

Little Milton Parish Council
Minutes of Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th October 2025

Present: Cllrs Giles Denby, Howard Harrison, Francois van der Merwe

Mrs Andrea Oughton (Parish Clerk)
Members of the public: None

Parish Forum
No items were raised

01/10/25 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs Horwell (Business), Sheppard (Personal) and Wakeling (attending District Planning meeting on behalf of the parish council).

02/10/25 Declaration of any pecuniary interests of members

Cllr van der Merwe declared an interest in planning application P25/S2724/HH as the applicant and did not take part in discussion or vote on this item.

03/10/25 Approval of Minutes

Resolved to approve the minutes of council meeting held on 10th September 2025.

04/10/25 Report by District / County Councillor

County Councillor Edwards submitted her apologies. Here is an extract from her report.

Chalgrove Airfield Proposed Development

There's been a lot of discussion about the proposed housing development at Chalgrove airfield recently. I asked for a briefing with Oxfordshire County Council's (OCC) planning team and went with Freddie van Mierlo, MP and Cllr David Turner (South Oxfordshire District Council ((SODC)), Chalgrove ward) to meet the leadership team at Martin-Baker Ltd to understand their perspective. My key takeaways from this learning are:

Martin-Baker Ltd are clear that there is no viable alternative site for their operations, and they could not easily transfer the tests that they do elsewhere. The firm is crucial to the safety of air force jets around the world, and their systems have saved hundreds of lives over the years. They genuinely do not have a "Plan B" and are planning to fight not only the planning application but also any compulsory purchase order. Freddie van Mierlo MP has secured the promise of a meeting with the Secretary of State for Defence to discuss the security implications of putting this important British company at risk.

Homes England is now clearly preparing to submit a planning application to SODC in the next few weeks and are inviting residents to a public consultation event in Chalgrove at the John Hampden Hall between 2:30 and 7pm on 22nd October. Cllrs van der Merwe and Harrison will attend the event.

District Councillor Heritage submitted her apologies, her monthly report was circulated.

05/10/25 Planning

P25/S2724/HH - The Thatched House, High Street, Little Milton, OX44 7PU

Demolition of existing single storey rear extension and erection of a new single storey extension. **Resolved to Fully Support the application.**



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P25/S1653/FUL - Haseley Trading Estate {Post meeting note}

Cllr David Wakeling spoke against the application to convert the old Countax site at Great Haseley Trading Estate to a park and ride hub for the districts' bin lorries at the District Planning Committee Meeting on 8th October 2025. Here is his report:

Little Milton, Great Milton and Great Haseley had the opportunity to voice our deep concerns with this application – for Little Milton these focussed on the traffic impact of routing all bin lorries through our village, as well as on the impact to the pumping station on the Haseley Road of adding the substantial amount of water that will arise from daily washing of 50 bin lorries.

Our District Councillor Georgina Heritage and our MP Freddie van Mierlo joined the meeting, and both spoke up to strongly support our points. However, despite this SODC, as expected, approved their own planning application so the site will go ahead.

The Planning Committee accepted that as a condition of this approval several conditions need to be applied, including on the number of vehicles that will travel through Little Milton and the times that they can enter the village.

The wording was not defined in the meeting, but we are following up with SODC to push for a condition that no waste vehicles, other than those serving the villages immediately adjacent to Little Milton, are allowed to pass through our village either on their way out in the morning or on their way back in the afternoon. This is not the only avenue that is still open.

There is still a possibility that the process followed to select this site - which is clearly in the wrong place to serve South Oxfordshire effectively and efficiently - could be challenged through Judicial Review. This will likely be a costly process. It was agreed the Parish Council could not support the challenge financially but will in every other way lend its support in seeking a Judicial Review.

06/10/25 Finance

Approval of Council Expenditure

Clerk (A Oughton): Month 7 2025/26	£303.83
Editor (R Fergusson): Month 7 2025/26	£102.80
M P Printers (October newsletter)	£308.00
BGG (grass cutting)	£150.00
HMRC (PAYE - months Jul-Sept 2025-26)	£368.00
C Turner (Winter bedding plants)	£93.00
H Harrison (Winter bedding plants)	£155.94

Direct Debit

Intuit: Accounting software October 9 th – November 9 th 2025	£19.20
Microsoft 365 Bus. Basic & Standard Accounts 1 st -31 st October 25	£18.24

Bank reconciliations circulated.



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07/10/25 Assertion 10

Assertion 10, titled 'Digital and Data Compliance' is a new requirement in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2025-26. To meet the assertion Councils must comply with five specific requirements. The Parish Council meet three of the requirements. **Resolved** to create .org.uk email addresses for all parish councillors and to adopt an IT policy.

08/10/25 IT Policy

Resolved to approve the draft IT Policy as presented.

09/10/25 MUGA

Cllr Denby has quotations for different types of goals. It was noted that metal goals are expensive, need to agree which type to purchase. It was **resolved** to apply to the County Councillor grant fund towards the cost. Cllr Horwell has a supplier to replace the backboards and nets.

10/10/25 Reports from Councillor Representatives

Recreation Ground /Open Green Space

Cllr Harrison obtaining quotations to trim the mound by the MUGA and cut the hedges along the recreation ground and the front of the village hall car park. Tree planting is planned on the mound once it is cleared.

The sycamore tree at the rear of the village shop will be reduced in size on 5th November 2025. Winter bedding plants have been purchased for all village planters.

Haseley Brook; the village does not meet the criteria for a S19 investigation (5 or more houses flooded). No decision has been made on the type of flood mitigation equipment to purchase with SODC grant funding.

11/10/25 Correspondence

Elsfield Residents Group has written to parish councils inviting them to a public meeting to stand together and demonstrate unity against the significant threat to rural communities posed by the Greater Oxford unitary option. It was agreed that Cllr van der Merwe will attend on behalf of the parish council.

12/10/25 Exchange of Information

Great Milton Parish Council is keen to pursue a Judicial Review should the District Planning Committee approve the application for Haseley Trading Estate and has asked parish councils to consider whether they can make a financial contribution towards the appointment of a King's Counsel to undertake an initial review.

13/10/25 Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th November 2025, commencing at 7.30pm at Pine Lodge.

The meeting finished at 8.05pm

Signed by:
Chairman.....



Date.....

12 Nov '25

