

Little Milton Parish Council
Minutes of Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th November 2021

Present: Cllr. Francois van der Merwe (Chairman)
Cllr. Steve Sidhu
Cllr. David Wakeling
Cllr. Howard Harrison
Cllr. Giles Denby
Cllr. Adam Sheppard
Mrs Andrea Oughton (*Parish Clerk*)
Members of the public: One

01/11/21 Apologies for Absence:

There were no apologies for absence.

02/11/21 Declaration of any pecuniary interests of members

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests.

03/11/21 Approval of Minutes

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 13th October 2021.
The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

04/11/21 Matters Arising

Cllr Sheppard reported work on the hardstanding for the Grondon bins was due to start on Monday.

Cllr Wakeling reported District Councillor Newton had responded quickly to his email asking how the Parish Council might defend its objections to the recent application for five houses on the site off the Haseley Road should the application be refused and end up going to appeal. Cllr Newton was seeking clarity from Officers, a problem may arise if South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) isn't able to demonstrate a 5-year housing land supply at the time of the appeal (NB - at the time of appeal, not at the time of the initial determination). However, time was on our side as any appeal would be some months away.

The Clerk reported she had heard from a resident interested in taking on the role of Parish Path Warden. The Parish Council was pleased a volunteer had stepped forward and asked the Clerk to respond and put her in touch with the retiring Parish Path Warden.

05/11/21 Report by District / County Councillors

District Councillor Newton had sent her apologies and circulated her report.

Cllr van Mierlo had circulated his report for November. He further reported Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) had made a bid to central government for £56m worth of funding. If successful, the money will be used to fund rural bus routes. In South Oxfordshire this will include a route from Wallingford to Thame. It will be a small low-key service aimed at those who do not drive.



Little Milton Parish Council
Minutes of Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th November 2021

06/11/21 Oxfordshire County Council Highways

Cllr van Mierlo reported both he and Cllr van der Merwe had spoken at OCC Cabinet meeting to raise the problem of HGV traffic travelling through Little Milton. Cllr van Mierlo had received positive feedback following the meeting. However, one intervention at one meeting will not solve the problem but every opportunity to highlight Little Milton's traffic problem will be taken. It was agreed to continue momentum when the Council submits its response to the draft Freight Strategy consultation it will send a copy to Cllr Bearder.

Cllr Harrison confirmed he had met with an Officer from OCC to discuss the footpath and hedge running from A329 near the traffic speed camera into Old Field. The Officer confirmed the hedge is causing a reduced width of the footpath and should be cut back so people can use it safely and to enable work on the footpath to be done properly. The Clerk will contact Soha to arrange a site meeting to discuss the hedge.

Discussion took place on OCC's proposal for 20mph schemes. The introduction of a 20mph speed limit in the village could help traffic problems, encouraging HGV drivers to take alternative routes, it will also improve safety and support the OCC initiative.

OCC need evidence of engagement with residents that a 20mph is supported. Areas where there are schools, residential frontages along the road and an accident history will be looked on more favourably.

County Cllr van Mierlo said interest could be registered now whilst evidence is gathered. Traffic surveys can be commissioned through OCC at a cost of around £200, the data then used as evidence to support an application. He confirmed if the scheme is approved OCC will pay for signage. Parish Councils will need to fund any additional road traffic calming measures.

Resolved the Parish Council will commence public consultation on the introduction of a 20mph speed limit. Cllr Sidhu will publish information on the Council FaceBook page. Cllr Sheppard will gather supporting information ready for submission to OCC.

07/11/21 Planning

To **note** the District Planning Authority has granted permission for the following applications:

P21/S3759/HH - Hillview Cottage, High Street, Little Milton

Replacement of two detached sheds with a detached garage/home office

P21/S2724/FUL - 20 Thame Road, Little Milton

Subdivision of existing plot, change of use of existing garage with accommodation over to provide new three bedroom dwelling. Extension and addition of dormers to roof. Provision of private amenity space, off street parking utilising existing highway access to Thame Road and provision of enclosed bin and bike store. Authorisation of existing highway access adjacent to existing dwelling as amended by plan ref 19-026- F-011 A proposed regularisation of existing access.

