

MILCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3 MARCH 2026 AT 8.00PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL, MILCOMBE

PRESENT: Chairman, Councillor Myra Peters: Councillors Nigel Davis and Chris Hill.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Theresa Goss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer) and County Councillor David Hingley.

73/25 Apologies – There were no apologies.

74/25 Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest.

75/25 Minutes – Prior to the meeting, the minutes of the meeting held on 6 January 2026 had been circulated to the Parish Council.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 January 2026 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

76/25 Matters Arising from the Minutes of 6 January 2026 – There were no matters arising.

77/25 Chairman's Announcements – There were no Chairman's announcements.

78/25 Open Forum – There were no residents in attendance.

(For information, following guidance from the National Association of Local Councils, the Parish Council did not specifically name individual residents within its minutes, unless they were speaking in an official capacity)

79/25 Reports from County and District Councillors – Prior to the meeting, District Councillor David Rogers had circulated his report to the Parish Council.

County Councillor David Hingley reported that the County Council's budget for 2026/2027 had been agreed and savings had been found to meet the shortfall. £2m had also been allocated for drainage and further investment in SEND and adult social care.

The Government's consultation on the proposal for unitary authorities in Oxfordshire was now open and the deadline for comments was 26 March 2026

At Cherwell District Council (CDC), £2.3 million in funding had been removed by the Government at the very last minute, as CDC was setting its budget. Therefore, to meet the shortfall, the Government had provided CDC with a grant for 2026/2027, but there were no further grants for future years.

Resolved that the report be noted.

80/25 Village Matters

- i) Village Hall Committee – Councillor Nigel Davis reported that there were no updates regarding the Village Hall, except that a new socket would be installed in the main hall and two quotes had been obtained for the repairs to the roof.

Resolved that the report be noted and the Parish Council supports the Village Hall Committee accepting a quote for the works to the roof. **Action ND**

- ii) Play Area – The Chairman reported that the CCTV project had progressed and the electricity supply had been installed. The meter was being installed on 16 March 2026 and it was then hoped the CCTV system could be activated.

Councillor Nigel Davis reported that he had repaired the swings and other items in the play area.

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It was noted that the litter bin was continuing to be vandalised, but it was agreed it would not be replaced until the CCTV camera was in place.

Councillor Davis advised that the timber climbing frame needed to be treated and Paul Lester would be asked for a quote to complete the work.

Resolved that the report be noted.

- iii) Woodland Planting Proposal, Milcombe – The Chairman reported that a local landowner had a woodland creation proposal which was open for local and environmental consultation.

Resolved that the report be noted.

- iv) Spring Clean 2026 – The Parish Council discussed organising a village spring clean.

Resolved that the Spring Clean be arranged for Saturday 11 April 2026. **Action TG**

- v) Potholes – The Parish Council discussed the number of potholes on the roads in Milcombe. An email had been sent to Paul Fermer, Director of Environment, Highways & Transport at Oxfordshire County Council by the Chairman but there had not yet been any response.

County Councillor David Hingley encouraged the Parish Council and residents to continue reporting highway issues to Fix My Street.

Resolved that the report be noted.

- vi) Trees in the Church Yard – The Parish Council discussed the work which had been undertaken to cut back the trees in the Church Yard

Resolved that the report be noted.

81/25 Planning

- i) Planning Applications – Since the last meeting, the Parish Council had submitted no objections to the following applications: None

Since the last meeting, the Parish Council had submitted objections to the following applications: None

The Parish Council was currently considering the following applications: None

Resolved that the reports be noted.

- ii) Results of Planning Applications – Prior to the meeting, the results of the planning applications, determined by Cherwell District Council, had been circulated to the Parish Council and were as follows: None

Resolved that the report be noted.

- iii) 25/03084/F - Milton Road Sports and Community Building, Milton Road, Adderbury – The Parish Council discussed the application for a variation of condition 2 (plans) of 21/00104/F - reduction in size of proposed building.

Resolved that application 25/03084/F be supported. **Action TG**

82/25 Parish Council Matters

- i) Vacancies – There had not been any applications for co-option onto the Parish Council.

Resolved that the report be noted

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- ii) Parish Council Elections – The Clerk reported that Parish Council elections were being held on Thursday 7 May 2026.

Resolved that the date of the Parish Council elections be noted.

- iii) Local Government Reorganisation – The Parish Council discussed the proposals for the local government reorganisation in Oxfordshire.

Resolved that the Parish Council supports the two unity authority option and the Clerk be authorised to respond to the Government's consultation. **Action TG**

- iv) Parish Council Documents – The Parish Council discussed the work being undertaken to collate and file the Parish Council's documents.

Resolved that the project will continue to be progressed by the Chairman. **Action MP**

83/25 Finance

- i) Financial Matters – Prior to the meeting, a number of financial documents had been circulated to the Parish Council.

Resolved that:

- 1) the accounts for payment be approved, as detailed in appendix 1 to the minutes;
- 2) the receipts since the last meeting, the uncashed payments & receipts and the bank reconciliation, as at 3 March 2026 for the bank accounts at Unity Trust Bank be noted; and
- 3) it be noted that Councillor Myra Peters, as Councillor for monitoring the Parish Council's internal controls, had signed the uncashed payments list, the uncashed receipts list, the bank reconciliation as at 28 February 2026 and the Unity Trust bank statements for February 2026.

- ii) Budget Monitoring 2025/2026 – Prior to the meeting, the Parish Council received budget monitoring report for 2025/2026.

Resolved that the report be noted.

- iii) Section 106 Funds – The Parish Council discussed a proposal for Section 106 funds from a development in Milcombe be used at Jubilee Park, Bloxham for adult gym equipment.

Resolved that the Parish Council supports the use of the Section 106 funds being allocated to adult gym equipment at Jubilee Park, Bloxham. **Action TG**

84/25 Correspondence – There was no further correspondence.

85/25 Exclusion of the Public and Press

Resolved that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the minute numbered 86/25 on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information which was not in the public domain.

86/25 Staffing Matters - The Parish Council reviewed the salary of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer for 2026/2027.

Resolved that the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer's salary be increased to SCP 28 from 1 April 2026. **Action TG**

87/25 Grass Cutting Contracts – The Parish Council considered a quote from Nigel Prickett for the grass cutting contract for 2026/2027.

Resolved that the quote for the grass cutting contract for 2026/2027 from Nigel Prickett be approved. **Action TG**

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88/25 Meeting Dates - The Chairman reported that future meetings would be held in the Village Hall, Milcombe and would commence at 8.00pm.

- Tuesday 5 May 2026 (Annual Parish Meeting)
- Tuesday 12 May 2026
- Tuesday 7 July 2026

89/25 Items for the Next Meeting

- Fencing at the play area

(The meeting closed at 9.20pm)

Signed, Chairman – 12 May 2026

DRAFT