

Draft Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 22nd July 2025 at 8.00pm

Present:

Councillor Peter Gorman
Councillor Phil John (Chairman)
Councillor Banister
Councillor Sullivan
The Clerk
District Councillor Phil Chapman
Residents and Public – 0

Welcome and introductions

Members are reminded that this is a meeting in public, not a public meeting, and all points, questions and comments should be addressed through the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Received from District Councillor Chris Brant.

Declarations of Interest *Members are asked to declare any personal interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.*

1212 Minutes of the meeting held 27th May 2025 (previously circulated) and Matters arising.

The minutes had been circulated in advance of the Meeting. It was agreed that there were no matters arising that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

**1213 Clerks Report
Financial Statement**

The Clerk reported that 8 cheques had been raised in the period May to June 2025

796	T Banister	Mollington Matters KallKwik	99.00	In Budget
797	Thomas Fox	Grass cutting 2+3	647.20	In Budget
798	E Anstee	Internal Audit	150.00	In Budget
799	Gallagher	Insurance	675.92	In Budget
800	P John	Play bark Wickes	436.00	In Budget
801	Thomas Fox	Grass cutting 4+5	647.20	In Budget
802	Clerk	Salary	803.44	In Budget
803	HMRC	PAYE	181.20	In Budget

There was £704.44 VAT outstanding at the end of June 2025 which has not been claimed.

Taking the above into account, the expected bank balance is £23,477.56 which is reconciled to Bank statement at the 30th June 2025. This balance contains the remaining reserves of £2857.50 for Orchard Piece Community Play Area. The General Fund at the end of June stands at £20,677.30.

Resolved: To accept the financial report

The Clerk reported that a completed re-declaration of compliance for Mollington Parish Council had been sent and received by The Pensions Regulator under the Pensions Act 2008, the Notification of Public Rights period had been completed and Certificate of Exemption for the AGAR 2024/25 had been submitted before the deadline of the 30th June.

1214 Consultations

The Parish Liaison meeting was held at CDC's new offices in Castle Quay on the 11th June. It was reported that there is to be a Local Government reorganisation, decided by the Government. No timescale has been published, but CDC have been invited to submit their proposals in November. The first wave of change is likely to be in 2027, with CDC likely in 2028. Engagement with Town and Parish Councils to get views on the proposals will be held during the summer (dates on CDC website).

The change is to create one local authority for regions that delivers all of the services at county and district level – restructuring two tiers into one unitary council.

CDC proposes the creation of 2 unitary councils – Cherwell, Oxford and W Oxford, and the Vale of the White Horse and West Berks. In contrast, OCC prefers one, and Oxford City would propose 3. They need to put forward compelling and persuasive bid that will benefit residents and identify the opportunities it would bring. Key benefits of their proposal are that the regions would be the right size, and of equal economic footprints and there would be minimal disaggregation.

Although ultimately, the Government are looking to reduce the number of councillors, part of the proposal needs to keep the link between Councillors and localities.

Devolution is still on track, where the passing of the powers and funding moves from central Government to regional councils., where the mayoral strategic authority would provide a more direct link route for local representatives in Whitehall. The Devolution timeline remains unclear.

1215 Planning matters

Applications

- **25/01632/F Anita's Caravan Site OX17 1AZ** Variation of Condition 7 (use of building) of 24/00711/F - To change the wording of condition 7 to: The building hereby approved shall not be sold, leased or occupied as a separate business to the caravan site
MPC to comment in support of original wording
- **25/01604/DISC Anita's Caravan Site OX17 1AZ** Discharge of Conditions 3 (materials and finishes), 4 (tree protection scheme) and 6 (noise control) of 24/00711/F *It is recommended that MPC do not object to this application*
- **25/01593/TEL The Holloway and 25/01421/TEL Main Street** Regulation 5 Notice of Intention to Install Fixed Line Broadband Apparatus - Install 1 x 10m Light wooden pole *It is recommended that MPC do not object to this application*

Mollington Parish Council has been notified that an appeal has been made to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in respect of the above site. The appeal follows non-determination of a Planning Application at Point to Point House for a Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Use to regularise the existing use of a dwelling house.

There have also been enforcement notices served at the same address regarding the lack of planning permission for the change of use for land and buildings from agricultural to leisure (indoor riding school) and business use (Pilates and chiropractic studios). An invitation to comment will be issued once the dates of any appeals are published.

Decisions

- **25/01311/F Lavender Cottage OX17 1BQ** Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of replacement single storey rear extension in reclaimed brick *Permitted*
- **25/01203/TCA Sunnybrae OX17 1BD** Treeworks *Permitted*
- **25/01254/TCA Cannonball Cottage OX17 1BD** Treeworks *Permitted*
- **25/01080/TCA Lanscombe OX17 1AZ** Treeworks *Permitted*
- **25/00915/F Browdene OX17 1DP** Removal of pitched roof and addition of first floor to existing bungalow dwelling house *Permitted*
- **25/00384/F 9 Orchard Piece** Erection of a garden office to replace an existing shed *Refused*

1216 Councillors Reports

Councillor Banister

Councillor Banister covered the update on the planning applications under the previous agenda item. It was envisaged that the next edition of Mollington Matters would be issued around the end of October / early November.

Councillor John

It was reported that Thomas Fox was continuing with the grass cutting schedule including spraying contracted areas with herbicide.

Further emails have been sent to reinforce the need to cut the rough ground in Church Lane, OPPF (under trees) and behind Mollington Village Sign facing the Southam Road.

Awaiting Thomas Fox to revise quote for cut back / reseeding area in Church Lane

Received quote for removal works of old slide / spring rocking horse in Orchard Piece Playing Field, this was unanimously approved and accepted by the Councillors.

Tree damage on Roundhill Rd required assistance from Tony Best (PC thanks him for his support here) on removal, requested through FixMyStreet for removal of debris by Highways / CDC. Awaiting details of scheduled works by Highways for pot holes and water drainage issues on March Hill. Several emails have been issued to Highways. To date some marking up of potholes has taken place.

Village Hall

Mollington Munch celebrated its 10th anniversary with a summer buffet this was well attended (40+). Coffee mornings continue to take place.

Planned events include games and social night (2 Aug), boot sale (25 Aug), 70/80 Cocktail with disco (20 Sept), History of Mollington (18 Oct), Quiz Night (29th Nov) and Christmas Fayre (6 Dec) which will be advertised by posters throughout the village as well as on their Facebook page.

Councillor Gorman

It was reported that regular Thames Valley Police reports were received, and the link to these could be put on the website for others to view. The next Mollington Matters could also share this link.

Councillor Sullivan

Councillor Sullivan advised that there were currently no issues to report on Footpaths or Dogs, and matters concerning Village Maintenance had been covered already.

1217 Councillors Points of Interest:

Enquiries are to be made into schemes available for the placement of an EV charger in the Village Hall carpark. MPC will register an interest and will be kept up to date with any current schemes.

There is still a vacancy for a Parish Councillor – details can be found on the website, or by contacting the Clerk or one of the present Councillors.

1218 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 23rd September 2025 Mollington Village Hall at 8.00pm

Parish Council meeting closed at 9.10pm

Chairman, Mollington Parish Council