

**Minutes of Great Haseley Parish Council Meeting held on**  
**Monday 14 July 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs H Blythe, J Brown, C Groves, D Lindsay, R Sheehan (Chairman), T Suter, P Woodrow, A Oughton (Clerk) and 8 members of the public.

**25/37 Public Discussion / Public Questions**

Several members of the public attended the meeting to listen to discussion, raise concern, and voice their objection to the planning application for Haseley Trading Estate.

**25/38 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**25/39 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

There were no declarations of interest.

**25/40 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2025 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**25/41 Planning**

**P25/S1507/LB - Clematis Cottage, 17 Rectory Road, Great Haseley**

To replace the weathered thatched ridge with a flush formed ridge to be in keeping with the attached property.

**Resolved to Fully Support**

**P25/S1580/HH - Olive Cottage, 3 Rectory Road, Great Haseley, OX44 7JS**

New ancillary building to replace existing garage

**Resolved to Object** on the grounds of: Size and Scale, Light Pollution and additional stress on an already over capacity sewerage system

**P25/S1653/FUL - Former Ariens Factory Site, Haseley Trading Estate, Great Haseley, OX44 7PF**

Redevelopment of the site as a Vehicle Depot retaining one of the buildings as a workshop to contain offices and welfare. Works to include all associated external works.

**Resolved to Object** on the grounds of: Environment, Noise, Odour, Water, Transport, Visual Impact, HGV Movements and Safety Concerns. A full response has been submitted to the District Planning Authority.

The following application was noted:

**P25/S1424/N4B - Land North of Bridleway, Moreton, Oxfordshire, OX9 2HR**

Change of use of agricultural buildings to Class C3 (dwellinghouses)

It was further noted that the District Planning Authority has granted permission for the following applications:

**P25/S1213/FUL - Unit 10, Christmas Hill Business Park, Rycote Lane, Thame, OX9 2FZ**

Provision of condenser units and associated works (part retrospective).

**P25/S0991/LB – Hallowell, Rectory Road, Great Haseley, Oxfordshire, OX44 7JG**

Removal and replacement of two front facing timber framed windows in existing roof dormers with new timber framed slimline double glazed window units (as amended by drawing numbers 2798 WD100A, 2798 WD101A and 2798 WD110A received on 27 June 2025)

**25/42 Financial Report**

Bank statements to 30 June 2025 were circulated. The balance on the Current Account £31,563.68 and Business Reserve Account £44,905.42. Income for the month included allotment rents and interest. Expenditure as previously approved.

**Resolved** to remove Jennifer Webster as a signatory from the Parish Council's bank accounts and add Cllr Hamish Blythe.

**Resolved** that should the parish council not meet in August the Clerk will circulate the monthly payment schedule to councillors for approval via email to ensure online payments are made in a timely manner. Payments will be added to the September agenda for noting.

**25/43 Payments**

The following payments were approved: £79.56 Shield Maintenance Ltd, £258.00 Richard Taylor Landscapes, £537.68 Parish Administration, £134.40 HMRC, £2,813.73 Flood Protection Solutions, £500.00 A & W Grounds Maintenance, £20.97 tree guards (R Sheehan), £31.18 Domain renewal (D Lindsay). £21.27 – Castle Water, Direct Debit.

**25/44 Unitary Proposals for Oxfordshire**

The three options being developed for Oxfordshire were discussed.

- **Option 1 - A single unitary council for Oxfordshire** (responsible for all services for Oxfordshire residents).
- **Option 2 - Two unitary councils:**
  - Oxford and Shires Council (previously referenced as North Oxfordshire Council) created from the existing district councils of Cherwell, Oxford City and West Oxfordshire.
  - Ridgeway Council created from the existing district councils of South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse and the unitary council of West Berkshire.
- **Option 3 - Three unitary councils** with a unitary city on expanded boundaries (referred to as Greater Oxford) as well as northern and southern unitaries, also including West Berkshire.

**Resolved** that Cllr Sheehan will respond to the consultation on behalf of the parish council in support of Option 2.

**25/45 Village Hall Committee**

It was proposed to hold the Apple Day at Millennium Wood on Sunday 5 October 2025 subject to agreement by the Village Hall Committee. **Resolved** to donate £500 to the Village Hall Committee to fund the event. *{Post meeting Note: Date proposed by the Village Hall Committee is Sunday 28 September as a pop-up pub planned for 3 October}*

## **25/46 Projects**

### Public Art

A useful meeting has taken place with the Officer responsible for public art projects at Thame Town Council. Great Haseley will develop a public art strategy including high level ideas which will then be passed onto artists to create the art installations.

Neighbourhood Plan – nothing further to report. The Government's announcement to withdraw financial support for local Neighbourhood Planning was noted.

## **25/47 Reports from Committees / District and County Councillors**

County Councillor Judith Edwards circulated her monthly report and added it has been a busy month. Unitary Proposals – Cllr Edwards' personal view is that a single unitary for Oxfordshire is the best solution, it is the easiest to implement and for people to understand. Whichever model is adopted it will be interesting to hear the views of Parish and Town Councils as to whether they wish to take on more devolved responsibilities or less. Regarding the application for Haseley Trading Estate, Cllr Edwards has been actively talking with Freddie van Mierlo, MP to see what can be done related to traffic issues.

District Councillor Georgina Heritage circulated her monthly report and added that following a government announcement that local councils will be restructured, the business case for new office space for staff from both South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils opposite Didcot railway station, was no longer appropriate and that funds (£10million) will be used to purchase affordable housing for the district. Applications for the next round of the District Councillor Community Grant will open on 18 August 2025.

Allotments – the tap is still leaking. Cllrs Brown and Woodrow to take a look.

Environment – Replacement oak tree on the recreation ground – Cllr Sheehan is waiting until October (nearer to planting season) to get a quote to pass onto the contractor. Flood protection equipment has been delivered, need to sort out where it will be stored.

Footpaths – Cllr Blythe to contact local farmers to ask them to trim back the vegetation from footpaths that cross their land.

Millennium Wood – Grass cut planned for next month. Any tree work to be done will require permission as the wood falls within the conservation area.

Recreation Ground – plans to get the track to the recreation ground resurfaced are moving slowly.

Communications – plans to publish the parish council's response to the Haseley Trading Estate planning application.

Village Hall – a successful pop-up pub took place on the recreation ground in July, around 100 people attended. Next pop-up pub is on 22 August. An adviser has been engaged to look at and suggest ideas for new audio-visual equipment (including a hearing loop) for the village hall.

## **25/48 Information Exchange**

Agenda items for next meeting: Parish Council Bank Accounts (levels in each / interest)

**25/49 Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on 9 September 2025 in the Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm

.....  
Chairman  
9 September 2025