

MILCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7 JULY 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), County Councillor David Hingley, District Councillor David Rogers and one member of the public.

18/26 Apologies – There were no apologies.

19/26 Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest.

20/26 Minutes – Prior to the meeting, the minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2026 had been circulated to the Parish Council.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2026 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

21/26 Matters Arising from the Minutes of 12 May 2026 – There were no matters arising.

22/26 Chairman's Announcements

- Footpath on the Ridge and Furrow Field – The footpath around the field was difficult to walk across due to the grass not being cut for a long period. The Chairman had spoken to the person who rented the field and as a one-off arrangement, the Parish Council agreed to cut the grass because it was of benefit to the residents. It was agreed that Nigel Prickett be asked to provide a quote. **Action MP/TG**

23/26 Open Forum – A resident reported that delivery lorries attending the building site on land behind 12 Heath Close were turning their vehicles on the footpath and also parking on the footpath, which was likely to cause damage. County Councillor David Hingley advised that the developer could be in breach of its Traffic Management Plan, which was approved as part of the planning permission.

The Chairman agreed to visit the site and discuss the matter with the Site Manager. If that proved unsuccessful, a report would be submitted to Enforcement at Cherwell District Council as a breach of the planning conditions. Councillor David Rogers would also support the Chairman, if required. **Action MP**

(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)

24/26 Reports from County and District Councillors – Councillor David Rogers reported on Cherwell District Council's (CDC) Government Designation in respect of major planning applications. Information had previously been circulated to all Parish Councils and while CDC would continue to determine planning applications as normal, the designation introduced an additional option for applicants. Applicants for major developments could continue to apply to Cherwell District Council, or they could choose to apply directly to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) for a decision. If a developer submitted their application straight to PINS, then there was no right of appeal if PINS refused the application.

This did not remove CDC's planning powers, but it did provide an alternative route for determining certain types of application.

County Councillor David Hingley reported the results of the Local Government reorganisation should be announced by the Government the following week. The road works in Cherwell Street, Banbury were ahead of schedule and would be completed during first half of August 2026.

Councillor Hingley had put Milcombe forward for resurfacing works on Main Road due to the amount of potholes.

MILCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

In Oxford, Traffic Filters would be replacing the congestion charge and Oxfordshire residents would be allocated 25 permits per year to be able to drive in the areas affected. More information was available on the County Council's website.

Both Councillors were thanked for their reports.

Resolved that the report be noted.

25/26 Village Matters

- i) Village Hall Committee – Councillor Nigel Davis reported that County Councillor David Hingley had helped the Village Hall Committee with an issue of non-payment of Council Tax. This had been an oversight and the Village Hall was exempt from Council Tax. Councillor Hingley was thanked for his guidance on the matter. The exemption had to be renewed in two years' time.

It was suggested that a letterbox needed to be installed at the Village Hall and Councillor Nigel Davis would look into this further.

Resolved that the report be noted.

- ii) Play Area – Councillor Nigel Davis reported that the CCTV sign had been vandalised, but due to where it was located, it was just out of view of the camera.

Contact would be made with Visual Controls Systems regarding the app for accessing the images, to enable to Clerk and Chairman to have access.

Resolved that:

- 1) the report be noted;
- 2) contact be made with Visual Control Systems regarding access and training on the CCTV app; and **Action TG**
- 3) the Chairman to confirm with the Clerk the type, size and colour of the litter bin to be erected in the play area. **Action MP**

- iii) Litter Bin and Dog Waste Bin – The Parish Council discussed erecting a new dog waste bin and/or litter bin at the entrance to Oak Farm.

The Chairman reported that she had again been in contact with CDC regarding the weeds and general untidiness of the Oak Farm site. CDC had advised that Living Space would be addressing the matter.

Resolved that the reported be noted and the Chairman to confirm with the Clerk, the type, size and colour of the new litter bin and dog waste bin to be located at the entrance to Oak Farm. **Action MP**

- iv) Weed Control – The Parish Council discussed whether there should be a third spray of the weeds in the village road gutters.

Resolved that the spraying of the weeds be completed on two occasions during 2026 and a third application be kept under review.

26/26 Planning

- i) Planning Applications – Since the last meeting, the Parish Council had submitted no objections to the following applications:
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|------------|---|
| 26/00780/F | 27 New Road, Milcombe
Demolition of existing garage, new single storey side extension to reform kitchen, new porch, first floor alterations. |
|------------|---|

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

MILCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council was currently considering the following applications:

26/01508/F Rickfield Farm, Station Road, Milcombe
Demolition of fire-damaged commercial building (B8 storage, B2 general industrial and E (g) light industrial) and erection of replacement building for B8 storage, B2 general industrial and E (g) light industrial use with associated works and landscaping

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.

27/26 Parish Council Matters

- i) Vacancies – The Parish Council considered two applications for co-option onto the Parish Council.

Resolved that Blue Watson and Cliff Kinch be co-opted onto the Parish Council. **Action TG**

28/26 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 7 July 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 30 June 2026 and the Unity Trust bank statements for June 2026.

- ii) Budget Monitoring 2026/2027 – Prior to the meeting, the Parish Council received budget monitoring report for 2026/2027.

Resolved that the report be noted.

- iii) Effectiveness of the Internal Audit 2025/2026 – The Parish Council reviewed the effectiveness of the Internal Audit 2025/2026

Resolved that Effectiveness of the Internal Audit 2025/2026 be approved.

29/26 **Correspondence** – There was no further correspondence.

30/26 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 minutes numbered 31/26 & 32/26 on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information which was not in the public domain.

31/26 **Staffing Expenses** – The Parish Council considered a revision to the Clerk's mileage reimbursement rate.

Resolved that the mileage rate for the Clerk's expenses be increased from 45p per mile to 55p per mile, back dated to 1 April 2026. **Action TG**

32/26 **Quotes for Play Area Fencing** – The Parish Council discussed quotes for fencing at the play area.

MILCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Resolved that:

- 1) this matter be deferred to the next meeting of the Parish Council to enable further quotes to be obtained; and **Action MP**
- 2) County Councillor David Hingley be contacted with regard to funds which might be available at the County Council to cover the cost of the project. **Action TG**

33/26 Meeting Dates - The Chairman reported that future meetings would be held in the Village Hall, Milcombe and would commence at 8.00pm.

- Tuesday 1 September 2026
- Tuesday 3 November 2025

34/26 Items for the Next Meeting

- Quotes for Play Area Fencing

(The meeting closed at 9.45pm)

Signed, Chairman – 1 September 2026