

Moulsford Parish Council  
Parish Council Meeting  
held  
on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2026 at 7.30pm at Moulsford Pavilion

Minutes

**Councillors Present:** Hilary Shaw (Chair) (HS), Melanie Mousley Jones (MMJ), Leigh Arajao-Phillips (LAP)

Parish Clerk/ Minutes : Andrew Ashton (AA)

County Councillor present: Anne-Marie Simpson (AMS) (for part of the meeting)

Members of the Public: 3

**In attendance:**

1. **Receive Apologies for Absence:** None
2. **Receive Requests for Dispensations, Declarations of interest, gifts, hospitality:** HS disclosed her interest in item 10 on the agenda as a planning application to which she was a party
3. **Minutes:** the minutes of the meetings held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2026 and 17<sup>th</sup> August 2026 (emergency meeting) were presented to the meeting and approved
4. **Matters arising therefrom:** it was agreed that there were no matters arising not otherwise covered in the agenda for this meeting
5. **Co-option of new councillor:** HS reported that Cllr. Liam Kelly (LK) had resigned at the end of the previous meeting. She stated that Edward Fisher had been approached and was willing to serve. It was unanimously agreed that Edward Fisher should be co-opted to serve on the Council
6. **Acceptance of Office:** Edward Fisher (EF), being present, joined the meeting and completed his acceptance of office form and was handed his declaration of interests form to complete.
7. **District Councillor's Report:** was deferred until later in the meeting
8. **County Councillor's Report:** None – AA confirmed he had notified date of this meeting
9. **Contributions from members of the public:** Monica Atkinson introduced herself as one of the applicants in respect of planning application P26/S3299/PIP. She stated that she was a Moulsford villager who had the interests of the village at heart and stated that she would be happy to work with the Council and then Community to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.  
Preston Bemis (PB) reported a recent near miss suffered by a Parishioner and caused by excessive speed on the other driver's part. He urged the Council to take steps to reduce speeds of motorists entering the village.
10. **Planning Applications:** P26/S3428/HH. HS declared her interest and left the meeting. MMJ took the chair. It was agreed that the Council had no strong views (HS rejoined the meeting)

11. **Hanning Homes Footpath to Pavilion:** AA stated that he had heard nothing further from their solicitor. It was agreed AA would chase their solicitor and MMJ would contact Hanning Homes
12. **Pavillion:**
  - 12.1 Pavilion Roof: LAP reported that he had one quote for the necessary work but would obtain 2 further quotes before the next meeting
  - 12.2 Parking: LAP suggested a company with which he had had previous dealings would be prepared to set up a camera and a schedule of charges to police parking. He would obtain a written proposal
  - 12.3 Exercise Class Contributions: after discussion, it was agreed to investigate obtaining contributions from people or organisations who were regular users of the recreation ground but were resident outside the parish boundary
  - 12.4 Potholes: AA was instructed to obtain estimates for the cost of repairing.
  - 12.5 Solar Panels: LAP said that the report he had obtained confirmed the roof was strong enough to support solar panels. It was agreed to investigate installation once the roof leak was fixed (AMS joined the meeting)
  - 12.6 Hiring. No action to be taken, but PB gave the welcome news that Moultsford Pavillion Management Committee (MPMC) were showing a profit for the year to date
  - 12.7 EICR: after discussion, it was decided that the Council could not agree to pay for this, it being a tenant's obligation under the terms of the existing lease (EF left the meeting)
7. **District Councillors report:** AMS presented her report (Copy attached). She expressed her frustration and that of her fellow Councillors and Officers at the news that the much vaunted Local Government Reorganisation, on which much work had been done over many months, was now being paused for further consultation. She encouraged parishioners to avail themselves of the various financial awards and grants available from the District Council (AMS left the meeting)
13. **Speed Indication Device:** no report consequent on LK's resignation. MMJ said she had provided a briefing paper when LK took responsibility for this. It was suggested that PB might be willing to take this forward and HS would enquire of him
14. **Schedule of Payments:** for July 2026 and August 2026 were approved
15. **Bank Reconciliation:** for July was approved and signed. AA said he had not yet had time to deal with August
16. **Budget:** Councillors would advise AA their requirements to enable them to formulate a budget. AA would provide a report on current year expenditure against budget. HS mentioned that there were funds allocated in the budget for Councillor training. She also reported that the hourly rate of pay for Parish Clerks had been increased by the National Association of Local Authorities. It was agreed that this increase be paid
17. **Councillor Responsibilities:** HS said she was updating this in the light of changes in the council
18. **Reports:** none
19. **Tree survey:** MMJ outlined the need for a tree survey and said she had three quotes. It was agreed to commission a survey at a price not exceeding £700+VAT, contractor to be decided after consideration of quotes
20. **Mend the Gap:** HS reported that they were willing to donate a tree and plant it in a position approved by the Council
21. **Halfpenny Lane:** It was noted that the speed limit had been set at 30MPH during the road closure at Cholsey and consequential traffic diversions. It was agreed this made the lane safer

and AA was instructed to contact County Councillor Johnny Hope-Smith to see if such a speed limit could be introduced by the Highways Authority on a permanent basis

22. **Green Spaces:** The wild flower meadow had been cut and the cuttings left in place for two weeks for ecological reasons but would then be removed. MMJ's paper on staffing resources was given preliminary consideration and it was agreed to investigate whether a local resident might take on responsibility for ad hoc repairs and maintenance
23. **Playground:** MMJ reported that the repairs had been carried out other than the painting of the swings. It was agreed that expenditure of up to £400 be approved for that work. MMJ stated that there remained an issue of slipperiness which needed to be addressed and also there remained an issue with the see-saw which required extensive works. An estimate of costs would be obtained
24. **Insurance:** AA reported no response from Gallagher. There was a discussion on the wider issue of the arrangement with MPMC. AA was instructed to prepare a paper on possible alternative arrangements
25. **Allotments:** AA to revise the agreement for the Lees. AA has received draft lease from SODC which he will consider
26. **Public River Access:** the history was recited for the benefit of new Councillors and the position noted
27. **Date of next meeting ;** 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2026 at 19.30 subject to EF availability

There being no further business, the meeting then closed.