

**Minutes of Great Haseley Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 9 March 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs H Blythe, C Groves, R Sheehan, T Suter, P Woodrow, A Oughton (Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

25/120 Public Discussion / Public Questions

A resident asked about the District Council's Community Governance Review Consultation which includes a proposal to change the boundary line between Great Haseley and Thame parishes to include the industrial units, close to Thame on A418. The Clerk will send the link to the consultation.

A further resident raised several questions, some of which were able to be answered at the meeting. The resident will forward the list of questions to the Chairman who will arrange for responses to be returned by email.

25/121 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence received from Cllr Brown (Personal).

25/122 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest.

25/123 Minutes

Minutes of meeting held on 12 January 2026 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

25/124 Co-Option

The Parish Council received one application for Co-option. The applicant attended the meeting and spoke about their background and why they wanted to become a councillor.

Resolved that Louise Bird be co-opted onto the Parish Council to serve until the local elections in May 2027.

25/125 Planning

P26/S0487/HH - 52 Latchford Lane, Great Haseley, OX44 7LA

Single storey rear and side extension and a detached garage and store outbuilding.

Resolved to Object on the grounds of light pollution and height of the garage. It was noted there no overall objection to the principle of development on the site.

The response to planning application P26/S0071/FUL was noted:

P26/S0071/FUL - West Coast Haulage Land off Rycote Lane near Thame Oxfordshire OX9 2BY

Operational development, including the erection of a retaining wall, the erection of an access ramp, a change to the internal security fencing and associated hardstanding (retrospective), together with the continued use of the site for commercial storage/contractor's yard (Use Class B8).

25/126 Financial Report

Bank statements to 27 February 2026 were circulated. Balances as follows: Current Account £27,089.45, Business Reserve Account £46,204.99. Income provided from receipt of interest on Business Reserve Account. Expenditure as previously approved.

The Clerk reported that The Haseley Pub Company (HPC) is winding up and has donated the balance left in their account, £330.00, to the Parish Council. **Resolved** to transfer the donation to Ear Marked Reserves to be used towards future maintenance of the pub wall.

25/127 Payments

Resolved to approve the following payments: £85.80 Shield Maintenance Ltd (January) £85.80 Shield Maintenance (February), £20.00 Robert Beardsmore (Chairman's Board), £50.46 Parish Administration, £70.00 Oxfordshire South & Vale Citizens Advice.

Direct Debit – £0.55 Castle Water (February), £5.73 (March), £143.86 Hugo Fox Ltd (Website Hosting).

25/128 Financial and Management Risk Assessment

Resolved to **Approve** the Financial and Management Risk Assessment with the addition of the following sentence 'Councillors will be encouraged to attend trainings.'

25/129 Community Infrastructure Levy

Resolved that any identified Community Infrastructure Levy monies received by the District Council between 1 October 2025 and 31 March 2026 from development in the Parish are transferred to the Parish Council by 28 April 2026.

{Post meeting note: £8,580.00 to be transferred to the Parish Council by 28 April 2026}

25/130 Internal Audit 2025-26

The Clerk proposed that Mr Heinrich is approached to carry out the Internal Audit for 2025/26. **Resolved** to appoint Mr Heinrich as Internal Auditor for 2025/26. The Scope of Work was approved.

25/131 IT Policy

Resolved to **Approve** the IT Policy.

25/132 Back Way

A discussion took place on the quality of the surface of Back Way. Back Way is an unadopted trackway, as such residents on Back Way can improve the condition. It was suggested residents could formally approach the Council to request they consider contributing towards the cost of suitable material to fill pot holes. Item to be added to next agenda to consider quotations.

25/133 Miss Cross Field / Recreation Ground

Three quotations have been received from play equipment suppliers to replace the swing set on the recreation ground:

- a) Replace like for like including grass matting, one cradle seat swing and one flat seat swing - £8,300.00 excl. vat.
- b) Replace with wooden frame, one cradle seat swing and one flat seat swing - £2,121.00 excl. vat. plus £3,500 for grass matting. Cost of installation not included.
- c) Replace with wooden frame, one cradle seat swing, one flat seat swing and one basket swing - £8,500.00 excl. vat.

Agree to ask suppliers for the cost of supply and installation of a metal framed swing set including cradle, flat and basket seats and to find out the life expectancy between wooden and metal frame.

25/134 Village Tidy Day

Agreed to hold the annual Village Tidy Day on Saturday 25 April 2026. Cllr Woodrow to compile a list of tasks. A light lunch will be provided in the village hall.

25/135 Village Emergency Plan

The Emergency Plan, with proposed amendments in red text was circulated. **Resolved** to adopt the Emergency Plan as tabled.

25/136 Allotments

Resolved to **Approve** the Allotment Rules and Tenancy Agreement for 2026.

25/137 Projects

Public Art – District Council Public Art officer is liaising with County Highways regarding proposed village entrance gates. An application to drawdown Section 106 Public Art funding to be presented at a future meeting for approval.

Neighbourhood Plan – **Resolved** to **Approve** the submission of a Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation Application to the District Council. Once accepted the Neighbourhood Plan status changes to ‘in preparation.’ A steering committee is working on different areas of the plan and producing draft policies.

25/138 Reports from Committees / District and County Councillors

County Councillor Judith Edwards submitted her apologies.

District Councillor Georgina Heritage submitted her monthly report. Cllr Heritage today emailed parish councils with further information on grey / green belt areas.

A Joint Local Plan Procedural meeting took place on 12 February 2026. The agenda covered matters of process only, the inspectors ran through a summary of events to date. They still need to decide on next steps. The District Council proposed an indicative timeline with a preference to complete hearings in June / July 2026. The inspectors indicated they want to re-open some of the topics they heard last June. The District Council’s KC has suggested examining the Joint Local Plan in accordance with National Policy Framework (2023) paragraph 26, treating any cooperation related issues as matters of policy effectiveness and soundness.

Communications: .gov.uk website domain has been registered. Cllr Blythe to set up .gov.uk email addresses.

Environment: Hedge laying in Millennium Wood completed. 21 March set aside to carry out dead hedging. Latchford brook is a deep red colour raising resident's concerns. Cllr Sheehan to share information with River Thames Conservation Trust.

Footpaths: Landowner has replaced stiles. Anticipated cost of extending the path in churchyard by approximately 60m in length, is £7,733.00.00. Formal quote to be presented to a future meeting for discussion.

Millennium Wood: Cost of grass cutting for 2026 is expected to remain the same as 2025.

25/139 Information Exchange

Future Agenda items: Extension to churchyard path, pub wall maintenance, swing set replacement in Recreation Ground, Back Way.

Local Government Reorganisation Consultation – agreed to respond to the consultation in support of South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Council's proposal.

Community Governance Review: agreed to publicise the consultation via WhatsApp, social media and a poster on the noticeboard.

National Planning Policy Framework (Revision) – consultation closes 10 March 2026. Agreed to respond to the consultation using Campaign for Protection of Rural England's suggested responses for greenbelt protection.

25/140 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on 13 April 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
13 April 2026