

HANSLOPE PARISH COUNCIL

☎ 07383 091319

✉ clerk@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of Hanslope Parish Council on Monday 14th April 2025, 6.30pm at
Hanslope Pavilion, MK19 7LG.

MINUTES

Present:

D Courtman (Chairman)
E Price
R Wallond

R Simpkins
A Flatley

Clerk: G Merry

0 members of public

25.37 Apologies: Received and accepted from Cllrs Pacheco and Geary

25.38 Minutes from previous meeting held 10/03/25

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

25.39 Declarations of Interest: No declarations

(Cllr Flatley arrived at 6.40pm)

25.40 Council

- i. **Clerk's report:** At 31/03/25 income stood at £300,771 and expenditure at £239,210. £25,012 of expenditure for the year has been from earmarked reserves. This month was year-end, which involved a whole morning online with the accountant. The accounts for the year show the general reserve at £180,492 and earmarked reserves at £80,000, assuming this is approved. The current account has an opening balance for the new financial year of £156,845. Every month the accounts and list of payments are published on the website, in line with transparency requirements. The finances have gone to the internal auditor, who will be meeting with the clerk and Cllr Price later this month. The AGAR should therefore be signed off at the May meeting and submitted to the external auditor afterwards. Anti-Social Behaviour has begun for the year, with arson on the children's playground reported to the police, who are investigating. There were verbal assault and threats, to a contractor from a resident and this has also been reported to the police, plus an explosion on Castlethorpe Road where Cadent were working. This was reported to MKCC who have cancelled Cadent's license, pending enquiries.
- ii. **Cllr Vacancy:** There are 2 vacancies with one application received. The clerk advised that becoming a councilor does not have to be an onerous commitment and it is often better not to take on too much but concentrate on areas of particular interest or specialism.
- iii. **Continuation of Hanslope Herald:** It was hoped the Herald would continue and Cllr Price agreed to contact Ward Cllr Andrew to ask if she would carry on as editor.
- iv. **Highways/speeding updates:** Cllr Wallond had circulated the Community Speedwatch data. Availability of volunteers is down, apart from in Tathall End where there is an active group but unfortunately, high incidences of speeding. Cllr Wallond will prepare a proposal for installation of yellow CSW signs, for the next meeting.
- v. **Anto-social Behaviour:** Covered at 25.40 i)

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- vi. **Any additional reports from Cllrs, Parishes forum etc.:** Cllr Wallond attended the parishes forum on 13/3/25 ([Agenda for Parishes Forum on Thursday 13th March, 2025, 6.00 pm | Milton Keynes City Council](#)) Cllrs Courtman and Price had met with a local landowner who may be planning a small, aesthetic development of 1 dwelling. Cllr Courtman had attended the Local Nature Recovery Plan Forum. Cllr Flatley will attend the MKCC Sport's Strategy Workshop on 16/4/25. Cllr Wallond reported that due to the recent power surge in Hanslope, the solar panels had temporarily stopped producing energy. The installer was able to fix this remotely.

25.41 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:

PLN/2025/0596	HEDGEROWS, HIGHAM CROSS ROAD, MK19 7HP	Non-material amendment seeking minor amendments to external materials including the omission of stonework and replacement with render and minor fenestration amendments	No Comments
PLN/2025/0649	MULBERRY MANOR, 81 HARTWELL ROAD, MK19 7BY	Certificate of Lawfulness for the proposed detached rear outbuilding for use as a swimming pool enclosure	No Comments
PLN/2025/0604	9 KESWICK ROAD, MK19 7NX	Alterations to existing conservatory to create a new single storey side and rear extension with rooflights	No Comments
PLN/2025/0517	Land NW of Littlewood Farm, Tathall End, Hanslope	Non-material amendment seeking to replace existing electrical enclosure to 2 small enclosures to house replacement equipment	No Comments

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

- ii. **Neighbourhood Plan Update:** The revised Hanslope Neighbourhood Plan has now passed examination and has been declared 'Made' by the Local Planning Authority. It was agreed the new plan should be started before the end of this year although considerable consultancy support will be needed.

