

Little Milton Parish Council
Minutes of Council Meeting held on Wednesday 6th April 2022

Present:

Cllr. Giles Denby
Cllr. Howard Harrison
Cllr. Steve Sidhu
Cllr. David Wakeling

Mrs Andrea Oughton (*Parish Clerk*)

Members of the public: one

01/04/22 Apologies for Absence:

Cllr van der Merwe (Personal) and Cllr Sheppard (Personal).

Cllr Sidhu chaired the meeting in the absence of Cllr van der Merwe.

02/04/22 Declaration of any pecuniary interests of members

There were no declarations of any pecuniary interests.

03/04/22 Approval of Minutes

Resolved to approve the minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 9th March 2022. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

04/04/22 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising that were not covered on the agenda.

05/04/22 Report by District / County Councillors

Cllr Freddie van Mierlo and Cllr Caroline Newton had sent apologies.

06/04/22 Planning

P22/S0803/FUL – 20 Thame Road, Little Milton, OX44 7PZ

Subdivision of exiting plot, demolition of existing garage with accommodation over. Subsequent erection of new replacement building to provide new three bedroom one and a half storey dwelling, identical in all but minor detail to extant approved scheme LPA Ref; P21/S2724/FUL. Provision of private amenity space, off street parking utilising existing highway access to Thame Road and provision of enclosed bin and bike stores. Authorisation of existing highway access adjacent to existing dwelling.

RESOLVED to have No Objection to the application

It was noted the Parish Council had been granted an extension to the consultation time for planning application **P22/S1241/FUL – The Site of Milton House, Gold Street, Little Milton.** This application will be discussed at the next meeting on Wednesday 11th May 2022.

The following amended application was noted:

P21/S1663/FUL – Land at Haseley Road, Little Milton, OX44 7QF

Amendment No. 2 – Addition energy information received 8th March 2022



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

P22/S0351/HH - The Old Forge, 61 High Street, Little Milton, OX44 7PU
Single storey rear extension and alterations.

07/04/22 Finance

Approval of Council expenditure

Colourplus: April Newsletter 2022	£252.77
Raymond Fergusson: Month 1 2022-23, Editor	£84.90
Andrea Oughton: Month 1 2022-23, Clerk/RFO	£253.63
HMRC: PAYE Months 9-12 2021-22	£292.80
SODC: Dog Bin servicing. Qtr. to 31 st March 2022	£107.64
Information Commissioners Office: Data Protection Renewal Fee	£35.00
GeoXphere (Parish Online) Annual membership to 25 th March 2023	£60.00
CPRE: Annual membership to 26 th April 2023	£36.00
Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (OALC) Annual membership	£150.00
Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association: Annual membership	£45.00
Community First Oxfordshire: Annual membership	£55.00
BGG Garden and Tree Care: Tree & Hedge trimming	£810.00
Intuit: Accounting software 9 th April – 9 th May 2022	£14.40

The bank reconciliation was available for review

The Clerk ran through the timetable for completion of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22 (AGAR). It was expected that the income and expenditure for the year will fall below the £25k threshold allowing the Parish Council to exempt itself from an external audit and complete part two of the AGAR.

The Clerk reported the 2022-23 budgeted advertising income of £5,500 looks to be on track. £2,300 has already been received of the advertising billed.

The Effectiveness of Internal Control and Risk Management paper was reviewed and approved with no changes.

Resolved that Mr Ian Dennis is appointed as Internal Auditor for 2021-22.

08/04/22 Reports from Councillor Representatives

Recreation Ground / Open Green Spaces

The contractor has completed two visits to remove the mole problem on the Recreation Ground. A further 2-4 visits are probably required. It is hoped to carry out some clearing and wild meadow flower seeding on the mound behind the MUGA in April.

The damage caused by storm Eunice to the telephone box on Haseley Road Green has been reported to BT. As the phone line is not working BT have escalated the priority to Openreach to react. The repair of the door is dependent on a suitable door being available from a decommissioned box.

Discussion took place on the possible relocation of existing waste bins on the Recreation Ground once the new dual bin is installed. It was agreed David will speak with Francois and Kevin re possibly relocating the bins to the tennis courts and the shop.



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Cllr Harrison reported the benches had been stained and that he and Cllr Wakeling will position them around the Recreation Ground in the next couple of weeks.

Village Hall

A village event is being planned on the Recreation Ground on Sunday 5th June from 1-4pm to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Resolved that the Recreation Ground is used for the Jubilee event.

Orchard Nursery

Cllr Denby reported the Chair of the Committee has requested permission to locate a skip in the car park on a temporary basis. This was approved. The nursery would also like to erect a covered area to allow the children to be able to spend as much time outside as possible. This was approved in principle, Cllr Denby will ask for copies of the plans to be discussed at a future meeting.

The nursery is completely full, however, sadly only two children from the village attend, the remainder being from outside of the village.

09/04/22 Correspondence

Cllr Wakeling noted that since the Parish Council considered the planning application for the Sculpture Park a number of representations from residents against the application had been submitted to the District Council.

Discussion took place on how the Parish Council can better publicise its role in considering applications, the process for members of the public to comment and to encourage residents to copy the Parish Council when they send representations to SODC and attend Council meetings to put forward their views.

It was agreed Cllr Wakeling will contact residents on the consultation list for applications to highlight when the application will be discussed by the Parish Council. The Clerk will add a piece to the summary published in the newsletter explaining the process and links to the District Council website.

10/04/22 Exchange of Information

The Clerk to report the damaged waste bin at the end of Old Field to the Waste Team at SODC.

Cllr Denby gave his apologies for the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Council in May.

11/04/22 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be the **Annual Parish Meeting on 11th May 2022, at 6.30pm.** This will be followed by the **Annual Meeting of the Council at 7.30pm** and the Parish Council meeting on the rising of the Annual Meeting. All meetings to be held at Pine Lodge.

The meeting finished at 9.15p.m.



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12/04/22 Parish Forum

A member of the Haseley Road Group raised concern regarding coverage of faster broadband in the village.

In 2020 Airband and Openreach gave presentations. The resident had gathered the addresses of 33 residents interested in faster broadband and logged them on the Openreach site. Four months later he received a letter saying broadband could be supplied at an approx. cost of £79k. This was ignored but the resident continued to keep in touch with both Airband and Openreach.

On 21st March 2022 he received an email from Openreach stating they were ready to proceed, the next step was to ask residents to sign up to the voucher scheme by 14th April 2022. To date 83% have signed up (interest has spread beyond the original address list).

The Rural Infrastructure Team emailed the resident today stating they needed the information by Friday of this week. The resident stated he felt very frustrated by the whole thing and asked what the Parish Council could do to help?

The Parish Council expressed their frustration with the installation / coverage of faster broadband to residential properties and agreed to publicise information via the Parish Council and Village Facebook pages.

Signed by:

Francis van der Merwe

Chairman.....

Date.....

11 May 2022