

MOLLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Draft Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 23rd September 2025 at 8.00pm

Present:

Councillor Peter Gorman
Councillor Phil John (Chairman)
Councillor Sullivan
The Clerk
District Councillor Chris Brant
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 Phil Chapman and Councillor Banister.

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.*

1219 Minutes of the meeting held 22nd July 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.

1220 Clerks Report Financial Statement

The Clerk reported that 6 cheques had been raised in the period July to August 2025

804	DM Payroll	Payroll Services	60.00	In Budget
805	MVH	Annual Village Hall Hire (7)	70.00	In Budget
806	Alan Clews	OPPA Groundworks	1200.00	In Budget
808	Thomas Fox	Grass Cutting 6+7 + herbicide	845.20	In Budget
809	P Gorman	Safety Fencing OPPA	68.05	In Budget
810	RoSPA	Play Area Safety Inspections	206.40	In Budget

£901.04 VAT has been claimed and received in August 2025. There is £195.08 VAT outstanding and not yet claimed.

Taking the above into account, the expected bank balance is £22,166.82 which is reconciled to Bank statement at the 31st August 2025. This balance contains the remaining reserves of £2857.50 for Orchard Piece Community Play Area. The General Fund at the end of August stands at £19309.32.

Resolved: To accept the financial report

1221 Consultations

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.

Barring no holdups in a LEVI (local electric vehicle infrastructure fund) procurement process that should be concluding shortly, OCC is hoping to open applications for those interested in an EV Microhub towards the later part of this year. Mollington has been added to the list of interested communities.

The EV Microhub offer will facilitate 100 community sites to access a 15-year concession contract with an appointed contractor. The concession contract will be for the installation of a double-socket chargepoint serving two designated EV-charging parking bays (converted within a car park) with energy supply intended to come from the existing power supply/fuse box.

MPC will need to consider any conflict regarding the site proposed, as it appears to be Parish Council land, but using the Village Hall electricity supply.

The next Parish Liaison Committee meeting will be held online, on Wednesday 12th November.

1222 Planning matters

Applications

- **25/02265/TCA Mansion House Farm OX17 1AY** Tree works *It is recommended that MPC visit the site before deciding on any comments on this application*
- **25/02142/F The Crest, Whiteway OX17 1BL** Erection of a single storey extension *It is recommended that MPC do not object to this application*

Decisions

- **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 *Application permitted*
- **25/02074/TCA Wykham Church Lane OX17 1AZ** Willow Tree - crown lift and provide crown reduction by 20% *Application permitted*
- **25/01953 Hollybank School Hill OX17 1BL** T1 - Ash Crown reduction by approximately 4m as part of a phased project to remove over time to avoid heave. Tree in an unsuitable location. T2 - Holly Remove lateral limbs from nearby garage roof to allow 2m clearance *Application permitted*

1223 Councillors Reports

Councillor Banister

The next edition of Mollington Matters is aiming be issued around the end of October / early November and is expected to include details of the councillor vacancy and elections in May 2026, and details of a village work party WhatsApp group.

Councillor John

It was reported that Thomas Fox continued the contracted grass cutting schedule. Steps being taken to review existing scope of the grass cutting contract with a revision and tendering process to start in the next 2 weeks and hoping for valid interested parties' quotations before end of November. The scope will be based on an initial 3 years with option for a further one year extension agreed between both parties.

Oxford Highways have started to fix the potholes on Main Street, March Road as well as Lower Farm Road. Whilst not a complete resurfacing it is seen as temporary works. Correspondence with Highways has identified the PC concerns on fixing the long overdue repairs to the water drainage issues which will impact the March Road repairs once we experience heavy rains and freezing conditions. There needs to a higher level of prioritisation to close this long outstanding problem.

On site meeting to be held this week (Thursday) with OCC Trees representative to review status and condition of trees in the village to ascertain any concerns on possible tree fall due to weather conditions, especially high winds which has been experienced in the past. Whilst there has been some monies set aside for such emergency work by the PC, there are concerns that OCC / CDC needs to take a more active part in tree management.

Village Hall activities included the regular munch, coffee mornings etc. Whilst efforts were made by the VH committee to arrange several events there are concerns that little support by the general public. The recent organised disco and cocktail evening had to be cancelled due to only 14 tickets being sold and the majority were to existing committee members. Following the recent Bank Holiday car boot sale, further events planned are Mollington History talk in Oct, Quiz night in Nov, Xmas Fayre in Dec plus the ongoing coffee and munch events. Posters of these events will be distributed throughout the village and on social media.

Councillor Gorman

A number of ideas for planters that could be sited at the entrances to the village were shown, and Councillor Gorman will investigate the best and most cost efficient ways of planting these and providing ongoing maintenance.

Following reports of recent drain and gulley clearance in June, the drains throughout the village will be inspected and remapped, to compare with CDC's report.

Councillor Sullivan

Councillor Sullivan reported that the step to the stile on the path to Shotteswell became rotten and collapsed. As the stile served no purpose, the horizontal bars have been removed. If the fence around the field is ever removed, we will need to re-instate the stile. Otherwise, there are no known issues with footpaths.

There have been reports of dog fouling on Church Lane; the dog warden is to be contacted for advice on how to manage this increasing problem.

In addition to village maintenance matters reported by fellow Councillors, given the continuing flow of water down the hill on Main Street going into March Road, we have arranged for Oxfordshire County Council a salt bin is to be sited there. The bin should be delivered by the Council in October and will be sited by the entrance to the allotments or on the edge of the Green.

1224 Councillors Points of Interest:

There will be a CDC Parish Workshop specifically aimed at preparedness for flooding which will begin at 6.30pm on Thursday 16 October in the Council Chamber at Castle Quay.

1225 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 25th November 2025 Mollington Village Hall at 8.00pm

Parish Council meeting closed at 9.05pm

Chairman, Mollington Parish Council

Public Session

District Councillor Chris Brant reported that the planning application for the proposed solar farm at Hanwell was available to view on CDC's planning portal. A number of objections have already been lodged and although the closing date is soon, and MPC hasn't been consulted directly, MPC can still look at the application and respond.

He also advised that he would continue to put pressure on OCC to repair the leaking water pipes, which were noted in recent email, to be unlikely to be dealt with until the 2026/27 financial year. Blocked drain should be continued to be reported on FixMyStreet.