

GREAT MILTON BULLETIN

November 2021

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Great Milton Parish Council

Chairman:	Stephen Harrod	01844 278068
Ward:	Church Road to Monckery Farm/The Priory	
Vice Chairman:	Bill Fox	01844 279716
Ward:	Thame Road, inc Fullers Field and Green Hitchings	
Councillor:	David Harms	
Ward:	The Green from Priory Bank to Tara/Applewood	
Councillor:	Clyde Deacon	01844 279242
Ward:	High Street from North End Cottage to The Old Garage	
Councillor:	George Bennett	07482 339905
Ward:	Thame Road from Green Hitchings to A329	
Councillor:	Malcolm Horsley	07970 924194
Ward:	Kings Head House/Red Roofs to Wheatley Boundary	
Councillor:	Peter Allen	01844 278334
Ward:	Milton Common	

Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Tim Darch – 01844 278347
contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk

Parish Council Representatives

Rec Ground Committee:	James Cunningham, Michele Block
Old Field Charity:	Adrian Buckmaster, David Mackrory
Hard Surface Play Area:	Susan Read, Jon Devitt
Neighbourhood Watch:	Jola Miziniak
Kent & Couling Charity:	Tricia Treanor, Simon Cronk
Sheppard Trust:	Ann Price, Pat Cox

Cover: The new wooden owl is transported to Old Field. See page xx,

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Key Contacts:

Local Governance

Oxfordshire County Council	01865 792422	Oxfordshire.gov.uk
South Oxfordshire District Council	01235 422422	Southoxon.gov.uk
County Councillor: Freddie Van Mierlo	07944 492438	steve.harrod@oxfordshire.gov.uk
District Councillor: Caroline Newton	07951 477144	caroline.newton@southoxon.gov.uk
Great Milton Parish Council		
Stephen Harrod (Chair)	01844 278068	
Tim Darch (Clerk)	01844 278347	contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk
Report potholes, fly-tipping, vandalism, broken paving		Fixmystreet.com
OCC Family Information Service	08452 262636	fis.enquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk
OCC Highways	0845 310 1111	highway.enquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Missed Bin Collection	03000 610610	admin.southoxford@biffa.co.uk
Bulky Household Waste Collection	01235 422406	waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk
SODC Housing	01235 422422	housing@southandvale.gov.uk
SODC Planning Applications	01235 422600	planning@southoxon.gov.uk

Services

Emergency - Police, Fire, Ambulance	999	
Police non-emergency	101	thamesvalley.police.uk
GP Surgery, Morland House	01865 872448	morland-house.co.uk
NHS non-emergency	111	nhs.uk
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999	nationalgrid.com/uk/safety/
Electricity Outage	0800 072 7282	sse.co.uk
Burst pipe or leak	0800 714 614	thameswater.co.uk
Floodline	0345 988 1188	gov.uk/check-flood-risk

Local information

St. Mary's Church: Rev. Simon Cronk		simon.cronk@btinternet.com
Methodist Church: Rev. John Anderson	01235 529563	
Neighbourhood Watch: Jola Miziniak	07917 676463	jolamiziniak7@gmail.com
Citizens Advice Oxfordshire	03444 111 444	caox.org.uk
The Maple Tree Children's Centre	01865 873916	mapletreecc@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Great Milton Neighbours Hall	01844 278415	
Great Milton Pavilion & Recreation Ground	01844 278116	
Great Milton Website		contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk http://www.greatmilton.co.uk
Great Milton Bulletin	01844 278347	contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk
Great Milton Primary School	01844 279388	gmilton.org
Wheatley Park School	01865 872441	www.wheatleypark.org

Transport

Comet - for people without access to suitable public transport	01865 323201	oxfordshire.gov.uk/comet
Arriva (280) Bus	0344 800 4411	arrivabus.co.uk
Oxford Tube (Buses to London)	01865 772250	oxfordtube.com
Park & Ride		oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/parkandride
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950	nationalrail.co.uk

Draft Parish Notes – October 2021

Meeting of Great Milton Parish Council, held at the Neighbours' Hall on Monday 18th October 2021 at 7.30pm.

The meeting was attended by Cllrs Steve Harrod (Chair), W Fox (Vice-Chair), P Allen, G Bennet, M Horsley and D Harms. Apologies were received in advance from Cllr C Deacon. Tim Darch (Clerk) was in attendance, along with Cllr Freddie Van Mierlo (County Councillor, Chalgrove division), Cllr Caroline Newton (SODC), Niall Kingston (Hotel Manager, Le Manoir Aux Quat'Saisons), Eveline Nioort (General Manager, Le Manoir Aux Quat'Saisons) and 23 members of the public.

Declarations of members' interest

Regarding Item 128/21A, the Chair advised that he and Cllr Fox are Chair and Vice-Chair of the Great Milton Community Pub Limited respectively, as well as being shareholders in the pub along with the majority of councillors and Belmond Group and Raymond Blanc. Following advice received from the District Monitoring Officer when the Manoir planning application was first considered, a declaration of pecuniary interest is not required for councillors who hold shares in the pub, but this is mentioned here for full transparency.

Matters to Report

Monthly reports were received from Cllr Freddie van Mierlo (County Councillor, Chalgrove division) and Cllr Caroline Newton (District Councillor, Haseley Brook ward). Both are available on the Parish Council website. Cllr Van Mierlo additionally reported the following:

- It is hoped that a new countywide 20mph policy will be approved on Tuesday 19th October. Parish Councils will receive an e-mail offering the opportunity to put themselves forward for 20mph status. The process deviates from DfT guidelines in some ways to make the process easier and more affordable for local councils. A range of criteria will be used to decide which communities get a 20mph zone: they will be selected in annual 'rounds'. The criteria may include the presence of footways and previous local requests.
- OCC's new Transport Strategy is in development, which includes a freight strategy.
- The Dodwells Solar Farm application will be objected to by OCC on archaeological grounds.

Cllr Newton additionally reported that:

- SODC's lack of five-year housing and land supply risks potentially undesirable speculative development, and two applications have already been allowed on appeal on this basis following rejection by SODC. Further updates will be

provided by Cllr Newton at future meetings.

- The Local Plan 2041 is currently at an early stage of development. Councillor Allen asked if any assessment of the success of the many previous plans had ever been conducted: Cllr Newton felt that this had probably not taken place.
- Some Afghan refugees have been accommodated in South Oxfordshire, and some Afghan children are attending the village primary school.

Correspondence and public discussion

- Advance notice of an intended planning application for replacement/improved communications equipment (including a 5G mast) at Hanks Yard, Holloway Farm, Milton Common has been received from Clarke Telecom. The Parish Council has no comment to make at this stage: the full planning application will be consulted upon as usual when received.
- A resident has reported further incidents of inconsiderate school run parking, this time at Pitts Green blocking access to Ives Gate Lane. This has been reported to the Neighbourhood Policing team: a member of the team visited the village on Monday 11 October and it is hoped that this will now become a regular event.
- A letter has been received advising that responsibility for parking enforcement is switching to Oxfordshire County Council from SODC on 1 November. Cllr Van Mierlo stated that any funds raised from enforcement will be ploughed back into roads.

Planning Applications

The following planning applications received from SODC were considered:

P21/S0343/FUL and P21/S0428/LB (Belmond Le Manoir Aux Quat'Saisons, Church Road, Great Milton OX44 7PD). Full planning permission for the erection of a new Wellness Spa, Bistro, Raymond Blanc Academy, Garden Villas, Garden Rooms, Pavilions and Storage Barns, minor extensions and alterations to the existing Grade II* Manor House, former Stables building and Staff Facilities building, new highway access, internal road and car parking areas, limited demolition and associated works. (Amended Plans and information received 14 September 2021).

Cllr Harrod opened public discussion of the amended application by thanking those who attended and noting that the Parish Council is a consultee rather than a decision-maker.

Neighbours' Hall

A concern was raised about the proximity of the deluxe garden rooms to the Neighbours' Hall, which is used for weddings and big parties, with a potential impact both on hotel guests and also on the Hall should its suitability as a venue be compromised by the need to consider hotel guests nearby where there are none at present. A representative of the Neighbours' Hall committee hoped that the hedge

around the Hall would be replanted as part of the development, to benefit both the Neighbours' Hall and Le Manoir.

Car parking

A resident felt that it was a shame to break new ground and use green space for car parking when the onus should be placed upon maintaining this, although it was understood that walking in the field will still be possible.

Scale

Several concerns were raised about the scale of development. It was suggested that considering the increase in staff numbers from 181 to 264, the lack of public transport in the village should be addressed for both the village and staff. Other world-class retreats are set in parkland: this proposal is too large for a relatively constrained location. The development involves the destruction of an ancient meadow, a dangerous access, and a site in Green Belt, while the renderings do not give a realistic impression of the development, possibly deliberately. Niall Kingston reported that the expansion would generate the capacity for an additional 60 covers.

Access from A329

The redevelopment will attract several thousand additional overnight guests per year who cannot be guaranteed to come in via the A329 access and who may use the village roads. One attendee felt that the proximity of the new A329 access to the Great Milton and Great Haseley junctions was a safety risk, and that a roundabout may have been preferable. Cllr van Mierlo reported that this had been suggested but was not considered practical by OCC as the highway authority. At this stage, the County Council feels that the current proposal is acceptable and that what is proposed is considered safer than the existing arrangement. The junction design is not final and may be refined as the plan evolves. It was also suggested that the M40 junction could be remodelled to enable on/off access in all directions, which would help to reduce vehicle movements through the village to and from Le Manoir.

Use by local residents/'inclusivity'

A resident commented that villagers should be encouraged and embraced by the new facilities, especially as they are possibly some of Le Manoir's best customers. The focus appears to be on bringing people in from outside the village, with any benefit to village residents being secondary. Although Raymond Blanc clearly has the best interests of the village at heart, Belmond has shareholders to satisfy who will not be familiar with or have an affinity with the village. It was asked how the deluxe villas and a retreat were 'inclusive'. In response Niall Kingston reported that the current restrictions on space and facilities make it hard to be inclusive: the new food offer will improve this and make it easier to book, and make dining more affordable, while the additional rooms will not

diminish the opportunities for local residents to enjoy Le Manoir.

The team from Le Manoir were disappointed to hear that residents felt excluded, and that M. Blanc would feel the same. It was reiterated that the whole team will want to work with residents to make them feel welcomed and to continue to make LMQS a part of the village, and that all comments will be taken away and will be considered.

Drainage

Concerns expressed over drainage in the previous meeting were reiterated, specifically the ability of the drainage network to cope with the new development. Councillor van Mierlo reported that OCC had no current basis for an objection on the grounds of drainage.

3D model

Several in attendance felt that a 3D model would be much more helpful and easy to understand than drawn plans, given the size and scale of the development, with some feeling that not providing one was impossible to explain. It was also suggested that the landscape document was very 'partisan,' made lots of statements which accompanied by the artists' impressions undermined its credibility, and that it was hard to understand what the development will look like from the information and illustrations provided. The representatives present from Le Manoir were unable to say why a 3D model wasn't pursued in favour of artistic renderings, but said that they would take this back to the design team.

Car parking

The planting of mature trees and hedges to immediately shield the car parking area (which was described as 'an eyesore') was suggested. Representatives from Le Manoir said that this would be fed back to the design team.

