



Castlethorpe Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held on
Monday 6th October at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors Ayles (Chair), Forgham, Bradbury, Hinds, Merritt, Sawbridge, Stacey, Ward Councillor Andrew and the Clerk. The meeting was also streamed on the new Parish Council YouTube channel <https://youtube.com/@CastlethorpeParishCouncil-m9u>.

No members of the public were present so an Open Forum was not required and Cllr Ayles therefore introduced the meeting and gave an overview of the content.

1		TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
	1.1	None
2		TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST by Councillors in any of the agenda items below
	2.1	None
3		TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
	3.1	It was resolved to approve the minutes from the Ordinary Meeting held on the 8 th September 2025 as a true and accurate record and that they be signed by the Chair. Proposed by Cllr Hinds, all in favour
4		TO RECEIVE REPORTS
	4.1	Clerks Report & Review of Actions – See Appendix A1. No matters arising. Cllr Ayles thanked Ward Cllr Andrews for his help in resolving the street light attached to the school which has now been repaired.
	4.2	Ward Councillors Report Ward Cllr Andrew reported that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 'drive around' with Highways has now taken place and a list detailing areas of concern has been raised which Highways will respond on. • Station Road update:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cadent (gas) stated a full repair would be done at some point in 26/27 - Kier (contractor for West Northants) stated 25/26 for structural repair on bridge - West Northants stated structural repair work will start 23rd Feb 2026 (weather permitting) • The scrutiny meeting of the MK New City Plan takes place on 8th October and a consultation meeting with Parishes has been arranged for the 5th November. No development currently proposed in Castlethorpe but plans for further development at Hanslope Park will be scrutinised. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Details of the consultation (Reg 18) the initial consultation can be viewed here: Draft MK City Plan 2050 Regulation 18 (without questions) - Details of the responses can be viewed here: Milton Keynes City Plan 2050 Draft Consultation Statement for Reg 19 • Milton Keynes is in the top 12 suggested venues for the government New Town expansion but not in the top 3 but still no details on where this is would be. • Any comments on the Furtho Pit development need to be in by the 16th October deadline. • A new hospital has been given the go ahead which will be a £400 million project, the new hospital will be on the same site as the existing hospital. View the plans and have your say via the following link:http://www.mkuh.uk/mkview
	4.3	File note on Parishes Forum – See Appendix A2 No matters arising
5		TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS (previously viewed on line by Cllrs)
	5.1	PLN/2025/1931 - Land near Yardley Gobion, West Northamptonshire, NN12 7TT - Consultation from West Northamptonshire Council on application seeking permission for proposed solar farm, associated infrastructure including underground cable route, internal access tracks and landscaping – request a mitigation plan whilst construction takes place
	5.2	PLN/2025/1889 – Castlethorpe Lodge, Hanslope Road - The crown reduction by up to 3m off lateral limbs and 2.5m from top of Horse Chestnut Tree protected by Milton Keynes Council Tree Preservation Order no. PS/540/15/79 – no comment
	5.3	PLN/2025/1298 – Cosgrove Park – siting of 2 x static holiday caravans – no comment
	5.4	PLN/2025/2039 – 3 Bens Close, Castlethorpe - Non-material amendment seeking changes to the position, design and number of openings (relating to permission ref. 23/01779/HOU for the erection of a two storey rear and side extension) – no comment

