Minutes of Great Haseley Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14 September 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs L Bird, H Blythe, C Groves, R Sheehan (Chairman), A Oughton (Clerk)

26/52 Public Discussion and Public Questions

A resident raised several questions related to; the churchyard wall, audio visual and projection equipment for the village hall, a new sign on the entrance to the commercial industrial estate on Rycote Lane, removal of a bench on the recreation ground - originally donated by the Pumpkin Show, a dead and diseased trees on the recreation ground, traveller site at Tetsworth and overgrown hedges. Councillors provided answers to the questions raised.

26/53 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Woodrow.

26/54 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations.

26/55 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2026 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

26/56 Co-Option

The Parish Council received two applications for Co-option. The applicants attended the meeting and provided a summary on why they wanted to become a Councillor.

Resolved that Michael Buchanan and Benjamin Spencer be co-opted onto the Parish Council to serve until the local elections in May 2027.

26/57 Planning

P26/S2485/FUL - Land south-west of London Road nr Tetsworth Oxfordshire OX9 7AZ
Change of use of land to a Gypsy/Traveller site comprising 12 mobile homes, 12 touring caravans and 12 utility rooms.
Resolved to **Strongly Object** to the application on the grounds of flooding, highway and public safety. The application contravenes planning policies within the Tetsworth Neighbourhood Plan, Joint Local Plan and National Planning Policy Framework.

P26/S3123/FUL – Western Plot at Land off Rycote Lane, OX9 2BY
Proposed commercial storage/contractors yard (Class B8) together with operational works (retrospective).
Resolved to **Object** to the application on lack of detail around landscaping. The application contravenes the South and Vale Joint Design Guide 2022, South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse Landscape Character Assessment 2024, Joint Local Plan and National Planning Policy Framework polices.

26/58 Financial Report

Bank statements to 28 August 2026 had been circulated. Balances on the Current Account: £5673.36 and Business Reserve Account £78,520.42. Income for the month - monthly interest, allotment rents and VAT reclaim (1st Qtr 2026-27). Expenditure as previously approved.

The second half of the Precept 2026-27 was received on 1 September 2026.

26/59 Payments

The following payments were **approved**: £93.60 Shield Maintenance (August invoice), £500.00 A W Grounds Maintenance (August invoice), £45.00 Open Spaces Society, £208.80 RoSPA Play Safety, £93.60 Shield Maintenance, £72.00 A W Grounds Maintenance, £438.00 A W Grounds Maintenance, £500.00 Village Hall Committee, £702.00 R Taylor Landscaping.

Direct Debit: Hugo Fox - £40.00 (August & September), Castle Water £5.96 (August)

26/60 Quiet Lanes Application

Following discussion at the last meeting it has been established that there are no 'softer' options to reduce through traffic on roads within the village. A Quiet Lanes application will therefore not be submitted.

26/61 St Peter's Churchyard Path

Permission to extend the churchyard path has been received from St Peter's Parochial Church Council. Cllr Groves will contact the contractor to find out a timeline for the work.

26/62 Miss Cross Field / Recreation Ground

The RoSPA Inspection Reports for Miss Cross Field and Recreation Ground were circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that no high-risk items had been flagged that require immediate attention.

The Parish Council delegated permission to Cllr Groves to sign the contract with Creative Play to remove the existing swing frame on the Recreation Ground and supply and install a new toddler swing, swing and basket swing set. Cost of the work is £9,608.00 (excl vat) funds to be taken from Community Infrastructure Levy Reserve.

26/63 Projects

Public Art – SODC does not consider the production of a village emblem as a stand-alone project. It will therefore be combined with the project to produce six bespoke benches for the recreation ground (a combination of benches with and without backs) and one bench in Miss Cross Field. Metal framework for benches to include the village emblem. A site visit to be arranged to discuss locations and design with a report back to the next meeting.

Neighbourhood Plan (NP) – All polices are drafted, mapping due to be completed by volunteer team in the next few weeks – cost £100.00. Production of information boards for village consultation – cost £480.00. Approved that both costs are taken from Village Protection Fund.

Decided not to commission a contractor to produce a Key Views Assessment. Quotes being sought to commission a Local Character Assessment.

Village consultation to be held on 10 October 2026 at the village hall. Draft plan will be available to view on the website. Consultation will be online with paper versions available.
Aim is to submit the final Plan to South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) by end of December.

26/64 Reports from Committees / District and County Councillors

County Cllr Judith Edwards sent her apologies, her monthly report was noted.
District Councillor Georgina Heritage sent her apologies, her monthly report was noted.

Former Ariens Site: The Parish Council was pleased to note that as a result of the repeated breach by a particular contractor whose vehicles were driving through the village. Beard has stopped using the company. SODC thoroughly supports Beard in this decision, and as of 9 September Earthline will no longer be visiting the site. Both SODC and Beard apologised sincerely for the problems encountered by residents and thanked them for bringing it to their attention.

New Joint Local Plan: Agreed Cllr Sheehan will draft a response to the current consultation.

Footpaths: Cllr Blythe plans to clear vegetation growth along a number of footpaths.

Allotment rents: Two payments outstanding, one going to pay the other is giving up allotment plot. Two people on the waiting list for an allotment.

Millennium Wood: Hedge trimming to be done. Depending on budget the contractor may be asked to return to shred remaining brash.

Recreation Ground: Last cricket match of the season takes place this Sunday. After which the square will be dressed and shut down for the winter.

Communication: The clerk and chairman email addresses have migrated to dot.gov.uk. Councillors to transfer to dot.gov.uk emails by next meeting.

26/65 Information Exchange

It was noted that the willow trees opposite the allotments are on common land. The Parish Council will engage a tree surgeon to inspect the trees and provide a quotation. This will be brought back to a future meeting for approval.

26/66 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed the next meeting will take place on 12 October 2026 in the Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.25pm

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Chairman
12 October 2026