

**Little Milton Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**Present:** Cllr. Howard Harrison, Cllr. Ed Horwell, Cllr. Adam Sheppard, Cllr. David Wakeling

Mrs Andrea Oughton (*Parish Clerk*)

Members of the public: Three

**Election of Chairman**

In the absence of the Chairman the Clerk called for Councillor nominations to chair the meeting. It was proposed and duly seconded that Cllr Wakeling chair the meeting.

**Parish Forum**

A resident asked a question regarding the proposed human sun clock to be installed on the recreation ground, and referred to point 9/04/23, second para of the parish council minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023. It is assumed this is a parish council project, with donations and expense going through the parish council accounts.

At the Village Hall AGM it was agreed the Village Hall Committee will contribute a maximum of £500 towards the project. However, within the parish council minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023 it states the parish council will contribute to any shortfall in funding for the project on a 50:50 basis with the Village Hall. In the absence of Cllr. Denby it was agreed to defer this matter to the next meeting.

The editor of the newsletter drew attention to a request to publicise a questionnaire associated with the proposed MUGA refurbishment in the newsletter. Cllr Horwell reported that as part of a funding application being put together the parish council need to show engagement with the village and support for the project (see item 9iii – Communication below).

**01/06/23 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Cllrs Denby (Personal) and van der Merwe (Business).

**02/06/23 Declaration of any pecuniary interests of members**

There were no declarations of any pecuniary interests.

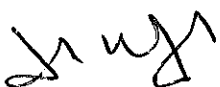
**03/06/23 Election of Vice Chairman**

It was agreed to defer this item to the next agenda.

**04/06/23 Approval of Minutes**

**Resolved** to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

The draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were noted.



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**05/06/23 Matters Arising**

Warren Farm Barn Footpath – The Rambler’s Association has confirmed the first application was made 10 years ago, if there is proof of use beyond 10 years the footpath can be added to the Definitive Map. Cllr Horwell has contacted several residents who can provide such evidence.

**06/06/23 Report by District / County Councillors**

County Cllr Freddie van Mierlo had sent apologies and circulated his monthly report.

District Cllr Georgina Heritage, newly elected Councillor for Haseley Brook ward stated there was little to add to her monthly report already circulated. Cllr Heritage intends to attend as many monthly parish council meetings as possible. Although with some councils meeting on the same evening it may prove a little tricky to attend them all.

**07/06/23 Planning**

P23/S1772/HH & P23/S1773/LB – The Plough, Stadhampton Road, Little Milton, OX44 7QD

Proposed two-storey rear extensions to The Plough House, proposed one and a half storey outbuilding, repairs to existing garage, alterations to site boundary walls and site access. **Resolved No Strong Views**

P23/S1799/HH – Hillview Cottage, High Street, Little Milton, OX44 7PU

Amendment to Approved Application Reference P22/S3964/HH - Front extension to existing detached garage/home office, to provide additional open bay covered parking/storage. **Resolved to Object** on the grounds of overdevelopment.

It was noted that the District Planning Authority has granted permission for the following application:

P23/S0554/LB - Spring & Well Cottage, Haseley Road, Little Milton, OX44 7PP  
Installation of full fibre by BT.

P22/1241/FUL - The Site of Milton House, Gold Street, Little Milton

It was further noted at the District Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023 the Committee voted unanimously to grant permission for the application.

Cllr Wakeling spoke on behalf of the parish council putting forward their views and suggested mitigations should the application be granted permission. Lucy Ireland spoke on behalf of residents opposed to the application and the developer’s agent spoke in favour of the application. The formal 13 page Decision Notice was published on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The Notice contains a lot of conditions attached to the granting of permission.

HIF1

Cllr van der Merwe’s email to County Cllr van Mierlo regarding the HIF1 was noted. It could put incredible pressure on the A329 through Little Milton, since it will deposit A34 traffic at the Golden Balls roundabout, with no plans in sight on what to do with this traffic. The shortest route from the Golden Balls roundabout to the M40 means this traffic will undoubtedly snake its way through Stadhampton and Little Milton.

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Related to this, the parish council is keen to re-engage with Oxfordshire County Council's (OCC) freight plan and what the parish council can do to address the HGV issue through Little Milton.

Mr Barry Coward, Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee circulated a report on planning related matters. The report included the impact of receipt of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payments related to the Milton House site equating to approximately £72k being paid to the parish council. It was agreed that it was important to consult with the village on how CIL receipts are spent. An item will be added to the next agenda.

The report looked forward and set out planning items to consider over the next four years; consultation on the next iteration of the District Local Plan, revised housing target and policy, Chalgrove, Harrington and the impact of the new Thames crossing on A329 traffic through the village.