25.42 Finance

- i. **Reconciliations & financial situation report to March 31st 2025:** The clerk had circulated the accounts to 31/03/25 and Cllr Price had checked the reconciliation reports. There were no questions. The clerk had circulated a year-end report, showing how the money was spent 2024-25, with 66% of expenditure on projects and maintenance for the village and only 24% on admin, salaries, office etc.
- ii. **Earmarked Reserves:** The accountant had advised that the 2 sums of retroactive S106 money received this year from MKCC, could be considered a windfall, since there was no corresponding expenditure. The clerk suggested that the sum of £50,000 should therefore be added to the EMR account and set aside to go towards the proposed new community centre. This was discussed and agreed.

MOTION: To allocate the unexpected £50,000 to the new community centre build, PROPOSED by Cllr Wallond SECONDED by Cllr Simpkins and AGREED

- iii. **AGAR - Period of Elector's Rights:** The clerk suggested the Period of Elector's Rights as 3/6/25 – 14/7/25 and this was agreed

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MOTION: To agree the Period of Elector's Rights as above PROPOSED by Cllr Courtman
SECONDED by Cllr Price and AGREED.

iv. **Approval of payments April 2025:** The list of payments was circulated (below):

13/03/2025	Tove Landscapes	Coppicing - Allotments	£ 200.00	£ 40.00	£ 240.00
13/03/2025	Anglian Water (Wave)	Pavilion supply Dec-March	£ 41.30	£ -	£ 41.30
19/03/2025	Propertycare Bucks	Service 2 x gas boilers, replace switch	£ 220.00	£ 44.00	£ 264.00
25/03/2025	AA PAT Testing	PAT and fire extinguisher testing	£ 93.91	£ 18.78	£ 112.69
24/03/2025	CSR Digital	Clerk training - 1/2 day	£ 325.00	£ 65.00	£ 390.00
30/03/2025	Pidge's Poop Scoop	Feb& March scoops	£ 175.00	£ -	£ 175.00
31/03/2025	Barbara Osborne	Payroll Jan-Mar	£ 87.00	£ -	£ 87.00
31/03/2025	rCOH (O'Neil Homer Consultants)	Final NHP amendments	£ 332.50	£ 66.50	£ 399.00
31/03/2025	Almars	Printing - NHPs x 6	£ 238.99	£ -	£ 238.99
31/03/2025	Anne Washington	Caretaking - March	£ 588.00		£ 588.00
31/03/2025	Suez	March empties - wheely bins	£ 45.90	£ 9.18	£ 55.08
31/03/2025	MK Play Association	Baby group x 6 sessions @ £195.38	£ 1,172.28		£ 1,172.28
01/04/2025	Tove Landscapes	Monthly maintenance contract – March	£ 2,229.58	£ 445.92	£ 2,675.50
01/04/2025	Tove Landscapes	Sleeper beds & planting	£ 3,275.00	£ 655.00	£ 3,930.00
01/04/2025	Tove Landscapes	Pitch marking – March	£ 175.00	£ 35.01	£ 210.01
01/04/2025	Marcus Young Landscapes	March bins and dog bins	£ 660.55	£ 132.11	£ 792.66
01/04/2025	Rialtas Business Solutions	Year-end close down	£ 203.00	£ 40.60	£ 243.60
Expected	Woodlands Children's Centre	Hire of toddler play equipment x 6 weeks	£ 30.00		£ 30.00
10/04/2025	G Merry	PC Expenses – March	£ 6.00		£ 16.59
11/04/2025	Kleen and Fresh	Hall floor clean and seal	£ 750.00		£ 750.00
11/04/2025	Rialtas Business Services	Annual Licensing and support	£ 885.00	£ 177.00	£ 1,062.00
11/04/2025	BMKALC	Annual membership	£ 552.42		£ 552.42
Expected	Tara Davies	Hall and Pavilion cleaning	£ 180.00		£ 180.00
GRANT APPLICATIONS					
April	Scouts	Equipment for new Sea Scouts group	£ 1,500.00		

