

MILTON MALSOR PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 9th June 2026, 7.00 pm
At Raynsford House.

PRESENT: Cllr Janet Winchester, Chairman Cllr Luciana Ferullo, Vice Chairman
Cllr Brenda Jenks Cllr Paul Heath
Cllr Katie Spruels Cllr John Walsh
Cllr Ed James Cllr S. Garnett

ATTENDING:

IN THE CHAIR: Cllr Janet Winchester, 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 J. Forskitt (holiday)

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

4. **REPORTS FROM WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL** Cllrs F. Cole & L. Weston

- Planning concerns making it more difficult to object to applications
- As from 31st October 2026 District & Unitary Councillors will no longer be able to ‘call in’ an application for it to be discussed by the relevant planning committee. In future, any planning application deemed controversial by the Parish Council and supported by the Ward member who would normally ‘call in’ the application to be determined by the planning committee will, as from October need the consent of the Head of Planning (Officer) and possibly the portfolio member for planning. This is a national planning policy brought in by the Government. PC members felt this was a very undemocratic move and could see rural villages swamped by unnecessary & uncalled for housing in villages with few or any facilities such as shops, doctor’s surgery & transport links.
- The old Young’s nursery site on the Towcester Road (Kalvek) has once again been revived. Several concerns were raised including the site being prone to flooding.
- Compass Pub S215 notice sent to WNC planning enforcement – PC requested to fill in the official WNC form. Help / support requested from Ward members.

5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

These had been previously circulated and were duly proposed seconded and signed by the Chairman as a true record with the following amendments:

P333 point 4 typing error corrected

P334 point 6 typing error corrected

P335 VAS sign in Collingtree Roads not Rectory Lane was turned round

To note: Cllr Spencer Garnett will join Cllr Katie as a portfolio holder for Facebook.

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

Highways

- Request for a 20 mph speed limit through the village. To note this has been requested on a number of occasions but to no avail. Concern regarding being able to monitor the speed.

- Pot hole under the railway bridge is now repaired. Pot holes on the M1 bridge heading into Collingtree are still not repaired.

Lighting

- Light next to the thatched cottage in High Street is being obstructed by a tree in the garden. A prior request for the tree to be cut back has not been activated. Clerk to contact the house holders once again.
- Letter of thanks received from Mr & Mrs Mair regarding the new lighting in Milton Court.

Environment Issues

- 6 PC members & 2 residents formed a working party to clear ivy from the jitty. Thanks to Cllr J. Walsh for the use of his truck to transport the vegetation.
- Thanks go to Mr N. Lincoln from Green Street who also helped. Thanks also to Mr & Mrs Griffith for allowing us to dispose of the vegetation in their field for burning.

Churchyard

- Quote for footpath work:
 - a) JT Landscape Services Ltd @ £5,308.88
 - b) Artificial Lawns & Landscaping @ £7,800.00
- Cllr K. Spruels to check the two proposed specifications of works to be undertaken & report back to members for the Council to select a contractor.

Grass mowing

- Name of new Contractor has been filed
- Request from portfolio holder for Clerk to send him a list of all mowing invoices received.

Village Park

- ROSPA – confirmation of annual inspection
- PC to consider applying to WNC for the Park to become a ‘green space’.
- Tunnel work
 - a) Difficulties with contractors being resolved
 - b) Cost of repairs @ £1,500.00

Facebook & Website

- Cllr S. Garnet to join Cllr K. Spruels on the team.

Newsletter

- Latest edition delivered

Dog Warden - No issues

Footpath Warden – all in working order

Flower Planters

- Cllr J. Winchester will plant the Church planter.

