

Little Milton Parish Council
Minutes of Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th July 2026

Present: Cllrs Giles Denby, Ed Horwell, Adam Sheppard

Mrs Andrea Oughton (Parish Clerk)
Members of the public: Seven

Parish Forum

The Chair of Orchard Nursery provided an update on the condition of the nursery building and garden. The building has woodworm, the roof leaks during wet weather and needs to be replaced, the hard surface playground also needs to be replaced, and maintenance work carried out in the garden. The Orchard has been unsuccessful with grant funding applications so far as the work is classed as maintenance rather than capital and Little Milton is seen as an affluent area. Approximate costs are replacement roof £15-20k; playground £30k; woodworm treatment £4k.

Nursery places are oversubscribed and an OFSTED inspection is due in the autumn. If the nursery is forced to close, the building will remain empty and result in the loss of an important facility. The nursery is in dire straits and hope the Parish Council will see this as an investment. The building is owned by the nursery and built on land owned by the Parish Council. The lease runs until 2030.

It was agreed that an item is added to the agenda for the next meeting on 9th September 2026 and the nursery will obtain and share quotations for replacing the roof. It was suggested that the nursery contact District Councillor Heritage re grant funding.

Given clarification received from Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) on Quiet Lane 'modal filters' residents asked that consideration is given to placing the filter near Ditch End Farm this will return Haseley Road to a village road but allow access to the allotments, residences along Haseley Road and Blenheim Lane and Thames Water vehicles to the treatment works.

A resident asked for an update on when the Speed Indicator Signs will be installed? Councillors confirmed that since taking delivery of the signs the batteries have been charged and additional fixings purchased. The intention is to install the signs next week.

A resident of Chiltern View reported that further discussion has taken place with Airband who have completed a full review and cost assessment for an underground FTTP deployment within Chiltern View. Unfortunately, even with additional BDUK funding available, the overall cost of the project remains too high to make it commercially viable. The only feasible option to deliver FTTP to the area is through the installation of new telegraph poles.

Airband replied to the resident copying the Parish Council's Chairman and Clerk to acknowledge the importance of engaging with residents and the Parish Council to understand their position on a pole deployment which will be key in determining whether the project can progress. The resident urged the Parish Council to lobby stakeholders to support the project to fit FTTP in Chiltern View.

01/07/26 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs David Wakeling and Francois van der Merwe. Cllr Horwell Chaired the meeting.

02/07/26 Declaration of any pecuniary interests of members

No pecuniary interests were declared.

03/07/26 Approval of Minutes

Resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th June 2026.

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04/07/26 Co-Option

Following a request in June for interested parties to join the Parish Council on a co-opted basis until the elections in May 2027, the Council voted to co-opt Lucy Ireland to the Committee.

Resolved that Lucy Ireland is co-opted onto the Parish Council to serve as a Councillor until the elections in May 2027.

05/07/26 Report by District / County Councillor

County Councillor Edwards submitted her apologies.

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

06/07/26 Planning

P26/S1534/S73 - St James View (Former Site of Milton House), Gold Street, Little Milton, OX44 7FJ - Variation of condition(s) 2 (Approved plans), 7 (Surface water drainage works) and 15 (Energy efficiency measures) on planning application ref P26/S0059/S73. Removal of condition 5 (Archaeology).

The above application was **noted** with no further comment,

P26/S1815/HH & P26/S1816/LB – Frogmore, Stadhampton Road, Little Milton, OX44 7QD - Retrospective consent for three single storey extensions. Two replacement doors and two new doorways. Removal of modern internal partitions, amendments to concrete floor, installation of new kitchen.

Resolved to submit a recommendation of **No Strong Views**

07/07/26 Little Milton Village Hall

After due consideration it was **Resolved** to appoint Turne Round Gardens to replace the fencing at the entrance to the village hall car park at a cost of £799.94, funds to be taken from CIL reserves.

08/07/26 Finance

Approval of Council Expenditure

Andrea Oughton (Clerk): Month 4 2026/27	£263.51
Raymond Fergusson (Editor): Month 4 206/27	£89.00
M P Printers (July newsletter)	£308.00
C Turner (Plants)	£206.70
BGG (Grass Cutting x 2 cuts + verges)	£774.00
M K Watts (line marking running track – sports day)	£150.00
HMRC PAYE (1 st Qtr April – June 2026)	£375.20

Direct Debit

Intuit: Accounting software August 9 th – September 9 th 2026	£19.20
Microsoft 365 Bus. Basic & Standard Accounts 1 st -31 st August 2026	£18.24
Scribe; Accounting software 1 st -31 st July 2026	£39.60

Bank reconciliations circulated.

09/07/26 Reports from Councillor Representatives

MUGA – Tennis Court Windbreaks – **Resolved** to purchase windbreaks for the Tennis Courts at a cost of up to £200. Before purchasing Cllr Horwell will seek sponsorship from organisations / local companies.

Highways – Quiet Lanes Proposal – Following the last meeting Cllr van der Merwe had drafted an application and circulated it to councillors. Cllr van der Merwe had also consulted with the Chair of Great Haseley Parish Council.

JM

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Since circulating the draft application OCC had provided some clarification on how 'modal filters' work. The 'filters' provide a permanent blockage that will not allow any (local resident or not) vehicle traffic through. Locals inside a Quiet Lane will have to have an alternative vehicle access which will result in slightly longer journey times.

Unfortunately, this forces the Parish Council to rethink its approach. Designating all the Haseley Road is not an option. Careful consideration needs to be taken on where such a 'filter' is placed and needs careful co-ordination with Great Haseley Parish Council. The closest possible option is to request a "filter" just on the Little Milton side of the Little Haseley turn. This will allow Thames Water tankers to drive up to the treatment works and turn around. Residents can still access the allotments, Haseley Road and Blenheim residents can access their properties. Parents parking on Gold Street can still exit the village via Haseley Road without having to turn around in Gold Street.

Any scheme must have the support of the community and evidence submitted with the application. It was agreed that the Parish Council will provide a summary of the Quiet Lane guidelines and a potential location for a 'modal filter' past the allotments. This will be forwarded to a resident from Haseley road who will draft a questionnaire. The draft will be reviewed by the Parish Council prior to a door-to-door survey to evaluate the level of village support for the application. Haseley road residents were willing to conduct the survey.

10/07/26 Correspondence

Little Milton School has written to the Parish Council asking if there was space on public open space owned by the Parish Council to plant some Oak tree saplings grown by the children. It was agreed to write to the School suggesting that the saplings are offered to Berks, Bucks, and Oxon Wildlife Trust to be planted in the nature reserve.

11/07/26 Exchange of Information

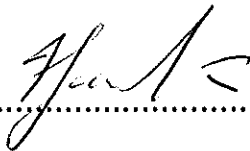
Nothing to report.

12/07/26 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 9th September 2026 in Pine Lodge. Cllr van der Merwe gave his apologies.

The meeting finished at 9pm

Signed by:
Chairman.....



Date.....

9 Sep '26

