

MILTON MALSOR PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 14th April 2026
At The Village Hall, James Room. Immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting

PRESENT: Cllr Edmund James, Chairman Cllr Jerry Forskitt, Vice Chairman
Cllr Paul Heath Cllr Janet Winchester
Cllr Katie Spruels Cllr S. Garnett
Cllr Luciana Ferullo

ATTENDING: WNC Cllr Fiona Cole

IN THE CHAIR: Cllr Edmund James, the Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting reminding Councillors & Parishioners that meetings can now be recorded as long as it did not disturb the smooth running of the meeting.

1. **QUESTION TIME - for the public** None present

2. **APOLOGIES for absence (to include reasons for absence:** Cllr B. Jenks (Illness), Cllr John Walsh (Personal)

3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Interest & nature of interest to be declared.** None

4. **REPORTS FROM WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

Cllr. Fiona Cole

- Adam Smith has resigned from WNC. There is now a vacancy for a Councillor for the Hackleton & Roade Ward.
- Notice of a by-election on Thursday 7th May 2026 for a WNC Cllr for the Hackleton & Roade Ward.
- Ability Bus – service has been cancelled without explanation. Finding a replacement will take time.
- Highway problems – please send on to Cllr Cole
- Possible planning application for land North of Lower Road – comments needed

5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

These had been previously circulated and were duly proposed seconded and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

6. **MATTERS FOR REPORT – New matters & those arising from the previous Minutes:**

Highways

- Collingtree Road flooding:
 - a) Highways drainage team have confirmed that works are programmed to jet and clean both the main line drainage system and the associated gullies along Collingtree Road.
 - b) Whilst on site, the crew will also complete a flood test to validate the findings of the original investigation & determine whether any further works or additional investigations are required.
 - c) These works have been logged as a priority 4 & are currently scheduled with an expected completion date of 14th September 2026.

Lighting

- Replacement of 3 concrete lamp posts in Milton Court @ £4,202.64. Quotation & request for PC agreement to proceed sent to all members on 12th March. S106 funding to be applied for.
- Faulty uplighters are being looked at and will discuss with the electrician about bypassing the timer switch.

Environment Issues

- Weeds along the Church wall on Collingtree Road
 - a) Quote received to clear part of the overgrowth @ £100.00 to £120.00.
 - b) Members suggest weeds to be sprayed with weed killer. To note, a licence is needed to use weed killer in a public place.
 - c) Mowing contractor to undertake the work at no further cost.
 - d) Fallen trees – all now cleared.
 - e) Jitty to be cleared

Churchyard

- Footpath work – 2 contractors to be asked to meet with J. Winchester & K. Spruels on site.
- New mowing contractor has done a good job in the Churchyard.
- Green bin for Churchyard – the Clerk has contacted WNC for a bin notice to be supplied for the Churchyard.
- Burial fees to be updated
 - a) Grave burials – 1 plot remaining
 - b) Cremated remains – site needed

Grass mowing

- Contractor to strim the Jitty
- Contractor has sprayed the weeds along the Church wall, Collingtree Road, foc.

Village Park

- Small front gate in need of repairs. Gate scraping the gravel. A ‘tag’ needs to be bolted on.
- Tunnel:
 - a) 3 quotes received for repair work @ £5,800, £2,000 & £1100.
 - b) It was agreed by members to accept the lowest quote & P. Heath to agree a job specification with the contractor.
- P. Heath to arrange a park safety inspection after which the PC would discuss maintenance & repair work.
- Wetspour, matting rubber pellets & bark to be considered.

Face Book & Website – all in order**VAS – March Data****Collingtree Road**

Total No. of vehicles	22,327
Maximum speed	55 mph
AM peak	(5 days) 83, (7 days) 67
PM peak	(5 days) 74, (7 days) 65
Daily average	(5 days) 775, (7 Days) 719
Average speed	28.67 mph

Rectory Lane

Total No. of vehicles	33,768
Maximum speed	55 mph
AM peak	(5 days) 226, (7 days) 169
PM peak	(5 days) 136, (7 days) 111
Daily average	(5 days) 1293, (7 days) 1097
Average speed	26.16 mph

To note: The number of vehicles on Rectory Lane is about the same as previous months but the number for Collingtree Road has increased by around 6,000 from the January report.

Newsletter – next edition in June

Dog Warden – All good.

Flower Planters – No problems

CORRESPONDENCE – Received & Sent

Received from

1. P. Rowden – Query regarding potential sale of The Old Brewery.
2. E. Mair – Fly tipping in Gayton Road – Clerk reported incident to WNC
3. J. Winchester – query regarding ‘abandoned’ buildings in Green Street. Clerk has acknowledged & contacted the Baptist Church.
4. WNC – Ability Bus information – information forwarded to all members.
5. WNC – Crisis funding information – forwarded to all members.
6. WNC – Volunteers needed – information sent to all members
7. WNC – Crisis & Resilience Fund information sent to all members
8. WNC – Northampton has put forward a bid to become the UK’s Town of Culture for 2028. If successful, this will attract a grant of £60,000.00
9. Request to use the village park for a children’s birthday party & erect a gazebo. PC members consulted & agreed. Resident informed.

