of branches, foliage and cuttings littering the verges. It has been asked if a working party from the Parish or South Oxfordshire Council can be used to clear this up, and if so, can it be arranged. The Parish Clerk will email the waste team to see if it can be cleared.

27/23 The members of the public raised the issue of parking along the bottom of Thame Road and that it is becoming more dangerous. There have been instances of wing mirrors being broken, arguments outside residents' homes, people knocking on local residents' doors in an aggressive manner, because they think the homeowner's cars are parked badly, and buses are getting stuck and are unable to pass. Let alone if an emergency vehicle needs to pass. The council discussed these issues raised, and Cllr Harms mentioned the possibility of erecting a sign to make people aware not to park at the bottom of Thame road as it becomes a hazard. The members of the public noted that many of the drivers that park there are aware of the issues their parking causes but still continue to park there.

Cllr Harms said that the school has raised this parking issue with the parents and has pleaded with people to stop parking in that area.

Cllr Horsley mentioned the possibility of double yellow lines. The Parish Council and the members of the public both agreed that this is not a route they want to take at this point. Cllr Horsley suggested road markings in forms other than double yellow lines; a single white line was suggested, along with asking the local PCSOs to attend the area as the parking is a safety issue. Cllr Harrod has asked the Parish Clerk to get onto Oxfordshire County Council Highways and ask about the possibility of marking the road as a box junction including the words Keep Clear.

The members of the public also mentioned that this point that some road markings need repainting as they are almost impossible to see.

Neighbourhood watch update:

Now that the new gateway features are in place, it was asked if the neighbourhood watch signs could be attached to them, and the Parish Council agreed with this.

There was a report of 2 teenagers on the Pavilion roof. The Rec Committee was made aware, and when someone went down to check, the teenagers had left. A catalytic converter was recently stolen from a vehicle along Thame road.



Cllr Horsley raised that door-to-door salespeople had been in the village recently and for local residents to be aware.

17/23

Planning applications

A

P23/S0434/HH (White Ash London Road Milton Common OX9 2NU) Loft conversion with a raised roof, two-storey rear extension, single-storey side extension, and carport.

The Parish Council had no concerns regarding the proposed application. The Parish Council **SUPPORT** the application.

P23/S0549/HH (Institute Cottage Church Road Great Milton OX44 7PD) Demolition of lean-to stores and carport, construction of a two-storey extension to the side, a single storey extension to the rear, re-arrangement of the internal layout at ground and first floor with correspondent changes to the elevations and new entrance porch.

Cllr Harrod reviewed the application and raised no concerns regarding the proposed application. The Parish Council **SUPPORT** the application.

B

To review the following planning decisions received and any outstanding planning matters:

P23/S0244/LB (Byeways The Green Great Milton OX44 7NT)

First floor rear extension. **Permission granted.**

P23/S0242/HH (Byeways The Green Great Milton OX44 7NT)

First floor rear extension. **Permission granted.**

P23/S0214/LB (Byeways The Green Great Milton OX44 7NT) Renovation works, to include removal of incompatible external masonry paint, re-render and associated repairs to right elevation, replacement floor slab, insulation upgrades. Provision of new utility room and cloakroom to include taking down modern internal wall to revise layout. Lowering path. **Permission granted.**

P22/S3852/FUL (Milton Pools Fishery near Milton Common OX44 7EJ) Retention of single storey extension and its use for storage. **Permission refused.**

P22/S3961/FUL (Milton Pools Fishery near Milton Common Oxfordshire OX44 7EJ) Retention of existing building and continued use as offices. **Permission refused.**

P22/S4135/FUL (Milton Pools Fishery near Milton Common OX44 7EJ) Retention of single storey building and continued use as two office units. **Permission refused.**

P22/S4460/FUL (Milton Pools Fishery near Milton Common Oxon OX44 7EJ) Continued use of single storey building as storage without compliance with condition 3 of P02/N0682. **Permission refused.**

18/23

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the January meeting of the Parish Council, held on Monday 16th January 2023, were received, reviewed, agreed and signed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

19/23

Financial resolutions

A

The following cheques for payment were authorised and signed:

