Minutes of Great Haseley Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12 October 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs L Bird, H Blythe, M Buchanan, R Sheehan (Chairman), B Spencer, P Woodrow, A Oughton (Clerk)

Members of the public: Four

26/67 Public Discussion and Public Questions

A resident asked about traffic calming in the village, the volume of traffic seems to have increased and vehicles are exceeding the 20mph speed limit. Cllr Sheehan said the Parish Council had consulted the village asking if the 20mph was working and if not what further traffic calming measures might be considered. The result of the consultation was a 50:50 split with the majority happy for no further traffic calming measures. Cllr Sheehan encouraged residents to respond to the current Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) consultation on 20mph speed limits.

Cllr Sheehan confirmed the proposed location for entrance gates to the village are: Rectory Road (both entrances) and Little Haseley on the Little Milton side. The design to be confirmed, gates will be funded from Public Art funding. Cllr Blythe to share results of village consultation.

The resident congratulated the Parish Council on the Neighbourhood Plan Consultation. However, its focus is the present, what about the future. Cllr Sheehan replied that the Neighbourhood Plan has to focus on current policies including the National Planning Policy Framework.

Mr John Gostick used to lay a Royal Marines wreath on Remembrance Sunday. With his passing a resident has arranged for a representative of the Royal Marines to lay a wreath this year. The resident asked the Parish Council to consider supplying a Royal Marines wreath to lay at future Remembrance Services.

Another resident asked the Parish Council to consider funding a project to renew the photographs in St Peter's church of Vicars who have served the Parish. Cllr Sheehan asked the church to put forward a proposal for the Parish Council to consider.

26/68 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Groves.

26/69 Acceptance of Office

Cllr Michael Buchanan and Cllr Benjamin Spencer duly signed the Declaration of Office as a Councillors on Great Haseley Parish Council.

Resolved that Representatives be agreed as follows:

Planning – Cllr Blythe
Allotments – Cllr Bird
Environment – Cllr Buchanan
Playing Fields – Cllr Groves
Communication – Cllr Blythe
Footpaths – Cllr Spencer
Millennium Wood – Cllr Sheehan
Miss Cross Field – Cllr Groves
Village Hall – Cllr Woodrow
Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Sheehan

{Cllr Buchanan left the meeting}

26/70 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations.

26/71 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2026 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

26/72 Planning

P26/S3923/FUL – Lobb Farm, Tetsworth
Change of use of former grain store to storage use or Class E or mixed use. Alterations to include providing main entry on western side, closing eastern large doors.
Resolved to **Support** the application

26/73 Financial Report

Bank statements to 30 September 2026 had been circulated. Balances on the Current Account: £5641.01 and Business Reserve Account £85,581.90. Income for the month - monthly interest and 2nd half of the Precept.

26/74 Payments

The following payments were **approved**: £93.60 Shield Maintenance, £300.00 A W Grounds Maintenance, £84.00 Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils, £402.00 R Taylor Landscaping, £600 John E Wright, £407.93 Parish Administration, £102.00 HMRC, £37.50 Royal British Legion.

Direct Debit: Hugo Fox - £20.00, Castle Water £5.76

26/75 National Salary Award

The National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services salary award 2026-27 for employees was noted. **Resolved** to pay the newly approved rate and backpay to 1 April 2026.

26/76 St Peter's Churchyard Path

Extracts from St Peter's Parochial Church Council (PCC) approving the extension to the path in the churchyard were noted. Cllr Blythe to instruct the approved contractor to commence work as soon as practically possible. The contractor will also be asked to supply a Risk Assessment and Method Statement related to the work.

26/77 Village Hall

Agreed to obtain a third quotation for the installation of a projector, screen and sound system. Quotations to be brought back to a future meeting for approval.

26/78 Back Way

Quotations for work to four trees on Back Way had been circulated. **Resolved** to appoint Complete Tree Services to undertake the work at a cost of £520.00 excl. vat. Contractor to leave chippings next to the allotments.

26/79 Councillor Support and Training

Cllr Sheehan reported the 'Councillor Fundamentals' online training was very good and encouraged Councillors to attend the next one on 3 February 2027. Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils September newsletter contains the training schedule. There is a budget for training costs. Agreed the Clerk to put together a Councillor Induction Pack.

26/80 Projects

Public Art – First sketch of proposed gate has been shared with St Peter's PCC. Waiting for sketches of benches and gates before circulating.
{Cllr Blythe left the meeting}

Neighbourhood Plan (NP) – Statutory Pre-Submission Consultation commenced on 5 October 2026 and will run until 16 November 2026. An in-person consultation was held on 10 October 2026 in the Village Hall and was well attended. More posters to be put up around the village, and posts on social media. Information also on Parish Council website. Pre-Submission Consultation to be sent to parish councils who share a boundary with Great Haseley parish. **Resolved** to approve payment of £100.00 for mapping. *{Post meeting note: Pre-Submission Consultation deadline extended to 7 December 2026}*

26/81 Reports from Committees / District and County Councillors

County Cllr Judith Edwards sent her apologies. The Parish Council thanked Cllr Edwards for her help with road closure issues on Latchford Lane.

District Councillor Georgina circulated her monthly report and added planning related issues had taken up a lot of her time over the last month. The District Council continues to wait for the draft traffic management plan for the waste vehicle site. Cllr Heritage has repeatedly asked for the plan and is completely frustrated at the time it is taking the contractor to submit it. The Parish Council thanked Cllr Heritage for the update on the development work at the trading estate to be included in The Haseleys.

Village Hall: Very successful Pop-Up Pub and Apple Day events. New hall booking system is live. Building valuation carried out for insurance purposes.

Allotments: Two people on the waiting list for allotment plots. Cllr bird to write to allotment holders asking if they intend to renew their tenancy agreement next year. Consider moving start of tenancy agreement to October 2027 rather than April. (6-month agreement April to Sept 2027).

Millennium Wood: Third planned grass cut not required, money saved to be used to get remaining brash removed and cut one side of hedge laid last year.

Miss Cross Field: Cllr Groves to check that work to cut back all growth to the perimeter side near play equipment (1m) has been completed by contractor as per quotation.

26/82 Information Exchange

Agenda items for future meetings: Elections 2027, Members Allowance, Employment Committee, Media & Communication Policy, Annual Meeting 2027 format, 5-year strategy.

26/83 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed the next meeting will take place on 9 November 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
9 November 2026