Sent to

1. J. Ashby – PC Request to cut back overhanging tree.
2. Grand Union & Amplus Housing – request for tree outside 28 Sockwell Road to be maintained. **Reply received:** PC request sent to the Estates Supervisor. As the property is privately owned Amplus will only deal with tree on the verge.
3. WNC – request for green bin sticker
4. Village Hall – arrangements for booking the James Room.

FINANCE:

Bank Balances

Current A/C Unity Trust

£6,907.72

Savings A/C Unity Trust

£18,746.37

Money Received:

Accounts to be paid:

It was proposed, seconded & resolved to pay the following invoices:

OL No.	Payee	Information	Amount	VAT	Total
	Additional payments made in March				
OL/03/08	Npower inv IN3138	Lighting supply	502.75	100.55	603.30
OL/03/09	E.ON inv 17049	Repair/refit PL	755.00	151.00	906.00
	Payments made in April				
OL/04/01	HMRC	PAYE & NI	NI:49.95	PAYE:150.00	199.95
OL/04/02	HGM LC Hedging	Grass mowing inv : 1073	415.00	83.00	498.00
OL/04/03	A. Addison (Clerk)	Salary & Expenses	600.00	98.36	698.36
OL/04/04	K. Spruels	Quarterly VAS battery charge	20.52		20.52
OL/04/05	NCALC	Membership, & fees	771.01	63.55	834.56
OL/04/06	R. Fletcher	Shelters, Memorial x 3	155.00		155.00
OL/04/07	HGM LC Hedging	Grass mowing inv.1090	415.00	83.00	498.00
OL/04/08	E. ON inv.7630	Lighting maintenance 03	253.50	50.70	304.20

Churchyard Mowing

- Invoice 26/01 @ £100.00 for 2 cuts sent to Church Wardens for payment. – received & banked

PLANNING

Application	Location	Proposal	Comments
2026/0736/DCOR	Plot 6 RFT	To seek approval of an employment scheme as required	PC comments:
2026/0737/DCOR	Plot 6 RFT	Application to discharge DCO requirements 12 & 28	PC comments
2026/1291/FUL	Holly House Green Street	1 st floor extension over existing building & a garden room replacing existing gazebo.	PC comments No objections
2026/1320/FUL	34 High Street	2 storey side ext., single storey side ext. garage conversion, & porch. Proposed material & fenestration changes	PC comments No objections

- **SEGR0 J15 SRFT**
 - a) Street Lighting S106 funding @ £420264 agreed by WNC & sent out for approval
 - b) War Memorial S106 funding @ £4835.00 agreed by WNC & sent out for approval.
- **Harworth** – No further news
- **Planning Queries:**
 - a) Unauthorised works at a listed building – WNC Ward member informed.
 - b) Residents Action Group information – ‘A call to deal with overdevelopment’
 - c) Unauthorised building on land at entrance to village travelling from Blisworth has been reported to WNC Enforcement team.
 - d) Land to the North of Lower Road – draft proposals to develop by Living Space. Team has been invited to a PC meeting. They will be attending the May 2026 PC meeting.
- **Finance Working Group**
 - a) Cllr B. Jenks & the Clerk attended a Scribe online tutorial regarding external audit matters including completing the annual AGAR.
 - b) Cllr B. Jenks & Cllr K. Spruels have been working on updating the PC policies including the Financial Regulations.
 - c) The Group (B. Jenks, J. Winchester, the Clerk) held its monthly meeting on Thursday 9th April 2026. Matters discussed included the following:
 - (i) Scribe Courses for the year/
 - (ii) PC monthly meeting venues for the 2026/2027 financial year.
 - (iii) Financial Regulations checked & finalised for members agreement on 14/4/26.

OTHER PARISH MATTERS – Clerk & Councillor’s Reports

- **Raynsford House**
 - a) Since the access to the building has been altered, the PC has been in contact with WNC, Grand Union Housing & Amplus
 - b) The Clerk has now received a pass code to gain entry for monthly PC meetings. Code checked & still unable to gain entry.
 - c) Warden has been to check & has advised making an adjustment. Cllr B. Jenks has been to check and is now working.

- d) Clerk has booked the James Room at the village hall for the 2 April meetings & advised all PC members, the WNC member & those who are giving reports to the APM of the change of venue.
- e) Clerk & B. Jenks to meet with the Manager of the overall Later Living Services which includes Raynsford House on the 1st May to discuss the future of the PC being able to use the facility.
- f) The Clerk asked to make enquiries regarding booking the James Room for the 12th May AGM.
- **NALC Report**
 - a) NJC Unions have agreed on the 2026 pay settlement @ 3.30%
 - b) Event putting Town & Parish Councils at the centre of the housing problems/solutions has taken place
 - c) Increasing responsibilities for PC's discussed
 - d) NALC has urged the Government to place county associations at the centre of local government reorganisation.
- **Register of Members Interests**
 - a) Request from WNC electoral services for 4 PC members to complete their Register of Interests – Clerk has downloaded forms to be completed. Members to return forms to Angel Square.
- **Clothing collection**
 - a) Charities to benefit from the clothing collection initiative include:
 - Baby Basics Northampton
 - The Hope Centre
 - RSPCA Northampton Branch
 - SAF Cat Rescue
 - South Northants Community Responders

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at: 10.10 pm

d) DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 12th May 2026, 7.30 pm

This will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting (AGM)

Signed:

Dated: