Moulsford Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting
held
on 22nd October at 7.30pm at Moulsford Pavilion

Minutes

Councillors Present: Hilary Shaw (Chair) (HS), Melanie Mousley Jones (MMJ), Leigh Arajuo-Phillips (LAP) Edward Fisher (EF)

Parish Clerk/ Minutes : Andrew Ashton (AA)

County Councillor present: Johnny Hope-Smith (JHS) (for part of the meeting)

Members of the Public: Julia Benning (JB) (Prospective Traffic Monitoring Lead) Preston Beamish (MPMC) Carol Beamish (MEC)

In attendance:

1. Receive Apologies for Absence: None
2. Receive Requests for Dispensations, Declarations of interest, gifts, hospitality: None
3. Minutes: the minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2026 were presented to the meeting and approved Proposed EF Seconded MMJ
4. Matters arising therefrom: it was agreed that meeting would skip this item and bring forward item on current agenda of 18 to 8 to accommodate members of the public attending the meeting.
5. District Councillor's Report: had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted
6. County Councillor's Report: had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted
7. Contributions from members of the public: JB introduced consideration of traffic safety especially at School drop off and pick up times (item 18 on the Agenda) and it was agreed to take that item
8. Highways safety: JHS explained that highways officers would need to do a technical evaluation of what steps might be taken to alleviate current (and historic) concerns. He said that funds tended to be directed to locations where there had been casualties which, for the past few years, would not include Moulsford . He also explained that available funds were limited. He encouraged the assembly of evidence of problems. There was a general discussion of the issues, most notably through traffic overtaking queueing vehicles waiting to access Moulsford Prep and, more especially, Willow Court Lane. MMJ also introduced a draft form of report of incidents which could be compiled, which was enthusiastically greeted.

   MMJ outlined what meetings with Cranford School had achieved and emphasised that the school was going to considerable lengths in its endeavour to alleviate problems caused by school traffic.

   HS commented that the Speed Indication Device at the south of the village was still not working. JHS said he thought OCC Highways might have a spare that could be installed. He also reported that a revised 30mph speed limit on Halfpenny Lane was under consideration.

MMJ asked when and where MPC should apply for planning permission for a new SID in the village. JHS said he would enquire.
(JHS and JB left the meeting)

9. Old Vicarage path to pavilion: AA reported that he had a reply that Hanning Homes solicitor was on maternity leave and a chase of her replacement had not elicited a reply yet

10. Pavillion:
    - 10.1 Relationship between Moulsford Parish Council and Moulsford Pavilion Management Committee- whilst noting that the current arrangements had served well, it was agreed that further investigation of the rationale behind the current "leasehold" arrangement was required. AA had already sought to identify a suitable advisor versed in the law relating to Parish Councils and VAT.
    - 10.2 Pavillion roof- LAP had sought 5 quotes to deal with water ingress from the roof. 2 had replied with vastly different figures. It was resolved to accept Harris Roofings quotation as the cheaper of the two quotations. Installing Solar panels was possible and, if existing "lease" was to be replaced, the roof should not form part of the demise.
    - 10.3 Parking- MMJ had circulated a document to present the pros and cons of introducing a car parking charge. It was agreed that improved signage should be installed to seek to address the problem and that the situation be kept under review.
    - 10.4 Exercise class contributions- It was agreed that the organiser of the Exercise Class and the identity of the junior football club (rumoured to be either Cholsey Bluebirds or Goring Robins) be identified and AA should then contact them with a view to securing a donation towards the maintenance cost of the Grounds.
    - 10.5 Pothole-The potholes in the parking area having been identified, AA to get quotes for repair
11. Planning Applications: One application had been notified but MPC were not invited to comment
12. Schedule of payments: The schedule of payments for September was approved
13. Bank reconciliation: The bank reconciliation for August was approved
14. Playground: The repair work had been done, and it was agreed the one further item (anti-slip strip) be repaired at a cost of £253. Whether to resurface the tarmacked area for the Basketball net was something to consider in the next year. It was agreed to accept the quotation from Infinity Playgrounds to replace the see-saw, repair being uneconomical.
15. Green Spaces: MMJ had drafted a job description for a handyman – HS said that Stuart Evers, a villager, would be suitable to fulfil that post. He had indicated that he would work on an hours plus materials basis and it was agreed that provision for this at £200 per month be included in the budget and also that a new expenditure category be introduced for tree maintenance
16. Budget: AA had circulated a first draft. MMJ had commented and it was agreed the budget for playground maintenance be revised to £4000. AA was instructed to break down as best he could the current expenditure, and all councillors were to provide comments on the budget to AA in good time for the November meeting, it being hoped that the budget could be finalised then (Note: it must be finalised by December)
17. Moulsford News: after discussion, it was agreed that the hard copy be retained
18. Training courses: Councillor Course on 3rd December for HS,LAP and EF approved, as was Confident Clerks course for AA on 19th November
19. Councillor Responsibilities: LAP to review website both for content and cost HS would circulate Councillor Responsibilities prior to November meeting

20. Reports: none
21. Date of next meetings; 12th November and 1st December
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There being no further business, the meeting then closed.