Design panel

It was suggested that the plans could be presented for review to an independent panel.

Unpleasant odours

Reports were received of smells from what was assumed to be deodorisers for rubbish: these were unpleasant now, let alone after more rubbish is generated post-expansion. Eveline Nioort reported that the smells were being investigated and that the source was still unclear.

Councillor discussion

Councillor Horsley asked if the plans currently under consideration would be altered in any way prior to consideration and decision by SODC: Niall Kingston confirmed that no changes would be made.

Councillor Bennet asked if an independent review of the plans had been considered.

Niall Kingston replied that this had not been considered so far.

Councillor Harrod summarised the objections raised in online responses so far, as follows:

- Scale and style of the proposed development
- Green Belt/Southern field development
- Traffic impact on the village
- Wastewater/water course impact
- Light pollution
- Destruction of Small Blue butterfly habitat

All will be reviewed by officers at either OCC or SODC.

In advance of a vote, Cllr Harrod outlined the options available to councillors which were to support the application, to submit a response or to object (the latter two requiring accompanying comments).

VOTE

Five councillors voted to recommend SUPPORT of the application in Great Milton Parish Council's response to SODC, with no votes against. The Chairman abstained from the vote.

In conclusion, Cllr Harrod once again thanked those present and stated that by supporting the application the Parish Council was supporting a globally recognised business in a sector severely damaged by the Covid pandemic, the further development of which will stimulate the local economy. Although the impact on the Green Belt was noted, some relaxation of measures that have been in place since the Second World War should perhaps be considered. Finally Cllr Harrod reminded attendees that the deadline for consultation responses to SODC was Friday October 22nd.

To ensure that residents' opinions and concerns are communicated to the planning authority, the above record of the discussion of the Manoir planning application item has been submitted in full to SODC as part of the Parish Council's consultation response.

To review the following planning decisions received and any outstanding planning matters.

Planning Application P21/S3915/FUL: 'Dodwells Solar Farm' (Land north of the A40 near Milton Common).

The Parish Council has been advised of the submission of a full application for the above development. Full details and documentation are available on the South Oxfordshire District Council planning application web page:

<https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P21/S3915/FUL#exactline>

Residents are encouraged to respond individually via the SODC website. An

extension to the deadline has been granted to enable the Parish Council to consider the application at its November meeting, which takes place at the Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Great Milton on Monday 15th November 2021 at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

P21/S3530/HH (Maranta Thame Road Great Milton). Hip to gable extension. Rear dormer & single storey rear extension. Planning permission is GRANTED for the development described above.

P21/S3680/HH and P21/S3681/LB (Milton Lodge Lower End Great Milton).

To raise the boundary walls and piers on the east and southern side of the property, to the same height as the existing piers and wall on the eastern boundary and install wooden gates. Planning permission is GRANTED for the development described above.

The minutes of the September meeting of the Parish Council, held on Monday 20th September 2021, were reviewed, approved and signed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Financial Resolutions

The following cheques for payment were authorised and signed:

Tim Darch. Salary, Tax and Expenses. £508.85

Jonathan Dudley. Bulletin production October. £229.80

Website hosting October (reimbursement to Clerk). £19.99

McCracken and Son. September mowing. £402

Pet Waste Solutions. Dog bin emptying July and mid-September. £43.20/£43.20

Gillett and Johnstone. October church clock service. £206.40

Shield Solutions. Dog bin emptying end September. £14.40.

The latest monthly bank reconciliation, accounts and bank statement were received, signed and approved. The reconciled bank balance as of 6th October was £50,908.71.

Parish Clerk and councillors' update of matters in hand

The Parish Clerk met with Jon Beale, Great Milton's OCC Highways representative at the end of September to discuss safety improvements at the junction of Thame Road and the A329 with particular reference to dangerous overtaking. OCC's proposals have been received: they include re-marking the circular '50' markings on the road surface, selected re-lining and adding a third 'turn in' arrow towards Milton Common (two is the norm). However despite repeated representations from the Clerk they do not propose any changes to the road markings at the junction (solid lines or otherwise). The demolished sign at the junction is scheduled to be reinstated in the week of Nov 29th: again, the Clerk has expressed dissatisfaction over the delay.

The Grove Footpath (Bull to A329) has been flailed by the owner of the adjacent field.

Exposed barbed wire in the ground at the entrances to the 'Manoir Field' opposite Ariens and at the Neighbours Hall (which may prove hazardous to dogs) has been

reported to Le Manoir.

A PCSO has visited the village and school to assess the parking situation at drop-off/pick-up times.

Priorities for the financial year 2022-23

The Parish Council's financial priorities for the coming financial year were considered. This is the initial step in the 2022-23 budget preparation process. The potential purchase of speed monitoring equipment was suggested, along with maintaining suitable sums for key items of expenditure (including grass cutting and The Bulletin), and accounting for potential cost increases (including maintenance of the church clock). A first draft budget will be considered at the November meeting.

COVID-19: update on village response/impacts

No significant local developments were raised with regard to the current pandemic.

Milton Common speed mitigation scheme update

The installation team are reportedly awaiting delivery of materials: gateways should be received relatively soon, but the steel poles for the signage may have a longer lead time.

New dog hygiene arrangements

Following a successful introductory meeting last month, Shield Solutions of Worminghall will be emptying the village dog bins on a weekly basis, starting with a three-month trial period from the end of September.

The meeting concluded at 9pm.

The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council will be held on Monday 15th November 2021 at the Pavilion, starting at 7.30pm.

Planning Application P21/S3915/FUL

'Dodwells Solar Farm'

Land north of the A40 near Milton Common.

Great Milton Parish Council has been advised of the submission of a full application for the above development. Full details and documentation are available on the South Oxfordshire District Council planning application web page:

<https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P21/S3915/FUL#exactline>

Residents are advised to ensure that their views are submitted via SODC's online facility. An extension to the deadline has been granted to enable Great Milton Parish Council to consider the application at its November meeting, which takes place at the Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Great Milton on Monday 15th November 2021. All are welcome.

Tim Darch, Clerk/RFO, Great Milton Parish Council

Jack Field is applying for the new grant of a Premises Licence for Chilworth Court, Atkins Hill, Milton Common, OX92JY

If granted the application will allow the following licensable activities to take place:

- Supply of alcohol

Any person wishing to make representations in relation to this application may do so by writing to:

Licensing Team:

South Oxfordshire District Council
135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Abingdon, OX14 4SB
01235 422556

licensing@southoxon.gov.uk

www.southoxon.gov.uk/licensing

Representations may be made for 28 consecutive days from the date of this notice.

A copy of the application for the grant of the above licence is kept by Licensing Authority at the above address. The application can be viewed Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 5pm and 8:30am to 4.30pm on Fridays.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for making a false statement is a Level 5 fine on the standard scale.

Benefice Services November

	St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton	St. James's Little Milton	St. Peter's Great Haseley
Sunday 7th		Holy Communion 9:00am	Family Worship and Baptism 10:30am
Sunday 14th <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	Holy Communion followed by a short ceremony at the Memorial 9:00am	Family Remembrance Service 6:00pm	Remembrance Ceremony at the War Memorial followed by the Remembrance Service 10:45am
Sunday 21st	Family Worship 10:30am		Holy Communion 9:00am
Sunday 28th <i>Advent Sunday</i>	Benefice Communion 10:30am		

Notes from Somewhere Near the Rectory

By Toby Garfitt

The beechwoods are a blaze of glory at this time of year. As a forester, my father looked after several wonderful beechwoods on the Chilterns, so I particularly enjoy walks that take me through them.

Trees grow leaves or needles which they regularly shed (even “evergreens”!) in order to produce healthy new growth the following year. They display different kinds of beauty as the seasons change. They communicate and cooperate with other trees around them through an intricate network of mycorrhizal filaments, and they support a huge range of living organisms. They have strong roots so that they can stand tall, and they are remarkably wind-firm. If they do blow over, or are felled, they continue to feed other forms of life, even when they are themselves dead.

Trees can help us to negotiate the storms and stresses of life, and even the painful experience of bereavement. At this time of year we think about All Saints and All Souls, and we observe Remembrance Sunday. We have just held a special Service of

Commemoration and Thanksgiving for all three villages, when people have been able to light a candle and remember in prayer those who have died. The life and death of trees can remind us of the bigger picture, of the ecosystem that continues to thrive. And just walking quietly in the woods, or “forest bathing” (shinrin-yoku) as the Japanese call it, has been shown to improve health and well-being.

The “tree of life” appears at the beginning and the end of the Bible (Genesis 2.9, Revelation 22.2), and in the second of these passages the leaves of the tree are said to be “for the healing of the nations”. The wooden cross on which Jesus died is sometimes called “the tree” (Acts 5.30). These references give a deeper meaning to the idea that trees can be good for our souls.

My mother died many years ago, in the middle of November. As I drove away from the care home that afternoon, the trees were silhouetted against a golden sunset sky. I found myself singing the verse of a hymn:

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest:
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia, alleluia!

As we enjoy the autumn leaves, and as we start to think about setting up a Christmas tree, perhaps we might reflect on the glory of trees and the blessing they can be to us, and on the meaning of the “tree of life”.

The Rector, Simon Cronk, is away

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing...

Calling all singers and would-be singers to join us at St. Mary's Church

9 Lessons and Carols Christmas Service

Sunday 19th Dec 4pm

We will be singing a couple of choir only items, as well as the congregational carols.

Rehearsals will be on 7th, 9th, 15th and 16th December 7:30pm, venue tbc and before the service itself on 19th. We are aiming for everyone to join each rehearsal, but understand it is a busy time of year, so expect attendance at 3 of the 4.

Please contact

Kate Billimore, topcopykate@btinternet.com, 07729887244 or

Alex Kirkman alexlkirkman@gmail.com, 07759441006

for more information and/or to let us know you are interested so we can ensure we have sufficient copies of the music.

Great Milton Singers

Autumn Clear Up St Mary's Church Yard 23rd October

The colours in autumn can be quite magical, as the green of summer changes to the vibrant orange and gold of the autumn: a great time to be in the open air, as indeed it was for 17 volunteers at St Mary's churchyard autumn clear up. There were the experts, there were the usual enthusiasts and most heartening of all, there were the young. Thanks are due to all, who ensured that branches were lopped, grass strimmed, beds weeded, roses pruned, leaves raked and drains cleared.

The clear up is always a worthwhile village experience, to which all are invited, all are welcome and all will be generously fed! For this we are indebted to Evelyn Joslyn and Rosamund Griffin who know how to feed workers with the delicious and palatable. We are also most grateful to Jonnie and Dudley Alden for kindly bringing their trailer into which we could pile the debris.

The next clear up will be in spring, late March or early April, and if as well as wanting to support the village, enjoying the outdoors and relishing tasty snacks you are a technophile, this is the place for you. Nowhere else is there such an impressive array of useful garden gadgetry, nor such freely given advice on a whole variety of subjects, for example home-made mincemeat, electric cars and "green" weed control. Till the spring...

