

# MILTON MALSOR PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026  
At Raynsford House.

**PRESENT:** Cllr Edmund James, Chairman Cllr Jerry Forskitt, Vice Chairman  
Cllr Brenda Jenks Cllr Paul Heath  
Cllr Katie Spruels Cllr Janet Winchester  
Cllr Luciana Ferullo Cllr John Walsh

**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)**  
  
S. Garnett (personal)
3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – Interest & nature of interest to be declared. None
4. **REPORTS FROM WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

**Cllr. Fiona Cole, Cllr Adam Smith** (no report received)

Cllr Cole reported the following:

- Local Plan consultation now open for comment from 29/1/26, closing at the end of March 2026. PC to check its status regarding the hierarchy of the village.
- Highway concerns. Will be listing all Ward problems to discuss with Highways.
- Milton House planning application has been called in for committee decision. No date yet for listing. There are some unresolved matters: gate pillars & house flood lighting in the conservation area.
- Anglian Water – water leakage concerns & excessive bills. Residents invited to send information to Cllr Cole,
- S106 funding – concerns to be sent to Cllr Cole. PC would like to know exactly what it can spend its money on.
- WNC Cettina Robison now the team leader for S106.
- Planning – WNC Councillors have called for action to be taken with the appalling state of the WNC planning department. The department is considered not fit for purpose.

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**

- Potholes – repairs needed are being chased. Deep holes are causing many residents severe problems. A category 4 pothole will take 26 weeks to repair.
- Flooding under the railway bridge on Collingtree Road continues. PC has found it difficult to find anyone to discuss the problems with.

### **Lighting**

- Heritage light outside 22 High Street – manufacture to be completed by 16<sup>th</sup> February for delivery to E.ON. LED gear tray to be fitted on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026
- Milton Court replacement lights – further information requested regarding type of light. To note, there is a spare lamp being held by Ford & McHugh
- Ford & McHugh have quoted £6,000 + to replace 3 lights in Milton Court. The PC found this quote unacceptable.
- PL opposite The Grange on Collingtree Road reported out of order.
- Additional paid Npower invoices to be sent to Cllr J. Forskitt (Jan. Feb. April, Nov. Dec)
- PL6, Barn Lane – has been checked but will need further work. Quote received to install a new galvanised steel bracket with E950 LED lantern @ £755.00 + VAT agreed
- War memorial lights have been replaced and are now working. Cllr J. Forskitt has adjusted them to shine on the Memorial & Millenium sign. Invoice received @ £1875.35 to be sanctioned for payment at February PC meeting.
- Lights on the Green – water in the compartments fusing the lights. There is also a problem with the timer. Cllr J. Walsh to have a look at the timer and see if he can work it out.
- Cllr J. Forskitt to draft a note about the street lighting issue for the website and Facebook.

### **Environment Issues**

- Jitty – overgrown with ivy. Now cleared by PC members. There is further work to be undertaken. The ivy is coming over the wall from land leased by Mr Treharne. Cllr E. James to contact Mr Treharne to ask if we can remove ivy and put it in the field.
- Ellis Tree work in the park – letter received asking for the invoice to be paid within 3 days unless other arrangements have been made. Clerk has responded stating invoices are sanctioned by members for payment at PC monthly meetings.
- Tree on the corner of Stockwell Road, by the post box, needs attention – Clerk to contact the housing association.

### **Churchyard**

- Footpath – contact details received of contractor who repaired the Church paths.  
Simon Ebro, SC Builders (Thrapston) Ltd, 16 Hawthorne Drive, Thrapston, NN14 4LQ  
Email: [simon.elbro@icloud.com](mailto:simon.elbro@icloud.com)  
Mob: 07828 070426
- Cllr J. Winchester to source a second contractor.

### **Grass mowing**

- Mowing Contract 2026
- 5 potential contractors were considered and discussed by members.
- It was unanimously agreed to accept the quote from LC Hedging & Grass.
- Portfolio holder, Cllr J. Walsh to contact L. Costello offering him the contract for 2026 with the possibility of a further year.
- JW to write to the unsuccessful applicants.
- WNC / Kier Urban Highway Grass Mowing for 2026
  - a) Agreement to be agreed, signed & returned to WNC.
  - b) Grant Payment for 2026 @ £1936.00
  - c) Guidance information handed to J.W. to pass onto the successful mowing contractor.

**Village Park**

- Rear Gate – quotation received for repairs @ £150.00 (R. Mackintosh) - agreed
- Hawk Pest Control – no response to request for information. Clerk to cancel the present contract. Replacement contractor needed to deal with the rabbit & mole problems.
- The tunnel – to be checked as presently it is considered to be unsafe. Cllr P. Heath to look into costs for alternatives, repair and removal and to report at the next meeting, for a decision to be made. Ask for advice from the local H&S Playground company.
- Transfer of land to PC
  - a) Request for transfer of village park land to be transferred to MMPC has been sent to WNC.
  - b) Clerk has been in touch with Duston PC who have recently had land transferred to the PC for the sum of £1.00. However, they are having second thoughts as WNC state with their land transfers to Parish Councils WNC will have the right to take back the land for £1.00 for infrastructure. Further, WNC would retain sub-soil rights & air rights.
  - c) Duston PC is currently thinking that the current lease they have offers more security than taking on the freehold with this clause in it.
  - d) It is understood that NCALC have been in discussion with WNC regarding this matter.
  - e) Clerk instructed to continue pursuing village park land transfer.

