# MILTON MALSOR PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 8th September 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 Jerry Forskitt | Cllr Spencer Garnett |

**ATTENDING:** 4 Parishioners, (Football Club Members), Mr Trewin, WNC Cllr Fiona Cole

**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**

- Village Park & Football Club redevelopment – Mr K. Trewin
- PC points to note
  a) Football club land owned by 4 ladies
  b) Village Park owned by WNC. PC rent annually @ £10.
  c) A Chronicle & Echo report stated that WNC had transferred the park land to MMPC. The Clerk has been in contact with WNC regarding the matter.
  d) Adjacent derelict Fogg Cottages & land owned by WNC who are hoping to sell the land for development.
  - Mr Trewin explained his proposals to join the football club to the village park with suggested road safety measures. It was felt that with a large scheme WNC highways may be more responsive.
  - Funding for the scheme – it was thought by the football club that there was funding available to them.
  - It was pointed out that the football club was negotiating its lease.
  - The VAS sign has shown there is no problem regarding the average speed along Collingtree Road passing the football club & village park sites.
  - After further discussion no conclusion was reached at this time.

2. **APOLOGIES for absence (to include reasons for absence)**

   Cllr E. James (personal), WNC Cllr L. Weston (Double booked meetings)

3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Interest & nature of interest to be declared.**

   J. Forskitt, L. Ferullo, J. Walsh – matter regarding the overgrown dry paddock and the Greyhound Planning application.

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

**Cllr F. Cole**
- New Local Plan is not completed yet. WNC is doing its best to get rural matters completed.
- To note material planning consideration are very important

**Cllr L. Weston –** Requests PC to let her know if there is anything she can help with.

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**

a) Gas pipes are being renewed throughout the village.
b) Stockwell Road appears to be sinking – PH to make a site visit.

**Lighting** – Update from portfolio holder, Cllr J. Forskitt

**Environment Issues**

- Recommended to remove the bushes on the corner of Chestnut Close & Lower Road. A working party to was decided to cut back the bushes.
- Cleaning of the village plastic seats:
  a) Original volunteer no longer able to undertake the work.
  b) New volunteers to be contacted.
  c) A Risk Assessment form completed..
  d) Refurbishment of wooden seat – R. Mackintosh to be contacted.
- Finger post in Rectory Lane needs refurbishing. WNC to be contacted.

**Churchyard**

- Footpath Contractor Update from K. Spruels
- It was agreed and resolved to accept the following quote: £5308.88 to create a new wheelchair accessible pathway & improve existing external surfaces.
- Date for work to start to be confirmed.

**Grass Mowing**

- Grass not mown. Contractors have been undertaking other work in the village due to the hot weather
- Tree work has been undertaken.

**Village Park**

- Repair work on the park – quote received from Wicksteed to include:
  a) Resurfacing under slide @ £5235.39
  b) Wetpour under seesaw @ £881.55
  c) Grass mats @ £765.80
  d) Site preliminaries @ £971.60
  e) Total cost @ £7870.36 + VAT (PC can reclaim)
- Metal storage shed for equipment storage. Costs to be sought. Discuss at the October meeting.

**Face Book & Website** no issues, nothing to report.

**VAS signs**

**Collingtree Road**

| | |
|---|---|
| Total number of vehicles | 25,017 (3716 less than last month) |
| Maximum speed | 55 mph on 3/8/26 @ 16.16 |
| AM Peak | (5 days) 85, (7 days) 67 |
| PM Peak | (5 days) 82, (7days) 72 |
| Daily average | (5 days) 900, (7 days) 821 |
| 85$^{th}$ percentage speed | 28.8 mph |
| Average speed | 23.61 mph |

**Rectory Lane**

| | |
|---|---|
| Total number of vehicles | 24,229 (3,466 less than last month) |
| Maximum speed | 55 mph on 11/8/26 @ 18.25 |
| AM peak | (5 days) 92, (7days) 72 |
| PM peak | (5 days) 75, (7days) 66 |
| Daily average | (5 days) 891, (7 days)) 796 |
| 85$^{th}$ percentile speed | 31.7 mph |
| Average speed | 26.28 mph |

**Newsletter**

- The next edition is due shortly. Delivery for end of November beginning of December.

**Dog Warden**

**Flower Planters**

- Church Planter & village hall planters: Cllr L. Ferullo
- It was discussed about moving one of the village hall planters to the entrance to the village along the Collingtree Road. This would help to identify the start of the village and hopefully slow vehicles down a little.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

**FROM:**

- B.P. Shah: The Compass Inn – request for PC comment/support for future proposals for the building. The PC has responded stating it cannot comment as planning permission will need to be sought.
- Counties Crematorium – invitation to the open day on Saturday, 3rd October 2026 from 10 am to 2 pm. PC invited to set up a stand for its charity or showcase the PC's services.
- West Northants Parish Conference 2026 for Parishes in Partnership to take place on Thursday 26th November 2026 from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm at The Forum, Towcester.
- NCALC – query if there is sufficient interest to develop a Parish Highways Representative Scheme. for a Cllr, member of staff, or community volunteer to provide a structured link between the Council, the community & WNC.
- Prestige Pipelaying – information regarding major gas works in the village to replace gas pipes.
  a) Probable start on 1/9/26
  b) Will contact customers of when their supply will be interrupted.
  c) For any resident's issues call customer services line: 08082816673
- Kevin Bergin – query regarding the sale of Fogg Cottages. The Clerk has responded stating the PC has no additional knowledge about the disposal of the cottages other than what WNC states.
- Sarah Bool MP – Community Transport – concern at termination of the Ability Bus Service.

