

Minutes of Great Haseley Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 10 November 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs H Blythe, J Brown, D Lindsay, R Sheehan, P Woodrow, A Oughton (Clerk) and 7 members of the public.

The Parish Council was shocked and saddened to hear the news of John Alexander's passing. John served on the parish council for 19 years both as a councillor and chairman. He made a significant contribution to the village and will be sorely missed. The Parish Council extended their condolences to John's family.

25/82 Public Discussion / Public Questions

There were no public discussion or questions.

25/83 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs Groves and Suter.

25/84 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest.

25/85 Minutes

Minutes of meetings held on 8 September 2025 and 13 October 2025 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

25/86 Planning

P25/S2747/FUL - Land south-west of London Road near Tetsworth, Oxfordshire, OX9 7AZ - Change of use of land to a Gypsy/Traveller site comprising 12 mobile homes, 12 touring caravans and 12 utility rooms.

Resolved to Strongly Object to the application on the following grounds:

Increase to risk of flooding, road safety, planning policies in Tetsworth Neighbourhood Plan and the District Local Plan.

P25/S3266/HH - Dreamers Cottage, 13 Little Haseley, OX44 7LH

Proposed to adapt the front elevation of the garage by replacing two garage doors with one central door. Replace and existing window and the side door frame. Also replace the front timber cladding. All replacement materials will match the existing.

Resolved to Support the application.

To note the District Planning Authority has granted permission for the following application:

P25/S2486/PIP - Land north of Bridleway, Moreton, OX9 2HR

Erection of a minimum of 2 and maximum of 2 residential dwellings

25/87 The Haseleys Magazine

Key points from the online survey were: an overwhelming support for the magazine and for it to continue either monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly. Three people have expressed an interest in becoming involved. The current editorial team will contact individuals with a view to establishing a new editorial team.

It was agreed to invite the editorial team to provide a report at future Annual Parish Meetings.

25/88 Haseley Pub Company

Members of Haseley Pub Company (HPC) attended the meeting to request that a piece of land measuring 28ft x 2ft on which a wall is constructed is transferred from HPC to the Parish Council's ownership in perpetuity.

A draft TR1 Transfer Deed was circulated. HPC wish to transfer the land as efficiently as possible and will consider the Parish Council's request for a sum of money towards future maintenance of the wall.

Resolved to approve that the land is transferred to the Parish Council in perpetuity.

Resolved that when the TR1 Transfer Deed is finalised, the Chairman and Clerk will sign the Deed.

25/89 Financial Report

Bank statements to 4 November 2025 were circulated. Balances are as follows: Current Account £30,687.14, Business Reserve Account £45,064.16. Interest on the Business Reserve Account provided income for the month. Expenditure as previously approved.

Resolved to maintain a minimum of £3.5k in the Current Account and transfer the balance of funds to the Reserve Account to maximise interest income. The Clerk will transfer funds between accounts to maintain a £3.5k balance in the current account.

The six monthly 2025-26 budget vs expenditure was circulated. The draft 2026-27 budget was circulated. It was agreed to add £500 to General Maintenance primarily to cover footpath maintenance. Overall, all agreed it was a good first draft, some minor amendments will be made and the draft brought back in January for approval.

25/90 Payments

The following payments were approved: £85.80 Shield Maintenance Ltd, £113.09 Parish Expenses, £527.23 Parish Administration, £131.80 HMRC, £250.00 A & W Grounds Maintenance, £822.00 Wolstenholme Architects. Direct Debit: £47.00 Information Commissioner's Office, £15.91 Castle Water.

25/91 Village Deep Clean

It was agreed to identify areas for the District Deep Cleanse team to work on when they next visit the village.

25/92 Miss Cross Field / Recreation Ground

It was agreed to obtain quotations to replace the swings and frame at the recreation ground for discussion in January.

25/93 National Salary Award

The National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services salary award 2025-26 for employees was noted. **Resolved** to pay the newly approved rate and backpay to 1 April 2025.

