

Great Milton Parish Council

Clerk: Jacqueline Wren

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Minutes of the meeting of Great Milton Parish Council held at the Pavilion on Monday 20th April 2026 at 7:30pm

Present: Councillors Malcolm Horsley (Chair, MH), David Harms (DH), Andrew Noble (AN) and Sarah Macmahon (SM).

In attendance: Jacqueline Wren (Clerk), Rob Cartwright (RC, GM Recreation Ground Management Committee) and 2 members of the public.

1/26 Apologies for absence
Councillor Richard Oliver

2/26 Election of a Vice-Chair
The Council voted unanimously in favour to elect Councillor David Harms as Vice Chair following the resignation of Councillor Bill Fox.

3/26 Variation of order of business: None.

4/26 Declarations of members' interests
The Chair declared a personal interest in the planning application for 'Land to the South of Thame Road' since his property is neighbouring and as such he is an individual consultee.
AN declared a business connection to the applicant for the same application.

5/26 Reports

South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) – [available online here](#).

The monthly report from District Councillor Georgina Heritage (GH) was noted.

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)

It was noted that County Councillor Judith Edwards is still on compassionate leave but hopes to return soon. Her [Annual Report](#) was noted but will be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

6/26 Correspondence and Public Discussion

Items of correspondence received were noted but there was no further discussion.

7/26 Highways

It was noted that there have been reports of people sleeping overnight in a car on the Forties. It was also noted that the potholes near the Rectory have worsened as well as those on the A329 near the Haseley turning. The Clerk noted that if residents are able to post good quality photographs as well as an accurate position on fixmystreet these problems can be addressed more quickly.

The moss on the pavements of Oxen Piece was discussed and the Council **RESOLVED** to get a quote for cleaning the pavements over the summer. Clerk to action.

8/26 Playground Update

A representative of the Recreation Ground Management Committee (RC) was present to update the Council that around £13,500 has been raised so far, including a £5000 donation from the Sheppard Trust. RC noted that new steps have been installed to the two slides. The committee are awaiting responses to their grant applications. The minimum target is £30,000, but the total needed for all the work is likely to be higher. The GMRGMC are currently prioritizing the forthcoming Croquet Tournament on 9th May. The recent Quiz raised £900 and also promoted further donations to the GoFundMe page.

The Council agreed unreservedly that the renewal of the playground is a priority for the Great Milton community as it is such an important amenity for local families, including those from the school. The Council **RESOLVED** to donate £4000 to the playground funds. It was also suggested that the Council could pay for the repair to the zip line directly as part of this amount. Clerk to liaise with GMRGMC.

9/26 Planning Applications: The following planning applications were discussed.

P26/S0687/FUL

Fairview, Old London Rd, Milton Common OX9 2JR

Proposed 6 self build units.

- No Great Milton residents in this area. No concerns.

P26/S0654/FUL

Land to the South of Thame Road, Great Milton, OX44 7NY

Erection of seven detached and semi-detached dwellings (including two self/custom-build dwellings) with access, parking, amenity space and associated works (application or Technical Details Consent pursuant to Permission in Principle (P25/S3043/PIP) for the erection of a minimum of five and a maximum of nine residential dwellings (of which two would be self/custom-build)).

- This development has already been granted permission in principle. Councillor MacMahon had called on residents of Thame Road to ask their feelings on the development. She noted that a few residents had significant objections and have already submitted their comments directly on the planning portal. Most residents felt that development of some sort was inevitable and these plans were better than others could be. The Council agreed that more housing is needed but were disappointed it would not be more affordable. Overall the Council felt similarly to residents that they would rather the land is not developed but given recent trends in planning it seems inevitable and these particular plans are sympathetic to the character of the village and the applicant has historically carried out projects to a high standard. The Council **RESOLVED to support** application with the condition that the developer should facilitate high speed broadband along the length of the Thame Road.

P26/S0894/FUL

The Sands, Stadhampton Road, Great Milton OX44 7PE

Demolition of dwelling and annexe and construction of self-build dwelling and garage/outbuilding, with associated works.

- The applicants were in attendance at the meeting and explained that they intend to convert a currently dilapidated building into an accessible home for their young family. The neighbours are some distance away from the property and are aware and happy with the plans. The Council **RESOLVED to support** the application.