VAS – Update

Collingtree Road

Total No. Vehicles:	17,940 (1,488 more than last month)
Maximum speed:	65 mph (8.24 am on 26/5/26)
AM peak:	61 (5 days), 49 (7 days)
PM peak:	57 (5 days), 50 (7 days)
Daily average:	636 (5 days), 582 (7 days)
Average Speed:	29.3 mph

Rectory Lane

Total No of vehicles:	27,842
Maximum speed:	55 mph (8.54 on 9/5/26)
AM peak:	143 (5 days), 109 (7 days)
PM peak:	97 (5 days), 81 (7 days)
Daily average:	1049 (5 days), 912 (7 days)
Average speed:	26.56 mph

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

1. Police - Open Bodies of Water Safety advice received & forwarded to all members
2. Police – Operation Stormecho community information regarding the unlawful & inappropriate use of electric scooters. Forwarded to all members.
3. E. ON – From the 2nd June 2026 E.ON UK & Npower Business Solutions companies will be changing their registered office address to Trinity House, 2 Burton Street, Nottingham, NG1 4BX. Further, E.ON UK plc intends to re-register as a limited entity & will change its name to E.ON UK Ltd.
4. Energy Roundup – information sent to all members
5. Police – Police Liaison Conference, 16/6/26, 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm
6. WNC Louise Aston, Elections Manager – Parish election recharges. WNC has agreed to charge PCs the following for elections:
 - a) Returning Officer fee for uncontested elections will remain at the current rate of £28.00 + £16.00 per Parish Ward.
 - b) Parishes will be recharged 15% of the total cost of poll cards.
 - c) The cost to each Parish will be based on electorate size.
 - d) C & E. Mair – Thanks for the new streetlights in Milton Court.
 - e) Phone call received from a resident in Church Close regarding an article in the newsletter. Who would like to register her name on the list for the need of the ‘ability bus’
7. WNC – Resident fined £600.00 for using an unlicensed waste carrier who tipped the rubbish on farmland in Weedon

Sent to

1. RMD Surfacing Ltd – Inappropriate vehicle parking in Chestnut Close
2. Highways – request for trees along Towcester Road to be cutback.

8. FINANCE:

Bank Balances	Current A/C Unity Trust	£5449.20
	Savings A/C Unity Trust	£41,521.51
Money Received:	VAT refund	£9887.88
	S106 SEGRO War memorial	£4835.00
	S106 SEGRO New streetlights	£4202.64

Accounts to be paid:

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

OL No.	Payee	Information	Amount	VAT	Total
	Invoices paid in May				
OL/05/07	Npower	Lighting supply	413.15	20.66	433.81
OL/05/08	Mr & Mrs Dupont	Flower planters supply	67.49		67.49
OL/05/09	Digital Brains	PC newsletter printing	120.60		120.60
	Invoices Paid in June				
OL/06/01	Hillery Electrical Ltd	Fix light sensor in Green	78.34	15.67	94.01
OL/06/02	HGM	Grass mowing	415.00	83.00	498.00
OL/06/03	E. ON	New lights PL36, 38, 39	4202.64	840.53	5043.17
OL/06/04	HMRC	Monthly PAYE & NI	PAYE: 150.00	NI: 49.95	199.95
OL/06/05	Barbara Osborne	Payroll Services 3 months	78.00		78.00
OL/06/06	A. Addison (Clerk)	Salary & Expenses	600.00	Exp 65.37	665.37
OL/06/07	HGM. L. Costello	Grass mowing	415.00	83.00	498.00

To Note:

- Mowing grants have been applied for from WC Kier for 2024 & 2026.

Internal Auditor's Report for 2025/2026

- Caroline Holgate, the Internal NCALC auditor met with the Clerk & Cllr B. Jenks on Friday, 29th May 2026 to audit the Parish Council's finances & statutory duties & internal controls.
- PC members read the Auditors report and resolved to accept the following comments.
- **Points raised:**
 - a) An AGAR requirement to answer no to Assertion 4 as requested by PKF Littlejohn the external auditors. This has been done.
 - b) Although the budget process was in place, and had been agreed by members in December, the budget figure was not mentioned in the minutes. PC to consider publishing the budget on the website.
 - c) The Council has established a Finance Working Group which provides effective oversight & support for the Clerk. The Groups should formally be appointed & set out its remit.
 - d) Pleased to note the Council has updated its policies, has .gov.uk email system & website.
 - e) Noted the Clerk's contract of employment and new newly agreed hours & rates of pay. Payroll is outsourced and PAYE & NI are up to date.
 - f) Insurance cover was reviewed & renewed in October
 - g) Precept was agreed in December, Risk Assessment renewed at the AGM, VAT has been reclaimed & now received.
 - h) Minutes were reviewed and following clarification no concerns were identified. However, decisions & approvals made by the Council should be more clearly recorded. Formal consideration and approval with the resolution clearly recorded.
 - i) The Asset Register – this is to be updated.
 - j) To confirm section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 of the AGAR has been approved by MMPC on 09/06/26.
 - k) To confirm section 2 - Accounting Statement 2025/26 has been approved by MMPC on 09/06/26.
- The transfer of the village park land from WNC to the PC was discussed. Like Duston PC, East Hunsbury PC where the Auditor is the Clerk, were deeply concerned about the terms of transferring land from WNC to Parish Councils. Neither Duston nor East Hunsbury PC were willing to accept the terms & conditions of the transfer deal.