**Face Book & Website**

- Message received on Face Book regarding vehicles parking on Collingtree Road outside the village boundary. Cllr K. Spruels has passed this on to the Clerk for Collingtree PC.
- Hospital complaints group will not be posted.

**Newsletter** – items needed

**Dog Warden** – Overflowing dog waste bins – contractor has been contacted.

**Flower Planters** – No problems.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE – Received & Sent****Received from**

1. K. Trewin – has trimmed the village green edges opposite his home at his own expense. Thanks have been sent
2. RBL – Thanks received for continued support
3. Police – information received regarding safety of children.
  - a) Children as young as six are being groomed & drawn into criminal exploitation.
  - b) Look Closer Campaign
  - c) Signs a child may be at risk.
  - d) How to report concerns.
4. Police – PCSO Chris Dudley offer to visit a PC meeting or event.
5. War Memorial Inspection & cleaning information

**Sent to**

1. WNC Estates Management – Request for information regarding the sale of Fogg Cottages.. Reply received – no firm decisions at present but considering sale by auction
2. WNC Estates Management – query regarding the transfer of village park land to the PC. This is the second request made.
3. WNC – Fly tipping on Collingtree Road reported again. Now cleared
4. Duston PC – query regarding transfer of land to PC.

**8. FINANCE:**

<b>Bank Balances</b>	<b>Current A/C Unity Trust</b>	<b>£8272.50</b>
	<b>Savings A/C Unity Trust</b>	<b>£28,608.57</b>
<b>Money Received:</b>	<b>WNC – 2025 mowing grant</b>	<b>£1889.49</b>

**Accounts to be paid:**

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

<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Information</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
OL/02/01	R.C. Mackintosh (Builders)	Tree removal	40.00		40.00
OL/02/02	K. Spruels	VAS Batteries charging	20.52		20.52
OL/02/03	E. ON	Lighting maintenance	302.40	75.60	378.00
OL/02/04	A. Addison (Clerk)	Salary & Expenses	589.27	87.84	677.11
OL/02/05	Ellis Tree Services	Village Park works	1480.00	296.00	1776.00
OL/02/06	Richard Fletcher Gdn.	Shelters Pound Memorial	185.00		185.00
OL/02/07	Buckton Electrical	Lights on the Green	1875.62		1875.62
OL/02/08	HMRC	Clerk PAYE, PC NI	NI 47.95	PAYE147.40	195.35
Direct	Unity Trust	Service Charge	6.00		6.00
	<b>Total Payments</b>				<b>£5153.60</b>

**NB: The Finance Working Group** met on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Points discussed:

- February invoices checked & noted
- Preparations for the Internal auditor visit discussed
- Asset Register – All items checked and listed. Cllr J. Winchester has produced a map showing where the village public seating is located.
- Cllr J. Winchester to supply map showing where all the public seats are situated. All seats need attention, cleaning & varnishing.
- Lighting Register – updating needed – Portfolio holder, Cllr J. Forskitt to obtain
- Mole infestation in the park. Need to contact a new contractor
- Rabbits in the park – new contractor needed.
- Tunnel in the park – being ruined by youngsters riding their BMX / mountain bikes over the top of the tunnel. Concern expressed at the health & safety risk & ongoing increasing repair costs. Group suggests consideration should now be given to removing the tunnel.
- E. ON charges / invoices. Receipt of invoices does not coincide with PC meetings and therefore payment is late. Group suggests the PC agrees to pay these invoices when they are received / in between meetings. Clerk to copy all members the invoice & a minimum of three members to agree each payment.

## 9. PLANNING

<b>Application</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Comments</b>
2024/2138/MAO	Northampton South Western Expansion	361 homes & associated infrastructure. Demolition of ruinous agricultural structure	PC comments: PC has concerns & objects to the application. P. Heath to draft report

**SEGRO J15 SRFT**

- 3//2/26 liaison meeting
  - a) ANPR to be used to monitor mainly HGV traffic accessing the site
  - b) Right turns from the site are banned
  - c) Amazon will be operational from mid-May
  - d) No further tenants yet.
  - e) Milton bridge – WNC is researching ownership of the ditches etc.
  - f) SEGRO bus service promoted as reducing car journeys. This has been successful elsewhere.
  - g) It was thought the Harworth ANPR scheme was very unlikely.
  - h) The footpath will be unlit and may have dog bins. (? Who will pay for emptying them)
- SEGRO are currently progressing a planning application at a site near the village of Diseworth. Protect Diseworth Group are asking for practical help / experiences from other areas in a similar situation. Contact details requested. Cllr P. Heath has agreed & name forwarded.
- S106 form to be submitted to WNC for the War Memorial cleaning. Cllr K. Spruels to complete the form and send to Cllr E. James for checking and signing.
- **Harworth** – No update

10. **OTHER PARISH MATTERS** – Councillor’s Reports

**PC Vacancy**

- Spencer Garnett has shown interest in the position. Personal biography received & forwarded to all Members. Members to discuss. It was agreed to invite Spencer to join the Council.
- Clerk has contacted WNC.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at: 9.52pm

**11. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:**      **Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026, 7.30 pm**

**Signed:** ..... **Dated:** .....