9

Little Milton Parish Council
Minutes of Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th November 2021

08/11/21 Recreation Ground

Cllrs van der Merwe and Wakeling will meet to discuss repairs to the fence around the MUGA in the next few weeks. Cllr van der Merwe confirmed the electrician will investigate lighting problems at the MUGA in December.

Cllr van der Merwe reported the working group were putting a document together for proposals to redevelop the MUGA and improvements to the recreation ground. The working group hoped the proposals will be ready to present to a public meeting in January. Cllr van der Merwe has spoken to SODC regarding a possible application to their Capital Grant Fund and was advised not to apply until plans had been agreed and costed.

09/11/21 Finance

Approval of Council expenditure

Colourplus: November newsletter		£267.26
Raymond Fergusson: Month 8 2021-22, Editor		£69.30
Andrea Oughton: Month 8 2021-22, Clerk		£205.65
Windmill Landscapes: 2 cuts October 2021	Est	£286.08
Play Inspection Company – Annual Inspection		£107.88
Cyan – 4 seater bench (already paid)		£350.00

Post meeting note: No grass cutting took place in October therefore no payment due to Windmill Landscapes.

Direct Debit

Intuit: Accounting software Nov.9th – Dec. 9th 2021 Est £18.00

Bank reconciliation available for review

Budget 2022-23: To aid preparation of the budget the Clerk asked Councillors to consider any amenity / projects and estimated expenditure.

10/11/21 Verges / Hedgerows

Cllr Harrison tabled a draft strategy for open green spaces in the village including verges / hedgerows and the recreation ground. The Chairman thanked Cllr Harrison for his hard work and was keen to get the community involved in some of the projects. Cllr Harrison will put some more detail on the draft plan including cost estimates for presentation to a future meeting.

11/11/21 Faster Broadband

To date seventy-three residents have registered an interest in the voucher scheme to provide faster broadband in the village. Cllr van der Merwe has approached a number of providers but only BT Openreach had confirmed an interest, a response from Gigaclear was awaited.

91

Little Milton Parish Council
Minutes of Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th November 2021

12/11/21 Communication

Cllr Sidhu walked through a draft communication strategy which he shared ahead of the meeting via the OneDrive drive. The Parish Council FaceBook page had received 50 likes and 58 followers within 24 hours of the page being published. The HGV post has been viewed 87 times and received positive comments from residents. It is already being followed by local councillors, council pages, etc. so without doubt is a positive move.

Future actions include; update / improve Council website to enable easier access, create content for FB and website to share once a week for the next couple of months, put an information notice on the village noticeboard and at the village hall.

It was important to note the Parish Council is not proposing to replace or change existing communication channels but to add to them.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Sidhu for his work on the draft communication strategy and progress made so far.

13/11/21 Reports from Councillor Representatives

Cllr Sheppard reported he is in regular contact with Thames Water who reported they had identified a number of leaks in fields towards Great Haseley. Thames Water will notify Cllr Sheppard prior to commencement of any proposed works.

Cllr Sheppard had contacted SSE when the village experienced low power during the recent storm. SSE reported they had lowered the voltage due to fallen trees on the network.

The Clerk will forward to Cllr Sheppard information received from OCC regarding Parish Super Users.

Cllr Denby reported good dialogue had taken place with the village shop with a view to combining inspections required for both the shop and the village hall to save money.

Cllr van der Merwe reported the first meeting of the Local Chairman's Forum will take place early December.

14/11/21 Correspondence

There was no further correspondence to that already circulated.

15/11/21 Exchange of Information

Nothing to report.

16/11/21 Date of Next Meeting

The Meeting of the Parish Council will convene at 8pm on **Wednesday 8th December 2021 at Pine Lodge.**

The meeting finished at 9.55p.m.

Little Milton Parish Council
Minutes of Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th November 2021

17/11/21 Parish Forum

No items were raised.

Signed by:

Chairman.....



Date.....

8-12-21