**08/06/23 Finance**

Approval of Council Expenditure

Andrea Oughton (Clerk): Month 3 2023/24	£226.98
Raymond Fergusson (Editor): Month 3 2023/24	£76.50
Little Milton Shop: Refreshments for Annual Parish Meeting	£44.66
Howard Harrison: Plants & Compost	£136.50®
Francois Van Der Merwe: Microsoft 365 Licenses	£16.68
Colourplus: June Newsletter 2023 (Estimate)	£239.20
BGG: (Grass Cutting April / May)	£138.60
	<u>£277.20</u>
Gallagher (Council Insurance 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2023 – 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024)	£415.80
Andrea Oughton (postage)	£1632.58®
SODC (Election Administration Fee)	£6.78
	£200.00
(®- retrospective approval as already paid)	

Direct Debit

Intuit: Accounting software June 9 <sup>th</sup> – July 9 <sup>th</sup> 2023	£16.80
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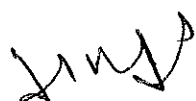
Bank reconciliation available for review

**Resolved** that Cllr Horwell be added to the Parish Council's National Westminster Bank Account mandates and that Mr Steven Sidhu is removed.

The internal audit report for 2022/23 was received. There were no issues that needed to be reported and the Internal Auditor had completed and signed the Annual Internal Audit Report 2022/23 on page 4 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022/23 – Part 2. The parish council extended its thanks to Mr Ian Dennis for carrying out the Internal Audit.

**External Audit / Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) 2022/23**  
**Part 2**

**Resolved** that the Parish Council meets the requirements to certify itself as exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.



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**Resolved** that Section 1, the Annual Governance Statement on page 5 of the AGAR be approved.

**Resolved** that Section 2, the Accounting Statements 2021-22 on page 6 of the AGAR be approved.

**9/06/23 Reports from Councillor Representatives**

**Recreation Ground / Open Spaces**

Cllr Harrison circulated his monthly report and highlighted verges within the 20 / 30mph zones will be cut later this week. The cut had been delayed due to operational difficulties experienced by the contractor.

Haseley Road Green – A post needs to be refixed and a pane of glass repaired in the telephone box that has been damaged. The Millennium planters and flower beds have been reworked and replanted.

The laying of bark chipping on the pathway alongside the church has been delayed until the autumn. The pathway has been cut. Thanks to residents who are regularly watering the oak trees on the recreation ground.

**Communications**

Cllr Horwell reported he now has access to the parish council social media accounts. The MUGA refurbishment questionnaire will be published on all parish council digital platforms and a piece written for inclusion in the July newsletter. It was noted that the questionnaire can be included as a separate sheet in the newsletter if required. A consultation box will be available at the Church Fete on Saturday. A further questionnaire and feedback box will be available at the Church Fete as the start of a village consultation on what projects future CIL receipts should be spent.

**Utilities and Highways**

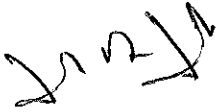
Cllr Sheppard reported he is still waiting for a response from Thames Water. Some potholes have been repaired on the High Street and outside the Lamb public house. Cllr Sheppard has asked OCC Highways if they can relocate the 20mph speed signs on the Haseley Road. Dragon's teeth have not been painted on some entrances to the village.

Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) – approximate cost £3k each, powered by solar, will need budget for ongoing maintenance. The Clerk has contacted the Clerk at Aston Rowant Parish Council where SIDs have recently been installed. A meeting will be arranged in July to discuss further.

**10/06/23 Correspondence**

A request from a resident to use the car park on 26 and 27 August 2023 for overflow parking related to a wedding at St James' church was discussed. The request was agreed in principle subject to Cllr Wakeling contacting the resident to get more details.

Cllr van der Merwe has written to OCC Highways to see what improvements can be made following correspondence from a resident regarding speeding on the Haseley Road. The



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resident has suggested the 20mph signage isn't right and that speeds have increased since implementation of the new speed limit.

**11/06/23 Exchange of Information**

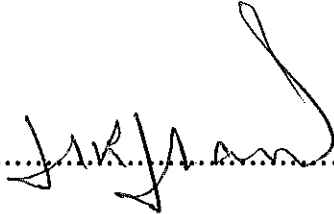
Nothing to report.

**12/06/23 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023, commencing at 7.30pm at Pine Lodge. Cllr Sheppard gave his apologies for the next meeting.

The meeting finished at 9.45pm

Signed by:

Chairman..........Date.....12/ July 2023.....