P26/S0932/FUL

Holloway Farm, Church Hill, Milton Common OX33 1GX

Construction and operation of renewable solar facility comprising ground-mounted photovoltaic solar arrays, a substation compound, a control cabin and inverter, battery compound and ancillary infrastructure, landscaping and biodiversity enhancements.

- No concerns.

The following SODC planning decisions were noted:

P26/SO400/HH

The Dell, Church Rd, Great Milton OX44 7PB

Erection of a single storey rear extension to replace the 2002 additions.

- PERMISSION GRANTED

10/26 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the 16th March 2026 were noted. They had been previously approved and signed by Councillor Bill Fox who chaired the meeting.

11/26 Finance

A The **Year End Accounts 2025-26 and Bank Reconciliation** (made up to 31st March 2026) were approved and signed.

B The following payments were authorised:

Payee	Element	Amount	Date	Minute Ref Order Agreed	Power to Spend
Shield Maintenance Ltd.	Dog waste – April 2026	£100.10	21/04/26		OSA s10
Green & Growing (John Pattisson)	Mowing – Mar 26	£585.00	21/04/26	144/25	OSA s10
Jonathan Dudley	Bulletin – Mar 26	£283.76	21/04/26		LGA s142
Jonathan Dudley	Bulletin – April 26	£283.76	21/04/26		LGA s142
Castle Water	Allotments Water	£5.73	21/04/26		SH&AA s23
Elancity	Speed indicator device and mounting pack	£2807.99	21/04/26	164/25	
Society of Local Council Clerks	Clerk's Annual Membership	£158.00	21/04/26		
Jacqueline Wren	New copy of Arnold-Baker	£149.40	21/04/26		
Gillett and Johnston	Annual Church Clock Maintenance	£228.00	21/04/26		
R Mead Skip Hire	Freecycle Skip 28/3	£210.00	21/04/26		

C The following monthly Direct Debit payments were noted;

Clerk's salary	£480.00	30/03/26
Scribe Accounts	£37.20	02/03/26
Bank Charges	£7.00	31/03/26
BT plc	£12.53	24/03/26

D Receipts – £12,000 received from SODC as first instalment of precept 2026-27
£177.29 in Bulletin Advertising income for 2025-26
CIL payment expected end of April - £737.84

12/26 Insurance

The Council discussed the insurance renewal. The coverage was reviewed last year and Zurich selected. The Council **RESOLVED** to renew with Zurich for another year (premium £396). The Council also resolved to renew for up to 3yrs if a discount is offered on the premium. Clerk to research extended term.

13/26 Recruitment of a new Clerk

DH and MH noted that they have met with two candidates and are speaking to a third tomorrow. The Council agreed that they would like the new Clerk to start in May and overlap with current Clerk for 2 months to ensure a thorough handover.

14/26 Casual Vacancy

It was noted that a Notice of Casual Vacancy has been posted today (20th April) after Councillor Fox's resignation. Following the notice period there will be two vacant councillor positions. The Chair agreed to write an article for the Bulletin and the MailChimp email with an explanation of the role and encouraging interested parties to contact him.

15/26 Actions

It was noted that the new SID still needs to be installed – MH and DH to action.

16/26 Forthcoming Dates:

- **Annual Parish Meeting** – Monday 18th May (to precede the GMPC monthly meeting) – Clerk to invite representatives from GMRGMC, Sheppard Trust, Old Field Charity, Neighbours' Hall to attend and give a report or submit a brief written report before the meeting.
- **2025-26 Audit Timeline**
 - Internal Audit (in progress)
 - Parish Council to receive Internal Audit report (18th May)
 - AGAR return to be approved and signed (18th May)
 - AGAR return and associated information submitted to External Auditor by 30th June.
 - Exercise of public rights – 30 working days in June and July: Dates to be confirmed.
 - Accounts to be approved and published/required info displayed on the website by 30th June.
 - Receipt of External Auditor's response and Notice of Completion: August.

17/26 Items for next agenda or information only

SM gave her apologies for 18th May

AN requested that Allotments be added to the next agenda

Meeting closed at 20.45

***The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council will be held on
Monday 18th May 2026 starting at 7.30pm in The Pavilion.***

***Agenda items for the May meeting are due to the Clerk by
Wednesday, 6th May.***