

MILTON MALSOR PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 14th January 2025
At Raynsford House.

PRESENT: Cllr Edmund James, Chairman Cllr Janet Winchester, Vice Chairman
Cllr Brenda Jenks Cllr Paul Heath
Cllr Katie Spruels Cllr Jerry Forskitt
Cllr Barry Cook

ATTENDING:

IN THE CHAIR: Mr Ed James, 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

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

Non-attendance: N. Jagger (no apologies received)

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Interest & nature of interest to be declared. None

4. REPORTS FROM WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Cllr. A. Addison, Cllr. Adam Brown, Cllr K. Cooper

Devolution Information:

- WNC held a special Council meeting on the 9th January 2025 to discuss the Government's white paper on devolution which sets out plans to create more unitary councils (WNC is already one), combined authorities, & strategic mayoral authorities.
- Devolution is used to describe the transfer of power from national to local government with a regionally elected mayor.
- WNC considered the plans and voted in favour of a show of interest in joining the first phase of the plan to consider joining with Bedford, Central Bedfordshire, Luton, Milton Keynes & North Northamptonshire.
- The final decision will be made by the new WNC council after the local elections on the 1st May 2025.
- It should be noted that neither Luton nor Milton Keynes are supporting joining up with the remaining grouping. Central Bedfordshire stated it would be happy with either the 4 way deal or 6 way deal.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

These had been previously circulated and were duly proposed seconded and signed by the Chairman as a true record with typing errors on pages 259, 260 & 261. Now corrected.

6. MATTERS FOR REPORT – New matters & those arising from the previous Minutes:

Chairman's Briefing

- Chairman, Vice Chairman & finance portfolio holder to meet with the Clerk to discuss work needed undertaking through to the end of the financial year.

Highways - The Chairman to take over this portfolio for the rest of the financial year.

- To note, there has been some remedial work done under the railway bridge on the Collingtree Road.

Lighting – J. Forskitt

- Updated list of reported out of order streetlights received
- Updated list of work completed & work to be undertaken.
- Quote received for PL15, Stockwell Road @ £310.00 + VAT - accept
- Quote for PL49, Collingtree Road @ 310.00 + VAT - accept
- PL41, Lower Road, PL48 Collingtree Road @ 310.00 + VAT - accept
- PL26 Green Street, £755.00 + VAT - accept
- Clerk to ask E. ON & Npower for copies of contracts.
- Clerk to forward copies of Npower & E. ON invoices for reference.
- J. Forskitt to make enquiries regarding cost of PC lighting charges & to make enquiries from NCALC ref purchasing less expensive electricity. It should be remembered that the Parish electricity supply is unmetered.

Village Maintenance / Environment Issues – J. Winchester

- G. Mooney cost to undertake the following work in the jitty:
 - a) To clear ground of moss, leaves, twigs etc including removing risings @ £50.00. Accepted
 - b) To clear overhanging branches & remove encroaching ivy @ £50.00. Accepted
 - c) Work can be done from the 20th January 2025.

Grass Cutting – J. Winchester

- 2025/26 & 2026/27 contract.
- Clerk to enquire for fixed charges for a 2 year contract.

Village Park

- Invoice expected for replacement tyre part for the seesaw.
- Tunnel – barrier now put around the tunnel & plans for safety work discussed.
- Concern to note that motorbikes have been ridden over the tunnel mound causing damage.
- Cracks found in some of the mortar.
- R. C. Mackintosh (Builders) to be asked to supply a quote for repair work on the tunnel.
- Brambles – J. Winchester to obtain quotes for work.

Facebook – K Spruel – No concerns

Website – K. Spruels, C. Neal – some updating needed.

Newsletter – K. Spruels – another good edition produced. Next edition due soon, articles by 14th February.

Dog Warden & Footpaths Warden – B. Cook

- Increase in dog fouling on High Street & Rectory Lane.

Flower Planters – J. Forskitt – nothing to report.

7. CORRESPONDENCE – Received & Sent

Received from

1. Cut Crew – Liability Insurance Schedule received.
2. Blisworth PC – copy of letter sent to WNC planning, Sarah Bool MP, surrounding PCs regarding prematurity of Harworth proposals.

Sent to

1. E.ON – request for a copy invoice
2. WNC – request for a copy of the new Register of Electors.
3. WNC – query regarding the S106 funding from the IRFT. – Reply received – need copies of the signed paperwork as unable to find originals.
4. Anglian Water – water leak at junction of Collingtree Road & Church Close reported. Water still flowing. AW have fixed information signs at site.
5. WNC – request for CIL update.

8. FINANCE:

Bank Balances

Current A/C

£200.00

Savings A/C (4/12/24)

£63,028.69

Accounts to be paid:

It was proposed, seconded & resolved to pay the following invoices:

Cheque No.	Payee	Information	Amount	VAT	Total
2787	HMRC	Clerk's PAYE	84.33		84.33
2788	Npower	Lighting supply	537.66	107.83	645.19
2789	A. Addison (Clerk)	Salary & Expenses	337.34	63.77	400.11
2790	E. ON	Photocell for Green Street	39.00	7.80	46.80
2791	E. ON	PL37 Inv: 125213	1455.00	291.00	1746.00
2792	E. ON	Lighting Maintenance	269.50	53.90	323.40
2793	P. Heath	Park & computer work	69.99		69.99
2794	Royal British Legion	Cancelled/payment by card	0.00		0.00
2795	Icotyre Ltd	Seesaw repair - tyre	87.75	17.55	105.30
2796	R. Fletcher	Pound, shelter, memorial	210.00		210.00

On-Line Banking

- To consider moving the banking arrangements to Unity Trust Bank at the start of the 2025/2026 financial year. Clerk to contact Unity Trust.

To Note

- Financial Regulations regarding payment of invoices before good being received:
 - a) Para 6.3 prevents payment before goods are received.
 - b) If the supplier is not flexible, the RFO & Council members can decide whether the risk is worth taking with public funds.
 - c) Does the PC know the supplier & is the amount of money involved relative to the Council's total spend.

9. PLANNING

Application	Location	Proposal	Comments
	Gayton Road, Milton Malsor		MMPC has traffic concerns & size of building in the open countryside.

SEGRO J15 SRFT

- 2 meetings cancelled Next meeting in March.
- The pile driving is ongoing & still causing noise concerns for some village residents.

10. OTHER PARISH MATTERS – Councillor’s Reports

- Silhouette soldiers – 4’6” @ £175.00 + £25.00 delivery = £200.00 Cheques to be sent prior to order being agreed. Agreed unanimously.
- War Memorial repair work – Chairman has been in touch with the stone mason contractors. Remedial work to be undertaken shortly.
- Query regarding the need for planning for solar panels in the conservation area. An application is needed.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at: 9.10 pm

11. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: **Tuesday, 11th February 2025, 7.30 pm**
 Raynsford House

Signed: **Dated:**