

Draft Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 25th November 2025 at 8.00pm

Present:

Councillor Peter Gorman
Councillor Phil John (Chairman)
Councillor Sullivan
Councillor Banister
The Clerk
Residents and Public – 3

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 Brant, District Councillor Phil Chapman

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.*

1226 Minutes of the meeting held 23rd September 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.

**1227 Clerks Report
Financial Statement**

The Clerk reported that 8 cheques had been raised in the period September to October 2025

811	Vision ICT	Website and email	199.76	In Budget
812	Thomas Fox	Grass cutting	970.80	In Budget
813	AM Best	Groundworks	400.00	In Budget
814	Clerk	Salary	803.24	In Budget
815	HMRC	Clerk's salary	181.40	In Budget
816	Thomas Fox	Grass cutting	970.80	In Budget
817	CDC	Emptying dog bins	377.52	In Budget
818	Thomas Fox	Grass cutting	647.20	In Budget

There is £527.65 VAT outstanding and not yet claimed. The final precept payment of £8673.00 was received in September.

Taking the above into account, the expected bank balance is £26,936.30 which is reconciled to Bank statement at the 30th October 2025. This balance contains the remaining reserves of £2857.50 for Orchard Piece Community Play Area. The General Fund at the end of October stands at £23,959.25.

The Council will consider items for the Budget 2026/27 ahead of submitting the Precept request to CDC in early January 2026.

Resolved: To accept the financial report

1228 Consultations

Following the item in the recent Mollington Matters, we hope to be able to co-opt a new Councillor at the January meeting.

The November PLM was held remotely and attended by over 40 councillors from across the district including the Clerk and Chairman.

Topics covered included flooding, planning and how parishes can make effective and relevant requests and representations, including a focus on Developer Contributions (s106) and obligations. how CDC must weigh and consider the requests and representations it receives, and also the Monitoring Officers report.

1229 Planning matters

Applications

- **25/02842/DISC The Crest, Whiteway OX17 1BL** Discharge of Condition 3 (stone sample panel) of 25/02142/F *It is recommended that MPC do not object to this application*
- **25/02517/TCA Ivy House Ivy Lane Mollington OX17 1FF** T1 Cherry - Cut back the north side of the cherry tree along the north boundary back to the boundary by approximately 3 metres. *It is recommended that MPC do not object to this application*

Decisions

- **25/02265/TCA Mansion House Farm OX17 1AY** Tree works *Application Permitted*
- **25/02142/F The Crest, Whiteway OX17 1BL** *Application Permitted*
- **24/03162/CLUE Barn at Point to Point Farm Mollington Banbury OX17 1QE** Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Use to regularise the existing use of a dwelling house *Appeal dismissed*

1230 Councillors Reports

Councillor Banister

Councillor Banister covered the update on the planning applications under the previous agenda item. He further reported that the Autumn edition of Mollington Matters had been prepared and distributed within the village at the end of October. This edition focussed on gaining representation on the Parish Council and the proposed Task Force, supporting the Village Hall as well as the normal topics and local information.

Councillor John

It was reported that Thomas Fox has been asked to undertake required hedge cutting as per the contract in place, this will be done in early December.

Steps have been taken to contact multiple contractors for grass / hedge cutting quotations covering required works in Mollington similar to that in place presently, in some instances on site meetings have been held to clarify scope etc. Several quotes have already been received and will be reviewed by the PC members, and a decision will be made early in 2026 with a start date in April 2026. Information provided will be used in finalisation of the 26/27 budget requirements. The new contract will cover 3 years with an option for a further one year based on agreements with both parties.

An on-site meeting is planned for 11th December 2025 with an Oxford Highways representative to view actual works undertaken on roads and drains to date and what future short / long term works are required. Some maintenance works have taken place in the last few months and some improvement on the road conditions has been seen, but the PC believes further works on road entrances to the village are required.

An onsite meeting was held in late September 2025 with an OCC Trees representative to review the 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. Clarity to a degree was provided on responsibilities between OCC and PC and we await an update from the representative on certain roadside areas where tree condition is giving concern. Further tree work can then be planned, as required.

Village Hall activities over the past two months include the successful Mollington Munch which has been well attended.

There was also a successful village history night on 18th October and there is a Quiz night to be held on 29th November. Future events include the Munch as well as Xmas Fayre on 6th December 2025, a combined organised summer fayre / Fun Dog show will be held on 16th May 2026 with the Village Hall and Church representatives involved. The planned 70/80's Disco and Cocktail Night in September was cancelled due to lack interest within the village

Regular hall bookings include Scouts, Cubs, Squirrels and Beavers and the Mollington Munch. Maintenance / operational activities are either ongoing or completed – fireproofing curtains, PAT testing of various appliances, and boiler and thermostat works have been undertaken, as well as the renewal of building & contents insurance and changing bank accounts to Co-op Bank. A note within the recent Mollington Matters raised concerns on the need to support future events otherwise the village hall will not continue to provide future facilities due to lack of funds.

Councillor Gorman

It was reported that there was an increased police presence (patrol vehicles) in the village, likely due to the recent burglaries in rural areas. Information from Thames Valley Police is available through a link on the village website.

Councillor Sullivan

The Parish Council has received reports of dog fouling in the village, notably in Church Lane. An article in the recent Mollington Matters reminded residents to clear up after their dogs. If anyone observes dog fouling that is not cleared up, they should report the matter to the Dog Warden via Cherwell District Council's website.

There are no reported issues regarding footpaths.

On village maintenance, we are chasing Oxfordshire County Council concerning the outstanding installation of a further salt bin for Main Street that was ordered in August. Although Main Street is on the main gritting route, extra grit is considered necessary at this site, as on The Holloway.

Other village maintenance matters are covered elsewhere.

1231 Councillors Points of Interest:

Another dog bin has been requested to be placed in Lower Farm Lane. It is proposed that this is purchased through CDC and installed at the bottom of Lower Farm Lane for those coming into the village from the public footpath there.

Resolved: To purchase and install a further dog bin.

1232 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 27th January 2026 Mollington Village Hall at 8.00pm

Parish Council meeting closed at 8.42pm

Public Session

As reported, the summer fayre and dog show will be held on the 16th May 2026 as a joint venture by the Village Hall committee and the Church. The first meeting will be held on the 10th January 2026.

The Parish Council fully support the fayre, and will be pleased to include details in the next edition of the Mollington Matters, as well as encouraging help on and around the day.

The Church tower restoration is currently ahead of schedule, and it is expected that the scaffolding will be removed at the beginning of December.

DRAFT