

HANSLOPE PARISH COUNCIL

☎07383 091319

✉clerk@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of Hanslope Parish Council on Monday 10th March 2025, 7pm at
Hanslope Pavilion, MK19 7LG.

MINUTES

Present:

D Courtman (Chairman)
E Price
A Geary
A Andrew

R Simpkins
W Pacheco
A Flatley

Clerk: G Merry

0 members of public

25.25 Apologies: Received and accepted from Cllr Wallond

25.26 Minutes from previous meeting held 10/02/25

MOTION: to approve the minutes of the last meeting PROPOSED by Cllr Pacheco SECONDED by Cllr Simpkins and AGREED

25.27 Declarations of Interest: No declarations

25.28 Public Participation: No items

25.29 Council

- i. **Clerk's report:** At 28/2/25 income stood at £201,646 (121% of budget) and expenditure at £121,140 (73%). £25,012 of expenditure has been from earmarked reserves. This has been a busy month with launching the new baby group, implementing recommendations from the Fire Risk Assessment, finalising the examination of the NHP and progressing S106 projects. Baby/toddler group started on Feb 26th, with very good attendance. It has since been confirmed that the health visitor will attend once a month. We have had an issue whereby energy supply for the Hall has already been switched to Octopus, but contracts for the Pavilion were not ending until 6th March for gas, and 7th April for elec. Octopus' policy is to only switch both at the same time, so there would be a period of one month out of contract for gas. BGL would not make an offer on a tariff, would not advise what the tariff would be for that month, nor give any indication. On 6th March, notification came that the standing charge would be £150.51/day. An appeal was made but refused. Eventually, Octopus relented and will allow switching gas only but not until 12th March. Charges will therefore be £150 a day for approx. 5 days. In the meantime, Octopus have given a £100 'reward' for switching.
- ii. **Cllr Vacancy:** A vacancy has arisen due to the 6-month rule and the clerk had instigated the notification process. On 10/3/25, electoral services had advised that no election had been called and cooption can now take place. The clerk advised there is an application process, via the office.
- iii. **Highways/speeding updates:** Cllr Courtman stated that weekly road closures had meant a reduction in speeding. She queried the 20mph limit implemented on the Wheatfields estate. Cllr Simpkins advised that as these are unadopted roads, the developer has the right to implement any speed limit and this was not a Highway's decision. It was agreed at this stage; the PC would not push for further 20mph limits, as this had not previously been supported by the residents. Cllr Wallond had advised that permission is now in

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place from TVP for installation of yellow Community Speedwatch signs for the village and this was discussed and supported. Cllr Simpkins reminded all that planters were to be installed at the village entrances, so it would be advisable to wait until after this to mount the signs.

MOTION: To agree to apply for installation of permanent yellow Speedwatch signs – DEFERRED

- iv. **Hanslope Herald:** The clerk had circulated the proposed advertising application policy, as agreed at the previous meeting, and this was approved. Cllr Andrew will continue to chase advertisers for payments from the Christmas edition and confirmed that the new agreed rates match what she had been charged.

MOTION: To agree an advertising policy as circulated, PROPOSED by Cllr Price, SECONDED by Cllr Andrew and AGREED

- v. **BLMK Devolution Strategy:** The Government were proposing combined regional mayoral authorities which for this area, which would have been Bucks, Luton, Mid-Beds and Milton Keynes combining. The strategy was to move some decisions away from Westminster and this proposed region would encompass the Oxford-Cambridge arc and associated regional industries, to encourage economic growth. However, the Government had recently shelved the initiative for this area and this was being contested by regional MPs. It was discussed and agreed this was a lost opportunity for the area.

- vi. **Any additional reports from Cllrs, Parishes forum etc.:** Cllr Andrew reported that the 30-40-30 mph situation on Hartwell road would be changed to 30mph only and the 'Long Street' sign would be reinstated. She expressed disappointment that new 'Super Sites' for waste and recycling had now been agreed by MKCC and will be sited at Old Wolverton and Snellshall, with the 3 existing sites closing.