9. PLANNING

Application	Location	Proposal	Comments
Ralph Branson	1 Rectory Lane	Tree works. Copper Beech (T1) to sectionally dismantle tree to ground level	No objections
2026/2198/HH	Anchor Cottage, 15 Green Street	Garage & veranda to the side – resubmission of 2023/7557/FUL & 2022/2289/FUL	No comments

Items to Note:

- a) S106 grants for War Memorial work & new street lighting received.
- b) S215 Notice has been requested to be placed on the Compass public house for the following reasons:
 - (i) The Compass is a listed building & in a very poor state of repair
 - (ii) It is situated in the Conservation area

- (iii) It is adversely affecting the amenity of the area
- (iv) It has previously been used as a cannabis factory and is in an appalling state of repair
- (v) The PC has on numerous occasions asked the owner to make the necessary repairs but to no avail
- c) P. Heath attended a Zoom meeting with WNC about the Local Plan.
 - (i) 47307 homes are needed by 2043 & 32,000 jobs.
 - (ii) 23432 of the total has not been allocated, so is the subject of the new proposals.
 - (iii) 30% of WNC population is rural & 11% of new housing will be in the rural areas.
 - (iv) 2503 houses will be needed per annum.
 - (v) There are 184,000 homes in WNC & the formula includes 0.8% growth & other factors which results in the 2503 pa
 - (vi) There are 6200 responses to the Plan indicating a lack of public awareness of what awaits us.
- d) Watering Lane, Collingtree Housing:
 - (i) It is a smallholding site for 265 houses with a further 300 more on the golf course.
 - (ii) The site hasn't been sold as yet
 - (iii) AECOM Consultants prepared 101 page marketing document with no indication of the site lay layout other than to propose a 40-60m wide noise bund bordering the M1.
 - (iv) Traffic concerns – only 4-5 cars per phase can exit the traffic lights at the Hilton but there could be 4-500 vehicles emanating from the site. Routing through Milton was highlighted.
 - (v) A shop, community centre & care home are shown in the publicity
 - (vi) The site will be offered to developers this summer with planning applications expected late 2026.
- e) Ombudsman's Final Report – complaint regarding splay at the Paddock.

10. OTHER PARISH MATTERS – Councillor's Reports

- Gate in field behind Raynsford House, next to the bungalows is hitting and damaging the residents fence – Cllr L. Ferullo & Cllr J. Welsh have made temporary repairs.

Finance Working Group

- Members: Cllr B. Jenks (lead member), Cllr J. Winchester, A. Addison (Clerk & RFO)
- Remit to oversee the PC finances, budget & recommend to Council matters involving financial issues, & oversee PC policies.
- Recommendations to be brought to full Council meetings for sanctioning.
- The above matters were agreed & resolved by the Council.

Items to note:

- Congratulations to Cllr K. Spruels & Cllr B. Jenks for their hard work on updating the PC policies.
- Clerk to seek advice on restoring the names on the War Memorial
- Village seats need cleaning. It was suggested & agreed to put an article onto the Facebook page, asking residents to help
- Emergency Plan – Clerk to contact Joanne Madams at WNC for information & advice.
- Football Club is raising funds for a new drainage system. Fund raising day on 4th July with a sponsored walk from MK Dons along the canal and to Milton Football Club.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at: 9.45 pm

11. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: **Tuesday, 14th July 2026, 7.00 pm**
Please remember there is NO meeting in August

Signed:

Dated: