

Great Milton Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mr T Darch

Email: contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk

Website: www.great-milton.co.uk

**Minutes of the Meeting of Great Milton Parish Council
held on Monday 23rd July 2018 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion.**

Present: Cllrs. S Harrod (Chairman), W Fox, P Allen, G Harris, G Bennet and C Deacon.

In Attendance: Tim Darch (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

95/18 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received in advance from Cllr P Fewell.

96/18 Variation of order of business

Business was conducted as defined by the Agenda.

97/18 Declarations of member's interest (if any)

No declarations of interest were received in matters on the Agenda.

98/18 Matters to Report

The monthly County Council report and OCC Highways update were received by the Parish Council.

99/18 Correspondence and Public Discussion

A letter from a resident to John Howell MP on the subject of bus services was re-circulated to the Parish Council, along with Mr Howell's response. Cllr Harrod stated that the County Council has had to make some difficult decisions based on financial restrictions, including the complete removal of bus subsidies. Attempts to provide public transport by Heyfordian Travel (with a limited commercially-operated 103 service) and the Parish Council (with a Wednesday-only Comet service) have not succeeded due to limited use, and unfortunately there is little more that the Parish or County Council can do to force the issue. It was suggested that the Managing Directors of Stagecoach in Oxfordshire and Oxford Bus Company/Thames Travel were contacted to seek their views on any potential provision.

The Parish Council was reminded that the County Council had suggested that the road markings on The Green would be repainted in the warmer months. The Parish Clerk will pursue this.

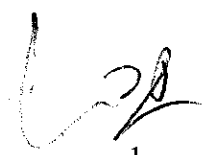
Concerns have been raised about HGV movements in the vicinity of The Yard on Thame Road, which may have contributed towards recent damage to the road surface in the area. It was agreed to discuss this matter in detail at the next meeting of the Parish Council in September.

100/18 Planning Applications

A To give consideration to the following planning applications received from SODC:
P18/S2182/FUL (Welcome Break Oxford, Thame Road, Waterstock. Extension to existing HGV park and associated works).

It was noted that the additional spaces proposed by the application may remove HGVs from the lay-bys on the A418 between the A40 and M40, near the Services. The Parish Council decided that it FULLY SUPPORTED the application as submitted.

No planning decisions have been received since the meeting on June 18th.



101/18 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 18th June 2018 were signed and agreed as an accurate record of proceedings.

102/18 Financial Resolutions

A To authorise cheques for payment:

Tim Darch. Salary, Tax and Expenses. £426.43.
Green and Growing. Grass cutting July. £1002.00.
SODC. Dog Bin emptying. £65.48.
BT. Transfer of phonebox ownership. £1.

B A full bank reconciliation was received along with the monthly accounts, and the Parish Council's bank statements were signed. The bank balance as at 21 July was £27,004.97.

C To note the conclusion of the Exercise of Public Rights period (4 June to 13 July 2018) for the Council's AGAR return. No requests to view the accounts were received during this period.

D To note that the Santander Business Account has been closed, and the final balance of £10,207.19 transferred to the Lloyds Bank current account.

103/18 Parish Clerk and Councillors' update of matters in hand

- Recent issues with mowing have been referred to the contractor, who has taken comments received relating to the quality of work on board. An improvement in the quality of mowing has been noted this month.
- Corners on Chilworth Lane where visibility was compromised by verge growth have been mown. An offer has been received from a local resident to either fund or arrange the mowing of verges on Chilworth Lane from Spring 2019: this offer was noted by the Parish Council and further discussions will be held.
- A contract for the transfer of ownership of the telephone box from BT to the Parish Council was signed at the meeting.
- A resident of Lower End has noted that vehicles are parking routinely in the bus stop, even though the bus stop is still in use by school buses. The Parish Council has referred to OCC about possible enforcement action, but their position is that enforcement is difficult with no scheduled public bus service in operation. The Parish Council will place polite notices on vehicles parking at the bus stop advising owners that the stop is still in use for school transport.
- Discussions continue with Oxfordshire County Council about the potential fencing-off of land at Milton Common which is used for informal parking.

104/18 Great Milton School: land for new modular classroom

The leases for the land upon which the new modular classroom will be located have been signed and completed: the classroom is now scheduled to be installed on Friday 27th July. The management arrangements for the tennis court now need to be addressed, as the current HSPA committee wishes to step down in its entirety as their children no longer attend the school. Cllr Fox will discuss the matter with the HSPA committee, the Friends of Great Milton School and the school itself to try and facilitate an agreement.

105/18 Auditors expenses

In lieu of expenses, Matthew Hale, the Council's Internal Auditor, has requested that an appropriate donation be made to the Oxford Animal Sanctuary on his behalf. Mr Hale's work took approximately one day. It was agreed to make a donation of £100.

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106/18 Sponsorship of Student Prizes: Wheatley Park School

Wheatley Park School is seeking sponsors for its Prize-giving event in October 2018. Each recipient receives a Book Token for £15, for which the school is seeking sponsorship. The Parish Council agreed to contribute £50 towards the awards.

107/18 Thanks to Michele Block

The Parish Council wishes to express its sincere thanks to Michele Block for standing in as Parish Clerk for two weeks: this was much appreciated and as expected Michele did a sterling job.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council will be held on Monday 17th September starting at 7.30pm in The Pavilion. The Clerk remains available if needed during the two-month hiatus between meetings.

SIGNED _____