25.30 Planning

- i. **New planning applications – March 2025 and updates.** The list of current applications was circulated and discussed, as below. It was agreed that no comments were needed. Cllr Andrew expressed concern regarding the amount of development at Hanslope Park and in particular, the external paving which may affect drainage. It was agreed that the clerk would start sending FCDO planning applications to councillors. Cllr Price agreed to look at the car park application with a view to objecting and this was agreed.

PLN/2025/0258	at 5 MUNDAYS MEADOW, HANSLOPE, MILTON KEYNES, MK19 7FE	The erection of a single storey rear extension with roof lights, along with the addition of a new side elevation ground floor window and alterations to first floor windows including the addition of a Juliette balcony to rear elevation. Garage alterations including a new gable roof with new windows and roof lights, along with an increased ridge height and the erection of external steps	No comments
PLN/2024/2584	HANSLOPE VILLAGE HALL, NEWPORT ROAD, HANSLOPE, MILTON KEYNES, MK19 7NZ	Advertisement consent for installation of a free-standing glass fronted notice board to display village hall activities located 1m back from the road	No comments

MOTION: To agree the parish council's responses to applications as above, PROPOSED by Cllr Pacheco SECONDED by Cllr Simpkins and AGREED

- ii. **Reversal of previous policy re. meeting developers:** It was discussed and agreed to

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reverse the previous resolution, to not meet with developers under any circumstances, to 'HPC reserves the right to meet with developers under certain circumstances to be determined by the parish council, under advisement from the Planning Working Group'. Additionally, equal time would be given to any objectors to applications.

MOTION: To agree the policy as above, PROPOSED by Cllr Price SECONDED by Cllr Courtman and AGREED.

- iii. **Revised Neighbourhood Plan:** The external examiner had completed and submitted his report. The Plan was amended accordingly and submitted to MKCC. It will be considered w/c 17/3/25 and progress to being 'Made'. The consultants had completed incorporating the amendments into a final version.

25.31 Finance

- i. **Reconciliations & financial situation report to February 28th 2024:** The clerk had circulated the accounts to 28/02/25 and Cllr Price had checked the reconciliation report with no questions. It was advised that purchases associated with the Fire Risk Assessment, would mean costs would be slightly higher at year-end than projected. The clerk advised the following year-end timetable:
- 31st March – year end
 - 8th April – year end close down with Rialtas software
 - Internal Audit – late April
 - Agree the AGAR – May PC Meeting
 - Submit AGAR – mid-May
- ii. **Insurance:** The clerk advised there were very few providers now for parish council insurance and for several years, an alternative supplier had required a disproportionate amount of work/information, to then only supply a higher quote than the existing supplier. It was agreed that unless the current provider, Clear Councils Insurance, gave an extortionate quote, the council would renew with them.
- iii. **Approval of payments March 2025:** The list of payments was circulated (below):

DATE	Invoice from	For	Net	Vat	Total
10/02/2025	Anglian Water (Wave)	Allotment supply	£ 24.31	£ -	£ 24.31
17/02/2025	Safesmart	Fire Risk Assessment	£ 495.00	£ 99.00	£ 594.00
19/02/2025	Almars	Printing - Baby group posters	£ 7.08	£ 1.42	£ 8.50
20/02/2025	SWCAA	87 allotment memberships 2025	£ 304.50		£ 304.50
21/02/2025	Sprint door systems	1st call out to faulty shutter	£ 199.00	£ 39.80	£ 238.80
21/02/2025	J Cass	Neighbourhood Plan amendments	£ 195.00		£ 195.00
24/02/2025	Terry Cordery	Cleaning solar panels	£ 250.00		£ 250.00
28/02/2025	A Washington	Caretaking - Feb	£ 560.00		£ 560.00
28/02/2025	Tove Landscapes	Monthly maintenance contract – Feb	£ 1,954.16	£ 390.84	£ 2,345.00
28/02/2025	Suez	Feb empties - wheely bins	£ 45.90	£ 9.18	£ 55.08
28/02/2025	rCOH (O'Neil Homer Consultants)	NP examination support	£ 665.00	£ 133.00	£ 798.00
01/02/2025	Marcus Young Landscapes	Feb bins and dog bins	£ 646.80	£ 129.36	£ 776.16
04/03/2025	Sprint door systems	2nd call out - fix faulty shutter wiring	£ 322.75	£ 64.55	£ 387.30
10/03/2025	G Merry	PC Expenses – Jan			£ 22.73
Expected	Tara Davies	Hall and Pavilion cleaning	£ 180.00		£ 180.00