Tony Jefferis

Great Milton Methodist Church Services

For further info. please contact Rev Stephen Spain on 01865 763676

November				
Date	Time	Church	Preacher	Comments
7th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Mr David Harper	
14th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Mrs Sue Barratt	
21st	11:00am	St. Mary's	Local Arrangement	
28th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Rev Stephen Spain	Holy Communion/ Advent Sunday

Methodist Church Coffee Morning

We are restarting the coffee morning on WEDNESDAY 10th NOVEMBER at 10am till 12noon. All being well we hope to hold this get together on the second Wednesday each month. Everyone will be made most welcome.



The Well On The Green

One of our historic locations is the well outside Weavers Cottage on The Green which was one of the villages main sources of water before we were connected to the main water supply in 1957.

Looking at the well today it is a bit of a sad sight and we are planning to refurbish it and possibly restore it as it was many years ago, then with a wooden surround.

We need practical help with this and are asking for any craftspeople, enthusiastic pairs of hands and someone with metalwork experience who could restore the original chain and hook from it's present rusty condition.

The picture attached is a slightly fuzzy image of what the well looked like in 1990 and there are one or two villagers who can recall how it looked then.

Can you help? If you can please contact one of us at Great Milton History.

Pat on 279300, Ian on 279489 or sally on 278992 or drop in at one of our History open days. A reminder we are now open on Saturdays: 6th and 20th November.



Remembering Allan Cox

We have been overwhelmed by the concern, the flowers, the cards, the love and friendship over the past weeks. It has been, and still is incredibly tough, but so many people have tried to help me understand the loss.

All my family were so moved by the Service, the Congregation, the Church and the memories and stories at the wake, and I know they are grateful for the help and kindness that I have received from everyone here. Sincere thanks.

PC

Senior Citizens Party Committee

The AGM will be held at The Bull on Wednesday 24th November at 8:00pm. All Welcome.

Ann Price, Secretary

Parish Council Thoughts

We are all thankful to our Parish Council (PC) for involving us public in the above Planning Application. I was though somewhat concerned by the PC's action,

The chair correctly, or incorrectly, stated on several occasions that the PC's opinion had little or no influence on the planning authority. If that is the case why do any of us think we can have any influence over these issues?

On both this occasion and that of the zoom meeting we had some months ago, we the public got it wrong and then felt the PC had voted against public opinion. The fact is that, by the evidence, the PC thought they had they made a perfectly correct decision. What was wrong was that we, the public, in both cases should have asked for a public show of hands; this would have directed the PC in the direction, right or wrong, of the public's wishes.

What I am actually saying is that it would be wrong of us (the parishioners of Great Milton) to blame the PC for their decision, if that is what we feel, as, as they saw it (the PC) and by the evidence they had gleaned they did what they thought was right. We should have asked for a show of hands; the PC would then have had a mandate from the public to vote differently. We the public then could accuse the PC of undemocratic behaviour.

Charles Peers

Neighbours' Hall

Ideas for future events please!

Following the success of the recent Jazz evening in September we are hoping to plan more musical and maybe live theatre events at the Neighbours' Hall for people to enjoy. Does anyone have any good contacts or know individuals and/or groups who would like to perform (for a fee of course).

Any suggestions/ideas please speak to any committee member or email gmneighbourshall@gmail.net

Neighbours' Hall Committee

Neighbours' Hall Book Library

Lovely to see a few people coming along to the open Book and jigsaw puzzle Library

sessions over the last couple of months. We are encouraging people to come along and borrow, swap or donate a book or two or a puzzle. Anyone visiting the Neighbours' Hall at any time is welcome to make use of the Book Library.

Our next open session is Friday 19th November 11am. We will be serving tea/coffee and cakes that morning to enjoy whilst you browse and chat. We look forward to seeing you there.

Barbara and Hazel

Our Wonderful Local History Society

Following a request from an academic in London, researching an 18th century musician, a visit to the Local History Society proved fruitful. Armed with just a name and date Pat Cox on the computer and Geoffrey Claydon on the paper records soon found the relevant parishioner and his family.

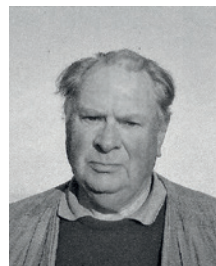
Thanks to the comprehensive gravestone survey undertaken before the pandemic we were rewarded with the exact location of the grave and the inscription. To the delight of Professor Rose we were able to show him the gravestone and give him a printout of the information.

Many thanks to Pat and Geoffrey for their help and enthusiasm.

The churchwardens

View from Views

Believe it or not both our Winter Barley and Oil Seed Rape have been planted in near perfect conditions which is promising for next harvest, the Rape has struggled a little with the Barley shed at harvest time, we think it has overcome this competition, as yet we feel it too early to plant our Winter Wheat. As winter approaches I was surprised to see a pair of swallows, as late as the end of September, maybe they think winter is not going to be so bad with Global Warming, I fear they may have a nasty shock. Noticeable lately, and especially now the crops are removed, many more Hares and Deer about all good signs, somehow there seems to be more Herons. Now as I was beginning to be a little optimistic about biodiversity, we are told that the UK has the worst Biodiversity of any country in the world, although I do not doubt this fact it is a bit soul destroying when our industry is trying



hard to rectify this fact. Of course it has to be the fault of Agriculture, no mention of development or the creation of large reservoirs. I notice recently that the “Grenoble Road” development is likely to get the go ahead, destroying green belt just as the PM has said he would protect it, something else we cannot believe, I actually do not think it such a bad idea as it is close to existing infrastructure.