**TO:**

- K. Marshall: PC request for the long dry grass in the paddock to the rear of Home Farm to be cut back. Surrounding residents, particularly those with thatched roofs, were concerned that due to the very hot weather, the dry grass could catch fire resulting in damage to roofs and property.
  **Reply received:** Miss Marshall states she needs agreement with her house co-owner before she can have the grass cut and that she has consulted an environment expert who states there is no urgency to cut back the overgrown dry grass. Miss Marshall also asked the PC to "mind their own business" Miss Marshall further stated she had not given the PC permission to use her email address since stepping down as a Councillor. To note, there is no record of Miss Marshall requesting the PC to remove her email address from the Parish records.
  a) To note: both residents surrounding the paddock land and the Parish Council are deeply concerned regarding the possible fire risk in particular to the several thatched properties in the vicinity
  b) The Fire Service was contacted but informed the PC that it has no enforcement powers with regard to the neglect of the paddock,

8. **FINANCE:**

**Bank Balances**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **Current A/C Unity Trust** | **£2,548.58** |
| | **Savings A/C Unity Trust** | **£31,971.38** |
| **To Note:** | **Service charge debit** | **£7.00** |

- WNC Parish Precepts for 2027/2028
  a) Current taxbase to be sent out in October

b) 2027/2028 PR1 precept request form to be returned to WNC at the beginning of January 2027
c) PC budget & precept setting no later than December 2026

**Recommendation** **Fund transfer to cover invoices** **£5,000.00**

**Accounts to be paid:**
It was proposed, seconded & resolved to pay the following invoices:

| OL No. | Payee | Information | Amount | VAT | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Accounts paid in August** | | | | |
| OL/08/01 | HMRC | NI & PAYE | NI £49.95 | PAYE 150 | 199.95 |
| OL/08/02 | Npower | Lighting | 343.50 | 17.18 | 360.68 |
| OL/08/03 | A. Addiison (Clerk) | Salary & Expenses | 600.00 | 93.26 | 693.26 |
| OL/08/04 | HGM | Grass mowing | 415.00 | 83.00 | 498.00 |
| | **Accounts paid in September** | | | | |
| OL/09/01 | HGM | Grass Mowing | 415.00 | 83.00 | 498.00 |
| OL/09/02 | A. Addison (Clerk) | Salary & Expenses | 600.00 | 90.63 | 690.63 |
| OL/09/03 | Barbara Osborne | Payroll services x 3 mth. | 78.00 | | 78.00 |
| OL/09/04 | HMRC | NI & PAYE | NI 49.95 | PAYE 150 | 199.95 |
| OL/09/05 | HGM | Grass mowing inv 1260 | 415.00 | 83.00 | 498.00 |
| OL/09/06 | Npower IN16314445 | August Street lighting | 384.08 | 19.20 | 403.28 |
| | | | | | |

9. **PLANNING**

| Application | Location | Proposal | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2026/3377/FUL | The Greyhound Public House | External alterations: New paving, a timber arbour, new flue, revise car parking layout, new posts with lanterns, associated landscaping. | PC: comments To make sure that the right of way is still in use and not obstructed in any way. |
| 2026/1320/FUL | 34 High Street | 2 storey side ext. single storey side ext. garage conversion, new boundary wall, dropped kerb, infill of porch to dwelling | WNC approval |

- **Lower Road application:**
  a) Pre-planning has been applied for
  b) Not known if it is in the new Local Plan. The Plan is still not a ‘done deal’
  c) A plan to put 50 social houses in a rural village would have to go to public consultation.
- **Fogg Cottages –** Clerk to ask WNC again what their plans are for the two dilapidated and derelict houses.
- **SEGRO J15 SRFT**
  a) Next liaison meeting on Wednesday 16/9/26
  b) S106 application – K. Spruels

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

- Applications for Clerk's post
  a) 7 applications received
  b) 3 applicants interviewed on 26/8/26 by interview panel: Cllr. J. Winchester, Cllr L. Ferullo, Cllr B. Jenks, Cllr E. James.
  c) The Clerk took notes.
  d) Interview panel unanimously agreed to recommend Gemma Hewitt to the September PC meeting for confirmation. A unanimous agreement.
  e) The Chairman would phone Gemma with the offer of the post.
  f) Cllr L. Ferullo to phone the unsuccessful candidates.
  g) The Finance & Working Group recommended the following:
     (i) Start date 1st October 2026
     (ii) A 3 month probationary period – Clerk to check with NCALC
     (iii) Starting salary @ £17.00 per hour for 10 hours per week.
     (iv) New appointee to work alongside the present Clerk during October

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at: 9.59 pm

11. **DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** **Tuesday, 13th October 2026, 7.00 pm**

**Signed:**

**Dated:**