Chris Ashworth. Salary, Tax and Expenses February: £562.72

Chris Ashworth. Salary, Tax and Expenses March: £562.72

Shield Maintenance Dog Waste January: £62.40

Shield Maintenance Dog Waste February: £62.40

J M Dudley February Bulletin: £311.40

J M Dudley March Bulletin: £287.60

BT Office/e-mail package February/March: £10.80/£10.80 (paid by monthly Direct Debit)

Hugo Fox: web support February/March: £23.99/£23.99 (paid by monthly Direct Debit)

McCracken and sons: £558.00

Great Milton Youth Club: £500

Church wall repair: £500

Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils Audit training: £36.00

SLCC yearly membership renewal: £139.00



- B The January and February bank reconciliation, accounts and bank statements were reviewed and approved.
- 20/23 Parish clerk and councillors' update of matters in hand**
- Gateway features are now installed.
 - There have been no replies so far regarding volunteers for the King's Coronation.
 - Parish Councillor vacancy update: The Parish Council will begin the co-option of Sarah Illingworth.
- 21/23 Security in the village**
Residents are encouraged to please continue to report any incident that they witness or experience to the police via the 101-telephone service or online via the police.co.uk website.
- 22/23 Mowing in the village**
The Parish Council have reviewed the quotes received and has agreed that McCracken & Sons will continue as the contractor for the Village mowing.
- 23/23 Great British Spring Clean**
We have agreed on a date of 18th March for Great Milton's spring clean. The spring clean was a success, and we thank all the volunteers who participated.
- 24/23 Discussion on the potential sale of the Bull**
To discuss what the potential sale of The Bull would mean, including:
What is a Ransom strip?
What would the implications for the Parish Council be?
The Parish Council discussed the matter of the sale of the Bull pub. It was agreed that a ransom strip, a 2m strip of land that curls around the access to the Bull, would be sold to the Parish Council for £1 for 25 years. This strip of land will allow unrestricted access to the Bull on condition that it remains a village pub.
Cllr Deacon asked for confirmation that the ransom strip would be owned by the Parish Council, which was confirmed. Cllr Deacon also asked what would happen if the Parish Council ceased within those 25 years. It was agreed that something like a community venture would be set up to control the strip if that does happen so that the Bull would remain a village pub.
The costs to sell the rights to this land will be split 50/50 by the Pub committee and the Parish Council. Cllr Horsley raised a point if the pub committee should be covering the whole of the costs, this was discussed, and it was agreed on a 50/50 split.
Cllr S Harrod and Cllr B Fox did not vote in the matter.
- 25/23 Churchyard grass-cutting grant**
The Parish Council have been asked if it is possible to increase the grant given towards the Churchyard grass cutting. The Parish Council currently give £600 per year towards the grass cutting costs. The Parish Council discussed the request for an increase in the grant given for the Churchyard grass cutting. It was agreed to increase the grant to £650 from this year going forward.
- 26/23 Churchyard wall rebuilding**
The Rector Simon Cronk is seeking a further £500 from the Parish Council towards the rebuilding of the churchyard wall. A £500 donation has already been made towards these costs. The Parish Council discussed the cause for the increase in cost for these repairs/rebuilding. It was agreed that a further £250 would be granted from the Parish Council.
- 27/23 Thame Road speed/parking concerns raised.**
The new 20 mph speed limit has also been raised that along Thame Road, especially in the morning, is not slowing people down. It has been asked if there can be more road markings and some form of enforcement to try and slow people down.
Car's parking around the bottom of Thame Road are causing impassable obstructions, preventing vehicles, including buses, unable to pass. This also would include any emergency.

vehicles if they're ever needed. Local residents along this area are being confronted by drivers assuming it is their car/s. The speed limit put in place is potentially not enough as cars are still parking dangerously, which could lead to a serious accident. The residents have asked for the Parish Council to look into ways that they could potentially help this parking situation. This item was discussed during item 16/23.

The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council will be held on Monday, 17th April 2023, at 7.30 pm at the Pavilion.

Meeting ended at 20:15

Hand. 17/4/23