I hate to return to the problem of pollution in our rivers, due in my eyes to over population. It is because of this sort of pollution we are facing further restrictions on the application of Farm Yard Manure, and human waste. These are restrictions we really do have to take seriously, as they are very valuable resources that must not be wasted they replace chemical inputs, but to restrict them too much will make them unviable to apply, if this is the case what is the alternative. I understand that in the Wye Valley there is a problem with pollution emanating from free range Chicken production, it is however a system driven/required by customer/public demand, so once again Farmers are caught between two stools! This is all part of the overpopulation picture, yet we are welcoming all comers to our shores, as we should, but can we? It of course is not just a problem of the Wye most rivers are now showing some level of pollution, we simply cannot allow this to continue.

We all know now that there is a problem within the supply chain, blamed on lack of HGV drivers, labour, and the blocking of the Suez Canal, etc. This is not to mention shortage of CO₂ (is this not the greenhouse gas we are all worried about pumping into the atmosphere?) Is it not possible to make use of the talents of the migrants, some must be HGV Drivers or butchers. In reality surely they could fill some of these gaps. This just illustrates how we have traded ourselves in to a corner, and how important a local supply chain is, as we are now at the mercy of foreign countries, some of dubious political leaning, for supply of most essentials (Railways, Water, Electricity, Gas, Fuel, Food), Thanks to Tony Blair who said about food and other products, “we can buy what we want from anywhere in the world”. Probably this is the most economical way to procure our supplies through large multinational companies, where it is impossible to make personal contact with unless one does it on line, or is prepared to wait an hour to speak on the telephone. These companies have excelled by selling us food and other commodities at a lower price than the cost of production, like lemmings everyone purchases because it is cheaper, not bothering about carbon foot print or quality/taste that we supposedly support. Does anyone know that fish sold by a large supermarket, caught in the North Sea is processed in China? We need to get back to local production and delivery so that we all know where our purchased goods are coming from. In the sixties we produced more Nuclear energy than the rest of the world now we rely on others such as EDF (owned by the French Government) I only learned, due to the gas

supply problem that all fertiliser, is produced not only by one company but that, it is US owned. Now we are told that the whole supply system has to change for a brighter future of higher wages and more skills, quality control etc; this is all very well and good, but how do we square this when in order to achieve this goal we are sacrificing 100,000 pigs, not only is it the needless slaughter of perfectly good animals, but removing food that could otherwise feed some of the poor who are worried how they are going to make ends meet. Whatever happens we will not be short of food as the supermarkets will no doubt import produce with lower welfare standards and quality logical???? Follow this with the bunkum we were fed from the party conferences where our leaders clearly do not understand where we are. Actually it is market forces that govern things rather than senseless politicians, plus statements by not just politicians but those who should know better about red meat produced in this country, as opposed to feed lots abroad. I welcomed the recent change in PM a breath of fresh air I thought, but now a breath of fresh despondency, he has lost all my confidence, plot, and whatever! He has kicked us in the teeth once too often, fancy saying all pigs have to die, that's where your bacon sarnie comes from!!! Honestly what a statement.

Charles Peers

What's Happening at The Pine Lodge, Little Milton

In November we have two events planned at the village hall to note in your calendar, the annual Fireworks and the first of our program of Quiz nights.

On Saturday 6th November at 6.00 pm we will host the Fireworks display with themed music on the recreation ground. There will be hot soup, Hot Dogs, and mulled wine to keep out the chill, and of course an open bar in the village Hall. Tickets are on sale at the Village Shop. For the safety of other spectators please do not bring your own fireworks.

At 7.00 pm on 20th November we will finally be restarting our program of very popular Quiz Nights (see the advert for details). The tickets include dinner. Tickets are also for sale as usual in the Village Shop with a discount for those bought before the event.

Regular activities in the Hall include:

Mondays at 10.30 am Yoga & Fitness with Yvonne (y.cartwright@btinternet.com)

Tuesdays at 9:30 am and Thursdays at 18.30 Keep Fit on with Alyce (alyccefwf@gmail.com)

Wednesday 9:30 am Advanced Textile on workshop with Amargeet (amarjeetnandhra@virginmedia.com)



Friday 9:30 am Yoga and Pilates with Lee (lee@grahamcaulfield.co.uk)

WI meet on 2nd Thursday of each month at 19:30 contact Kath Stacy (kathstacey@yahoo.co.uk)

Crafts meet on 3rd Wednesday of the month at 19:00 contact Kath Stacy (kathstacey@yahoo.co.uk)

Parish Council meet on 2nd Wednesday of the month. For further details contact clerk@littlemilton.org.uk

We are very happy to welcome another new member to the Village Hall Committee, Wendy Newby.

For details, news, and booking info for the Pine Lodge go to www.littlemilton.org.uk
Linda Lovegrove llinda.pinelodge@yahoo.com

Little Milton WI

In October, local artist, Eirian Griffiths ran a still life art class. She showed us how to shade to make 3D pictures and then we were let loose to attempt to draw shells, sculptures and plants. We all surprised ourselves and even made greeting cards from our art.

Our next meeting on Thursday 11th November at 7.30pm is a talk and slide show on Zanskar, Heart of the Himalayas with Carol Turner. Everyone welcome. Visitors £5 or join up for only £22 (for membership to end March 2022).

Future LMWI dates for your diary:

9 December: Gin talk & Tasting - Chalgrove Artisan Distillery

Do you live in Little Milton, Great Milton or The Haseleys, want to meet new people, make new friends? Then join Little Milton WI and meet like-minded, local women of all ages in an informal, friendly group. Please email us if you're feeling lonely, want a chat, fancy joining WI, need a lift.

We meet every 2nd Thursday of the month at 730pm in The Pine Lodge, Little Milton OX44 7PZ

Too shy to come by yourself? Contact me & I'll find you a WI buddy.

Like us at www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge

Details & news on the Pine Lodge page at www.littlemilton.org.uk

Kath Stacey 279438 or email littlemiltonwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk

Wheatley Library

Reading groups

If you've ever read a brilliant book and wanted to talk about it with someone who's read it too reading groups are for you.

