

**Little Milton Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**Present:** Cllrs Howard Harrison, Francois van der Merwe, Adam Sheppard, David Wakeling

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

**Parish Forum**

See discussion under item 06/09/25: Flooding – Haseley Road.

**01/09/25 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs Denby and Horwell

**02/09/25 Declaration of any pecuniary interests of members**

There were no declarations of interest.

**03/09/25 Approval of Minutes**

**Resolved** to approve the minutes of the council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025.

**04/09/25 Report by District / County Councillor**

County Cllr Edwards monthly report to follow. The County Councillor Priority Fund is open for applications, with each Councillor distributing £10k of funding for community projects over two years.

The parish council raised the following points with Cllr Edwards:

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) cleared the gulleys in the village a couple of months, although there is some improvement, blockages further down the pipework need to be cleared. The narrow footpaths along the A329, used by pedestrians and parents and children going to school, get soaked by passing vehicles in wet weather. Gulleys along Haseley Road need to be cleared more than once a year as they fill with silt and debris washed down the road during heavy rainfall. The parish council agreed to gather evidence and send it to Cllr Edwards.

District Councillor Heritage had circulated her monthly report.

**05/09/25 Planning**

P25/S1653/FUL - Former Ariens Factory Site Haseley Trading Estate Great Haseley OX44 7PF – Amendment No.1

Redevelopment of the site as a Vehicle Depot retaining one of the buildings as a workshop to contain offices and welfare. Works to include all associated external works. (Amended and additional plans and information received 28 August 2025).

**Resolved to continue to Object** to the application and submit a joint response with Great Milton, Great Haseley and Stadhampton Parish Councils.

Cllr Heritage reported that a large number of individuals and the four parish councils had responded to the planning application related to Haseley Trading Estate. Oxfordshire County Council's (OCC) Highways response was poor.



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South Oxfordshire District Council (the applicant), sent a Response Letter which was terrible, the thrust being 'we don't care and are not making any substantial changes' on the back of responses received from individuals and parish councils. SODC did not address some points including traffic issues through Little Milton.

District Cllr Heritage is very disappointed that Little Milton's concerns have not been addressed. Cllr Heritage met with Freddie van Mierlo, MP and Cllr Edwards and all are of the same mind that Little Milton's objections have been ignored.

Cllr Edwards met with OCC Highways team twice; their response is that as the road through the village is classified as an 'A' road OCC will struggle with a condition to stop HGVs travelling through the village which could then be challenged on appeal. Cllr Edwards will continue to lobby Highways to try and persuade them to raise concerns in time for the Planning Committee.

Cllr Heritage will speak on behalf of Little Milton Parish Council at the Planning Committee meeting and will work on the response with Cllrs van der Merwe and Wakeling. The Parish Council thanked Cllr Heritage, as otherwise the Parish Council would not have a voice at the meeting. Cllr Wakeling attend the meeting.

The retrospective recommendation to Fully Support the following application was noted:

P25/S2236/LB – Brookside Cottage, Haseley Road, Little Milton, OX44 7QE  
Installation of three removable flood barriers

It was further noted that the District Planning Authority has granted permission for the following applications:

P25/S1917/HH - The Old Vicarage, Church Hill, Little Milton, OX44 7QB  
Alterations and replacement of existing structures with a new addition.

P25/S1495/HH - Old Belchers Farmhouse, High Street, Little Milton, OX44 7PU  
Extension from main farmhouse, works comprise of extension and connecting link structure to adjacent barn.

P25/S2236/LB - Brookside Cottage, Haseley Road, Little Milton, OX44 7QE  
Installation of 3 removable flood barriers.

**06/09/25 Flooding – Haseley Road**

A resident living on Haseley Road reported that when the road flooded a couple of weeks ago the water reached her front doorstep and asked why the ditch and culvert cannot be cleared as it was 2016. Thames Water has admitted it is responsible for clearing the brook from the front to the rear of the pumping station, approximately 30m in length. Gulleys along Haseley Road need to be cleared more than once a year as they fill with silt and debris washed down the road during heavy rainfall.

County Cllr Edwards and residents of Haseley Road will work together to gather information on flooding with the aim of raising a formal investigation into the problems.



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District Councillor Heritage will contact the District Flood Mitigation Officer and work with Cllr Edwards to get all stakeholders together for a site meeting. Cllr Heritage continues to chase Thames Water to send a representative to scope a solution for the village.

**Resolved to:** 1) gather information and submit to OCC to start a formal investigation, 2) Apply pressure on Thames Water to clear their part of the brook and, 3) lobby OCC Highways to clear the culvert.

**07/09/25 Finance**

Approval of Council Expenditure

Clerk (A Oughton): Month 6 2025/26	£263.71
Editor (R Fergusson): Month 6 2025/26	£89.00
M P Printers (August newsletter)	£308.00
M P Printers (September newsletter)	£308.00
Postage – Newsletter April – September 2025	£26.38
Moore (External Audit)	£504.00
Adexa Direct (Chillers for Shop)	£1,786.80
(to note refund of £733.20 received for chillers not supplied)	
D Wakeling (10 x bags of Bark for playarea)	£149.90

Direct Debit

Intuit: Accounting software Sept 9 <sup>th</sup> – October 9 <sup>th</sup> 2025	£19.20
Microsoft 365 Bus. Basic & Standard Accounts 1 <sup>st</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup> September 25	£18.24

Bank reconciliations circulated.

Receipt of the second half of the Precept 2025-26 was noted.

The conclusion of the External Audit (2024-25) received on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2025 was noted and the External Auditor Report and Certificate 2024-25 received.

Cash flow – information was exchanged on proposed projects to the end of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 and for 2026-27.

**08/09/25 Community Governance Review**

The Community Governance Review 2025/26 was noted with no further comment.

**09/09/25 Reports from Councillor Representatives**

Recreation Ground /Open Green Space

Cllr Harrison presented two quotations to coppice the sycamore tree at the rear of the village shop / hall. **Resolved** to accept DTC's quotation.

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) have started flood mitigation work. Cllr Harrison will provide a report at the next meeting.

Cllr Harrison continues to investigate what flood equipment to purchase using SODC's grant funding that will best serve the community together with a storage solution.

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Playground

Ten bags of bark have been purchased. Cllr Wakeling will top up bark under play equipment and store remaining bags. Need to plan to replace rotting wooden trim around the base of the shelter.

MUGA

Cllr Denby is moving forward with the online booking system.

Highways

Cllr Sheppard reported he is ready to order the Speed Indicator Device but is waiting for a response from OCC Highways to confirm the location, cost and date of installation.

**10/09/25 Correspondence**

Little Milton School have requested to use the recreation ground to hold a dog show in September. **Resolved** to allow the dog show on the condition that the recreation ground is cleared of all litter / dog mess following the event and there is no parking on the recreation ground which is soft following the recent wet weather.

**11/09/25 Exchange of Information**

Nothing to report.

**12/09/25 Date of Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025, commencing at 7.30pm at Pine Lodge.

The meeting finished at 9.30pm

Signed by:

Chairman.....



Date.....

8 Oct 2025