

# Great Milton Parish Council

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## Minutes of the Meeting of Great Milton Parish Council held on Monday 19th November 2018 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion.

Present: Cllrs. W Fox (Vice Chairman), P Allen, G Bennet, P Fewell, C Deacon and G Harris.

In Attendance: Tim Darch (Clerk), Cllr Caroline Newton (District Councillor) and 16 members of the public.

### 136/18 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received in advance of the meeting from Cllr Stephen Harrod.

### 137/18 Variation of order of business

Business was conducted as prescribed by the agenda.

### 138/18 Declarations of member's Interest

Cllr Bill Fox declared an interest in the Stonefield planning application as a neighbour, and Cllr Harris in the Growth Board copy item given her professional involvement as an employee of Oxfordshire County Council. Although the Parish Clerk lives opposite Monkey Farm (a planning application for which was under consideration) he took no part in discussions or in the decision.

### 139/18 Matters to Report

The County Councillor's and District Councillor's monthly reports were received.

### 140/18 Correspondence and Public Discussion

All public correspondence received and public discussion undertaken related to the items formally recorded on the agenda.

### 141/18 Planning Applications

A

To consider the following planning applications received from SODC.

P18/S3076/HH (Stonefield, Lower End, Great Milton OX44 7NF). The removal of a conservatory and the construction of a single storey flat roof rear extension and a small single storey pitched roof front extension and amendments to some rear window openings.

After consultation with neighbours and subsequent discussion it was decided that the Parish Council had NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

P18/S3555/FUL (Hughendon Motors, London Road, Milton Common). Erection of 10 dwellings with access, parking, amenity space, and landscaping following the demolition of the existing buildings.

The applicant and his planning consultant attended the meeting to make a further representation, having made an initial presentation to the Parish Council prior to the submission of the planning application. The initial application for 5 larger houses in a 'linear' format has been amended to ten smaller ones in a 'close'. The applicant reported that the amended National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires 40% of houses in a development of 10 or more dwellings to be 'affordable': however in developments of 9 or less there is no affordable housing quota. The developer will await comments from the consultation and planning authority then amend as necessary. The concerns of local residents appeared largely allayed, and the Parish Council decided that it had NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

P18/S3645/FUL and P18/S3646/LB (Monkey Farm, Church Road, Great Milton). Barn Conversion.

This application was considered by the remaining members of the Parish Council in the absence of the ward councillor (Chairman). Some concerns have been received from neighbours about the re-opening of a window overlooking a neighbouring property and the possible encouragement of bats with bat boxes. After scrutiny of the plans it was apparent that the window was located such that it could not be seen out of, and that the provision of bat

boxes is necessary ecological mitigation. The Parish Council agreed that it FULLY SUPPORTED this application.

P18/S2996/FUL (Lobb Farm, Tetsworth, Oxon OX9 7BE). The proposed development is for a Gas Fired Electricity Generating Facility with the ability to generate up to 49.99 MW of electricity. A low carbon flexible generating facility using gas reciprocating engines. The facility will generate electricity principally for the regional distribution network in times of generation shortfall and/or high demand.

The location of this site was clarified as within the Great Haseley Parish Council area. District Councillor Caroline Newton outlined the principle behind the application (rapid generation of electricity using gas turbines to cover peak times and to supply the grid, rather than to benefit local residents). Many objections from residents were detailed (some found out about it by accident, there are no planning notices on site, 12m chimneys are proposed in the middle of the countryside, the location is inappropriate for such a facility, visual blight, and noise pollution day or night). After discussion Caroline Newton offered to seek an extension to the consultation period to enable residents of Milton Common to submit their objections for consideration by the planning authority. It was agreed that Great Milton PC was opposed to the application and that it too would submit a letter of objection.

- B To review any planning decisions received and any outstanding planning matters.  
P18/S2911/FUL (Land adjacent to Great Expectations Milton Common). Approval for Reserved matters (Access, Layout, Scale, Appearance and landscaping) pursuant to outline application (P17/S4227/O) for the erection of up to eight dwellings with associated access, parking and amenity space (as amended by additional plans submitted on 31 May 2018 and 19 July 2018). Application proposal, including any amendments: Variation of condition 1 (approved plans) of planning permission P18/S0958/RM. In order to process with the appropriate plan revisions. (Remove carports, increase parking spaces, alter external materials, and modify hedging).

P18/S2744/FUL (Milton Farm, The Green, Great Milton OX44 7NT). To erect a small shed on agricultural land. Planning permission has been granted for this proposed development.

#### **142/18 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018 were signed and approved as an accurate record of proceedings.

#### **143/18 Financial Resolutions**

- A The following cheques were authorised for payment:  
Tim Darch. Salary, Tax and Expenses. £436.87  
Jonathan Dudley. Bulletin production October and November. £269.20/£254.80  
Green and Growing. Grass cutting. £594  
SODC dog hygiene. £65.48  
Castle Water (allotments). £25.06  
Recreation Ground maintenance grant. £400

- B A full bank reconciliation was received and the latest bank statement signed.

#### **144/18 Parish Clerk and Councillors' update of matters in hand**

- A survey of the condition of the trees growing on common land will shortly be carried out.
- Estimates have been requested for the provision of verge mowing for 2019 and 2020.
- The village has been offered a 'deep cleanse' by SODC in mid-January. Pavements will be swept and weeds sprayed, and a request has been made to litter-pick the verges on Sworford Lane, The Forties and Wheatley Road (Forties to April Cottage). The Parish Council will also request that London Road in Milton Common is covered by this work.

#### **145/18 Great Milton School: tennis court lease**

Councillor Fox has been in touch with the school to ascertain if there are any changes proposed that may affect access to the tennis court and is awaiting a response.

**146/18 Budget 2019-20 preparation**

Two draft budgets for the financial year 2019-20 were considered: one with a 6% increase 'swallowing' the potential cost of the forthcoming parish council elections if uncontested, the other accounting for a higher election cost if contested by increasing the precept request by 16%. The latter precept increase was deemed unacceptably high, and it was decided that a final budget with a 6% precept increase would be formally submitted for approval by the Parish Council at December's meeting, with any significant election costs to be met from reserves if necessary.

**147/18 Speed monitoring device**

Parish councils have been offered training and the use of a speed monitoring device by Thames Valley Police. This offer has been accepted and training is awaited.

**148/18 Carols around the Christmas tree**

To confirm the suggested date for the village carols event as Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm. The Bull will provide mulled wine and mince pies.

**149/18 Oxfordshire Growth Board**

An article has been sent to the Parish Council (and others) by a group of Garsington residents for suggested inclusion in the Bulletin. Essentially the article suggests that the OGB is promoting enhanced growth in Oxfordshire and recommends that those against this should request that their local representatives withdraw their support. The Garsington residents' Growth Board article and a response from the County Council (which the Parish Council has been advised is being drafted) will both be published in the Bulletin as and when the latter is available.

**150/18 Stiles: footpath from Pitts Green (Swarebrook) to Waterstock**

An initial survey by the County Council has concluded that repairs are necessary to the stiles and that they should be made more accessible. It is understood that the stiles are located on private land and that as such repairs should be funded by the landowner(s). Further discussions will be needed with all parties as this matter progresses: potential contributions from other funding sources towards any required work will be investigated.

**151/18 Armistice centenary commemorative tree**

A rowan tree has been donated to the Parish Council by the Woodland Trust and Oxfordshire County Council to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War. The tree has been planted on the green outside Mike Robinson's house (about halfway between the Old Garage and the Village Stores).

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

***The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council will be held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December starting at 7.30pm in The Pavilion.***

**SIGNED** \_\_\_\_\_