Reading groups meet regularly to discuss books.

They range from a few friends getting together to more organised groups set up in libraries. They are relaxed, informal and, above all, fun.

Search www.oxfordshire.gov.uk to see what is available to start a reading group or to use the free reading group service if you are already in a group.

The documents available online include:

- reading group membership factsheet (pdf format, 81Kb)
- membership form (pdf format, 88Kb)
- Book list without synopses (pdf format, 200Kb) – there are more than 500 sets of books
- Book list with synopses (pdf format, 3Mb)

You can have up to three sets of books on loan to your group at any one time. If there is a title that you would like to read which is not on the list, you can recommend it to us and we will consider it for inclusion next time we refresh the collection.

Best

Wendy Stanton (Wheatley library manager) 01865 875267

The library is located on the upper level of the Merry Bells Village Hall.

Morland House Surgery – October 2021

Patient Participation Group (PPG) Update

This update has been prepared on 18th October 2021; events will have moved on by the time you read this.

COVID-19 Vaccination Programme Update

Booster vaccines are now being administered to eligible patients i.e., those who have had their second dose more than six months ago. Please do not contact the surgery, which will contact you to book an appointment when you become eligible. You may visit the MHS website or 111.nhs.uk for up-to-date information.

Blood Bottle Shortage

The national shortage of blood test tubes has eased, and we are booking routine blood tests. If you are due a blood test, please ring 01865 872448 to make an appointment.



2021/22 Flu Vaccination

The flu clinics are now fully booked. If you are eligible for a free vaccine, you can contact any pharmacy that provides the NHS service. If you receive a reminder text and you already have an appointment booked, you do not need to contact the surgery again to confirm.

Wheatley Pharmacy

Wheatley Pharmacy is now open on the Morland House Site. It runs alongside the dispensary. Please order your medication exactly as before. Dispensing patients should continue to pick up their medication exactly as before from our dispensary, and non-dispensing patients can pick up their medication from the pharmacy.



Photo from the Official Opening of Wheatley Pharmacy

From left: Retired Dispenser Sue Durbridge (who performed ribbon cutting duties), Dr David Copping, Pharmacist Jagtar Gill and Dr Anthony Harnden (the latter three are joint owners of Wheatley Pharmacy)

Visit Morland House Website

For up-to-date information about our services, please visit www.morland-house.co.uk

John Howell MP writes...

During the parliamentary recess that coincides with the various Party Conferences I have taken the opportunity to meet up with representatives from a number of parish councils across the constituency. It is good to be able to meet with people face to face again and I know that many people welcome this. Around the constituency I see more and more community activities restarting and events taking place.

I was also delighted that international travel has opened up and that I was able to attend the autumn session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) in person. This was the first Session for some time that the UK delegation had been able to attend in person. As Leader of the UK delegation and as a Deputy Speaker it was a great pleasure to be able to welcome to Strasbourg members of the Delegation who were making their first visit as members of the Assembly. I am sure everyone benefited from being able to attend committee meetings and plenary sessions in person and conduct the accompanying diplomacy in the corridors and coffee halls of the Parliamentary Assembly. Indeed I know from many a conversation that people returning to offices are finding the less formal contact invaluable and realise how much has been missed when this was absent.

With COP26 very close now I was pleased that in this session PACE devoted a whole day to climate change and environmental rights and it was a privilege to be able to chair part of the session. The day on this subject was divided into 3 parts. In the first part there was debate on reports on the right to a healthy environment, participative democracy in deciding climate change issues, criminal and civil liberties around climate change, and the rule of law across the whole gamut of climate change and environmental protection. In the second part, a high-level panel was convened which looked across a number of issues relating to climate change and heard from a number of experts including the UK judge at the European Court of Human Rights, the Secretary General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, the President of Hungary, the Speaker of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, the Portuguese Deputy Minister for the Environment and Climate Action. They each looked at climate change from their own perspectives. The third part of the debate examined inequalities as a result of climate issues and migration and environmental protection in the context

of climate change. Overall, the debate considered what practical actions could be taken to combat climate change and uphold environmentalism. This marked a major contribution to COP26 and recognised particularly that any one country was not going to be able to make the most of change in itself. If we want to make change we need to be working together and working cross-border.

The UK is committed to working with all countries and joining forces with civil society, companies and people on the frontline of climate change to inspire climate action ahead of COP26. The summit itself will bring parties together to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Overall in its COP26 Presidency the UK has four clear objectives:

To ask countries to commit to net zero by mid-century, with more ambitious nationally determined contribution targets for 2030;

To urgently protect and help adapt our communities and natural habitats from the destructive effects of climate change;

To increase funding to support these aims, making good on the \$100 billion annual climate finance goal affirmed through the Paris Agreement;

To close off the outstanding elements of the Paris Rulebook, and accelerate delivery of the Paris Goals through collaboration between Governments, Businesses and Civil Society.

Ultimately, these aims will allow the world to keep the prospect of limiting global temperature rises to 1.5C alive, thereby avoiding the worst of climate change damage.

There is, of course, lots more to do and much work in preparation. The Government will soon be publishing the Heat and Buildings Strategy, the Net Zero Strategy, the Net Zero Review, as well as the Biomass Strategy and Rail Environment Plan next year. For my part I want to see these being as ambitious as possible.

Brave the 'Road to Colditz'

in SOFO Museum's upcoming online event

- An Online talk streaming at 7pm on Tuesday 23rd November 2021 with a live Q&A with speakers Stuart Rolt and Thomas Hamilton-Baillie.
- Two sons tell of their fathers' hair-raising wartime experiences and numerous escapes as prisoners of war in Germany, including the infamous Colditz Castle
- Free to view on the museum website, no registration required, but donations to support the museum and future events are welcomed.