25/94 Assertion 10

Assertion 10, titled 'Digital and Data Compliance' is a new requirement in the Annual Governance and Accountability Report (AGAR) for 2025-26.

Resolved to change all Council email addresses to gov.uk addresses before 31 March 2026. Cllr Blythe to obtain quotations.

25/95 IT Policy

The draft IT policy was discussed and minor amendments proposed. The amended policy will be brought back in January for approval.

25/96 Great Haseley & District Horticultural Society

Following a request from Great Haseley & District Horticultural Society for a parish councillor to sit on the committee, it was **resolved** that Cllr Jake Brown will be the point of contact and attendance at meetings will be shared amongst councillors.

25/97 Thames Water Statutory Consultation

It was noted that Thames Water has launched a Statutory Public Consultation on the South East Strategic Reservoir Option. Thames Water is proposing a new reservoir in Oxfordshire, nr Abingdon, to supply water to 15 million people across the South East. The consultation runs until 13 January 2026.

Resolved that Cllr Sheehan read through the consultation document and circulate a draft response to Councillors for approval before submission.

25/98 Projects

Public Art – Cllr Blythe has shared costs and a draft proposal with the District Council's Public Art Officer. Next step is to obtain quotations. Cllr Blythe and the Public Art Officer are due to meet in a couple of weeks.

Neighbourhood Plan – **Resolved to Approve** the draft Vision and Objectives as laid out in the Status Report discussed at the last Parish Council meeting with one amendment to change 'attractiveness' in the first paragraph to 'character.' Next steps to approach companies who gather information for Neighbourhood Plans for quotations to provide a service to Great Haseley.

25/99 Reports from Committees / District and County Councillors

County Councillor Judith Edwards apologised for not circulating a monthly report. Cllr Edwards continues to be in contact with residents in Rectory Road whose property flooded during heavy rainfall and to push for the tree root blocking a nearby gully to be cleared. Agreed Cllr Blythe to write the Highways Department to push for a date when the work will take place.

Cllr Edwards attended the Homes England (HE) exhibition on the proposed development at Chalgrove. In summary HE indicated it will shortly be submitting a new planning application. It is highly unlikely that Martin Baker will find the new airfield site acceptable. If the development goes ahead Chalgrove will quadruple and be similar in size to Thame.

Oxfordshire County Council has introduced a congestion charge and encouraging residents to apply for free permits that allow 25 vehicle movements per annum within the zone. The congestion charge is a trial and short-term measure to ease congestion whilst the Botley Road is closed.

Cllr Edwards encouraged the Parish Council to review the Fire Service Consultation; responses must be received by 20 January 2026.

District Councillor Georgina Heritage sent her apologies and circulated her monthly report.

Allotments – A request to erect a 6 x 6 poly greenhouse on a plot was discussed. As a compromise it was agreed that the allotmenteer is given permission to erect a poly tunnel.

Environment / Millennium Wood – Cllr Sheehan is planning the following work: hedge laying on the footpath leading to the windmill. Clear and tidy Millennium Wood. Renegotiate the grass cutting contract for 2026. Retrieve tree guards from hedges planted over two years ago. Yellow rattle seed has been sown.

Footpaths – Cllr Blythe to contact landowners regarding maintenance of footpaths.

Village Hall - The Constitution is being reviewed to be brought to a future Parish Council meeting for approval. The Committee is looking into the pros and cons of become a registered charity. Next Pop-Up Pub will be on 5th December. Carol singing on Christmas Eve will take place outside the village hall. An application has been submitted for an official road closure for the event.

25/100 Information Exchange

Further to a resident's proposal for easing traffic congestion at the interchange between the old A40 and A329, Cllr Blythe has had conversations with County Councillor Edwards and District Councillor Heritage to request they raise the proposals with their respective councils to see what can be done.

25/101 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on 12 January 2026 in the Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.45pm

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Chairman
12 January 2026