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MOTION: To approve invoices as presented PROPOSED by Cllr Flatley SECONDED by Cllr Andrew and AGREED

25.32 Recreation Ground

- i. **Hall/Rec. ground updates:** The Fire Risk Assessment report had been circulated and the clerk detailed the measures still outstanding: Gas safety testing for both buildings, purchase and checking/testing of fire extinguishers, emergency lighting checking and push bar exit for pavilion fire door.
- ii. **HFC request for banners/advertisements for sponsors on the football shelters and installation of net behind the goal:** Both requests were discussed and Cllr Courtman advised that the PC had previously not supported advertising as this would set a precedent, affecting the currently high standard of presentation of the rec. ground. At present there were insufficient details on what was planned and the clerk agreed to find out more. The net was agreed in principle and the clerk will discuss this with HFC but the initiative was supported.

MOTION: To agree to support installation of the net pending further information.

- iii. **Dog issues:** There was an increase in dogs at the Rec. and a consequent increase in dog fouling. Cllr Andrew was unsure whether MKCC still had a dog warden, authorised to issue FPNs. The clerk advised that effective initiatives were comprehensive leafletting of cars, dog walkers and possibly even homes, along with a poster social media campaign. Cllrs would need to be involved with leafletting and potentially handing flyers to dog walkers etc. It was agreed to get data from the poop scoop contractor and for the clerk to re-run the shock campaign of images on social media. She would also find out if it was legal to publish images of offenders on social media.

25.33 Village Projects

- i. **Updates on Hanslope Fields transfer of car park and Public Open Spaces:** The clerk had chased the lawyer and agreed to follow this up.
- ii. **Update on transfer of Wheatfields Public Open Spaces:** Cllr Simpkins stated that the lawyer had advised Davidsons, that the PC would not sign any agreement that included management/maintenance of the SUDs system. The outcome of this is awaited.
- iii. **Public Rights of Way and Stiles:** Cllr Wallond had enquired whether any of the stiles on PRoW could be converted to kissing gates, to assist less mobile walkers. Cllr Andrew advised that maintenance of these fell to the landowners who would need to be consulted. Cllr Courtman has the map of footpaths and agreed to pursue this via MKCC to find out the process.
- iv. **Electric Mini-bus Scheme:** Cllr Forgham of Castlethorpe PC, as representative of MKCC's Transport Stakeholders Group, had been designated to find out what support there may be for a mini-bus scheme in the rural parishes. Cllr Andrew advised that the MK Connect service would be losing its Sunday schedule from April. The mini bus was discussed supported in principle but more detail on costs would be requested.
- v. **Summer Festival Proposal:** Cllr Andrew advised that a group would like to organise a summer event for the village using the Rec. Ground, with a theme focusing on the history of Hanslope. The intention was to apply for £10-12K in S106 money. It was discussed and agreed that the PC is supportive of the idea of this event and will await a proposal from the group.

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Cllr Andrew left the meeting at 8.15pm

25.34 S106 Projects:

- i. **Overall S106 picture – update from working group:** Cllr Andrew had stepped down from the working group and Cllr Flatley will re-engage and asked the clerk to bring him up to speed. Cllr Simpkins reported on a meeting with 3 new volunteers who will work on certain specific projects and the meeting notes had been circulated. He will email all and clarify the sub-groups.
- ii. **Projects in Progress:** The clerk had completed due diligence on the 3 shortlisted architects and the new volunteers would be invited to a meeting to evaluate these and choose a preferred supplier to recommend to full council. The clerk advised that the S106 had been confirmed for the cricket nets and planning permission should now be applied for. It had previously been agreed to engage architects MSquare to submit this and their cost of £1778 was agreed. Cllr Flatley will progress this.

25.35 Allotments: No updates

25.36 Date of Next Meeting: 14th April 2025 at 6.30pm with the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm.

D. G. Courtman Signed

14th April Date