The online talk to be streamed from the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum (SOFO) website at 7pm on 23 November 2021 will tell the story of two prisoners of war, Tony Rolt and Jock Hamilton-Baillie.

Two men captured during the Fall of France in 1940 who, after several escape attempts from other POW camps, found themselves at Colditz - the infamous castle reserved for those prisoners identified as serial escapers, the most troublesome to the Nazis.

Their stories will be told by their two sons, Stuart Rolt and Thomas Hamilton-Baillie, as they recount their fathers' hair-raising wartime experiences as prisoners of war in Germany throughout World War 2.

Tony Rolt MC was a racing driver both before and after his service in the Rifle Brigade during the Second World War, awarded for bravery during the Battle of Calais just before the Dunkirk evacuation, he would be awarded again for his numerous escape attempts – perhaps most famously coming up with a plan to escape Colditz via a scratch-built glider.

John 'Jock' Hamilton-Baillie was an officer with the Royal Engineers in France from the first week of the war, part of a division that was ultimately surrounded and forced to surrender to the German general, Erwin Rommel. Like Rolt, Jock was awarded for numerous escape attempts, including schemes to both tunnel under and climb over the defences of various camps.

The two men's sons will provide an in-depth look at the planning and execution of a number of real escape attempts their fathers were involved in, the risks they ran, the penalties for failure, the privations suffered, and what imprisonment at Colditz itself was really like.

The live event can be watched freely on the museum website, no ticket or pre-registration required, but donations to support the museum's work conserving the county's military heritage, as well as running events like this one, are encouraged.

Watch online at: www.sofomuseum.org.uk/whats-on/roadtocolditz/

Past talks available at: www.sofomuseum.org.uk/whats-on/



Fireworks

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Saturday
6th November

Little Milton

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Adults £5
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Quiz Night

Saturday


20th November 2021
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News at www.littlemilton.org.uk



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Great Milton Website

Have you seen the website?
<http://www.great-milton.co.uk/>

It is important to keep it
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Janet Smith 01844 278415 for further details

www.great-milton.co.uk/community/great-milton-parish-council-18553/community-halls/



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• Full back page colour £35 or £350 per year •

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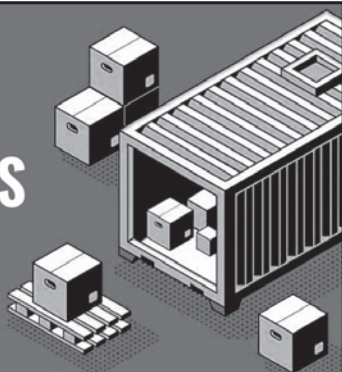
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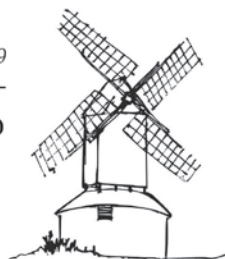
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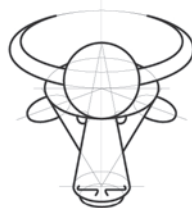
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Diary

- Monday Yoga Lizard Class – The Neighbours Hall. 9:15am
contact Hayley Bamford – 07825 794662. yogalizard.co.uk
 Arts & Crafts Club – The Pavilion. 1st Monday of each month. 6:30 – 9:00pm
contact carina.martin@gmail.com
 Fitness & Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 7:30pm – 8:45pm
contact Yvonne Cartwright – 01844 279205
- Tuesday Athletics Club. Year 8+. 6:00–7:30pm. Horspath Sports & Athletics Ground.
enquiries.gmac@gmail.com
 Bingo – Neighbours Hall. 7:45pm *contact Ann Price – 01844 279474*
- Wednesday Coffee Morning at The Methodist Chapel 10:00am – Middyay
 Fitness & Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 6:00pm – 7:15pm
- Thursday The Neighbours Club. Alternate Thursdays. *contact Janet Earl – 01844 279432*
 Sandy Lane Farm Market. 2:00pm – 6:30pm.
contact Sandy Lane Farm – 01844 279269 www.sandylanefarm.net
 Athletics Club. Year 4–7. 6:00–7:30pm. Horspath Sports & Athletics Ground.
enquiries.gmac@gmail.com
 Badminton – Great Milton School Hall. 7:00pm – 10:00pm
contact Daphne Holland – 01844 214198
 Bellringers – St. Mary's Church Tower. 7:30pm – 9:00pm
contact Pat Cox – 01844 279300. www.gm-bellringers.freeuk.com
- Friday Yoga Lizard Class – The Neighbours Hall. 9:15am
contact Hayley Bamford – 07825 794662. yogalizard.co.uk
 Toddler & Baby Group – The Pavilion. 9:30am – 11:30am
For more information contact Chrissie Wyatt – 07759 283490
- Saturday Old Field: 2nd Saturday of each month. 10:15am – 12:00pm.
Contact Alex Kirkman – 01844 278090
 GM History Archive, The Community Room, The Bull. 11:00am – 1:00pm
or by appointment
 Bingo – Neighbours Hall. 7:45pm *contact David Spiers – 01844 281345*

November

6th Sat	History Room Open at The Bull	11:00am
14th Sun	Remembrabce Sunday	—
15th Mon	Parish Council Meeting at The Pavilion	7:30pm
19th Fri	Book Library at The Neighbours Hall	11:00am
20th Sat	History Room Open at The Bull	11:00am
24th Wed	Senior Citizens Party Committee A.G.M. at The Bull	8:00pm

All copy (except adverts) to **gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk** by **20th November 2021**.

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