The clerk read from the Scout's grant application – costs, quantities etc. and the ways in which this would provide a service to the young people of the parish. The application was approved. Cllrs were pleased with the poop scoop service and the sports teams had reported an improvement

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

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25.43 Recreation Ground

- i. **Hall/Rec. ground updates:** The clerk reported from the Rec. Ground Liaison group meeting: The Hornet's secretary will be leaving at the end of the season and it was agreed she will be missed. There would once again be an overlap between football and cricket season, giving the ground no time to rest. Seeding will take place at the end of April. It was essential that the football club ensured that pitch lining is clearly and regularly carried out, otherwise monthly lining paid for by the PC is ineffectual.
- ii. **HFC request for banners/advertisements for sponsors on the football shelters and installation of net behind the goal:** The football club are no longer seeking sponsorship banners etc. but have requested a large net behind the goal backing onto St James Close. No quotes were received in time for the meeting.

MOTION: To agree to support installation of the net, DEFERRED.

- iii. **Risk Update and Tree Inspection Policy:** The clerk had updated Risk Assessments for the buildings, now that Fire Risk Report recommendations had all been implemented. She had attended an online session with the insurers, who recommended implementing a tree inspection regime. It was discussed and agreed to obtain quotes from a certified/insured arboriculturist.

25.44 Village Projects

- i. **Updates on Hanslope Fields transfer of car park and Public Open Spaces:** There was no progress yet with regard to Anglian Water and the SUDs issue.
- ii. **Update on transfer of Wheatfields Public Open Spaces:** MKCC officers are happy with the PC's stipulations and this is now in the hands of the lawyer, who will liaise with both parties and revert.
- iii. **Bucks Best Kept Village:** A committee has formed and plans a volunteer tidy-up day at the churchyard on 17/5/25. Additionally, a village litter pick on 1/6/25, which the Cubs will be helping with. Cllr Simpkins asked for 2 Cllrs to 'man' the Pavilion and Cllr Flatley said he would try to attend. The landscaping contractor had been asked to quote for a re-planting of the verge surrounding the village sign by the Watts Arms. Planting, Bedding plants and extending the wall surrounding the sign were proposed @ £1,389. This was agreed and the clerk advised the money would come from EMRs.

The meeting was paused at 7.25pm for the Annual Parish Meeting, and resumed at 8.50pm.

- iv. **Public Rights of Way and Stiles - update:** Cllr Courtman had enquired about this via MKCC, to find out the process. However, there was concern that this involved obtaining permission from the landowners, who may not agree. Cllrs Flatley and Wallond advised this had come up as part of discussions with a wheelchair user, regarding accessibility generally and they felt it would be worth making the requests in the interest of improved access for less mobile walkers. It was agreed Cllr Wallond would look into this further.
- v. **Community Orchard:** The Community Orchard had requested that the PC supported them by adding mowing of the site, to the overall village landscaping contract @ £40 x 18 cut = £720/annum, and this was agreed. The group would be asked for an article for the next magazine.

MOTION: To discuss the request as above and agree as above PROPOSED by Cllr Flatley

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and Simpkins and AGREED.

- vi. **Summer Festival Proposal:** No proposal had been received. The clerk advised that Martyn's Law has now been made law and any event with over 200 people, will require enhanced risk assessments to mitigate against attacks etc. She agreed to work on this for summer play events. Capacity for the council's buildings is under 200.

25.45 S106 Projects:

- i. **Overall S106 picture – update from working group:** No update
- ii. **Projects in Progress:** The S106 working group had met to evaluate the shortlisted 3 architects for the proposed new community centre, in light of references and other due diligence checks. The group recommended the architect Hugo Hardy to the council and this was agreed. A site meeting is planned for 30/4/25, to start the process of a feasibility evaluation. MKCC's Planning Obligations team are working with the PC to ringfence available S106 monies.

25.46 Allotments: The site now has approx. 100 plots and the committee are working hard to maintain these to a standard. The 'back' fence is to be replaced and the committee are currently working on a plan to increase the number of water points available and improve drainage at the lowest areas.

25.47 Date of Next Meeting: 12th May 2025 at 7pm

..... Signed

..... Date