6		TO CONSIDER PLANNING ENFORCEMENT APPLICATIONS
	6.1	ENF/2025/0369 – 3 Bens Close, Castlethorpe – installation of windows contrary to approval plans related to 23/01779/HOU – no comment
7		TO RECEIVE REPORT BACK ON PREVIOUS PLANNING APPLICATION
	7.1	WNS/2022/1741/EIA & PLN/2025/0296 – Furtho Pits, Old Cosgrove Road, Old Stratford - application for full planning permission for the erection of 9 no.employment units comprising circa 69,744 sq.m./750,714 sq.ft. (GIA) of floorspace within Class B2 or B8 uses of the Town and Country Planning Use Classes Order 1987, with ancillary Class E(g)(i) offices and E(g)(ii) research and development, together with a Country Park, ground re-profiling in the Country Park, provision of Flood Storage Area through ground re-profiling which, by definition, is subject to the provisions of the Reservoirs Act 1975, new vehicular access from the A508 and associated site infrastructure including lorry parking. Application accompanied by an Environmental Statement – Objection submitted
	7.2	PLN/2025/1530 – 11 Bullington End Road, Castlethorpe - Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of two storey rear and side extension, rear porch and garden room with chimney – decision due 1/10
	7.3	PLN/2025/1504 – 44 and 45 The Chequers, Castlethorpe - demolition of existing rear elements and the erection of two-storey rear extensions, front porches, fenestration changes, and associated works – decision due 9/10
	7.4	Planning enforcement case – Installation of heat pumps at 3A North Street, Castlethorpe – photos now supplied
8		TO CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS (all supporting documentation to be circulated prior to meeting)
	8.1	To consider & agree to a public excluded part 2 of the meeting to discuss matters in accordance with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as defined in paragraphs 1 of Part 1 of Schedule12A to the Act – proposed by Cllr Forgham, all in favour
	8.2	It was resolved to award S106 Voluntary Sector funds of £1000 each to the Church and Cricket Club. Proposed by Cllr Ayles, seconded by Cllr Stacey and all in favour
	8.3	It was resolved to donate £35 to the Remembrance Day bugler and purchase one wreath that will be laid by the Cubs/Scouts. Proposed by Cllr Ayles seconded by Cllr Forgham and all in favour.
	8.4	With regard to our application for village green status in Gobbey’s field, MKCC have written to say the lower part of Gobbey’s is included in the 2020 MKCC mineral plan which results in a ‘trigger’ event and therefore prevents it being considered. The upper part could however be considered. It was felt that MKCC have not interpreted the plan correctly and it was resolved to write back saying the mineral plan is not specific enough to be a trigger event and in the meantime we’d like the application for the top part to continue, all in favour.
	8.5	It was resolved not to proceed further with the proposal to request switching street lights off overnight, all in favour
	8.6	It was resolved that Cllr Ayles and the Clerk would attend the BMALC Assertion 10 training.
	8.7	It was resolved to complete the MKCC renewal of the PSPO for dog fouling in public spaces consultation and apply for a PSPO requesting dogs are kept on a lead in the sports ground and Fishponds play area, all in favour
	8.8	It was resolved that Cllr Stacey and Cllr Hinds would look at the possibility of planning more trees on the far boundary of the sport ground opposite the Pavilion and report back to the next meeting. The beech hedges would be cut to the same height as each other and the sides along the footpath cut right back, all in favour
	8.9	It was resolved that Cllr Bradbury would speak with the tennis coach to try and find a solution to the tennis gate lock being damaged, all in favour
	8.10	It was resolved that Cllr Stacey and the Clerk would look at a tree in Castle field that a resident has concerns about. The tree is in the conservation area so would need planning permission before any works could be carried out.
9		TO CONSIDER FINANCIAL MATTERS (circulated prior to meeting)
	9.1	The RFO payment schedule for was presented (see Appendix A3) – proposed to approve by Cllr Ayles, seconded by Cllr Hinds, all in favour
10		CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (circulated prior to meeting)
	10.1	Stop 3000 Trucks have asked us to advertise their funding raising event which is a curry night at Cosgrove Village Hall on Saturday 22 nd November at 6.30 pm
11		ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for noting, or for inclusion on a future agenda)
	11.1	A resident has asked for an additional street light to be installed at the end of Bullington End Road which is very dark, the clerk will ask Ward Cllrs to progress this.
	11.2	Cllr Bradbury reported that the overhanging shrubbery in Fox Covert Lane has now been cut back
12		TO AGREE DATE AND ATTENDANCE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS/EVENTS
	12.1	The next Ordinary Parish Council meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 3 rd November 2025
	12.2	MKALC meeting 7.30 pm 29/10/25 – Cllrs Ayles and Bradbury to attend

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm

PART 2		
13		RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST by Councillors in any of the agenda items below
	13.1	None
14		TO CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS (all supporting documentation circulated prior to meeting)
	14.1	It was resolved that the Clerk will reply to the Allotment Association with regard to their invoices, all in favour
	14.2	It was resolved to send a letter before action and a without obligation letter to Waste Managed Ltd, all in favour
	14.3	It was resolved to continue with the landscape maintenance contract for a further 3 years, all in favour
	14.4	It was resolved to renew the gas contract at the village hall and research options for the water supply contract, all in favour

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

APPENDIX A1 – CLERK’S REPORT AND OPEN ACTIONS 6/10/2025

1	The gate into Castle field from Thrupp Close has been replaced	For info
2	The street light attached to School has now been repaired	For info
3	The Household support fund of £500 has been received and forwarded to the Church to support their soup and a roll initiative	For info
4	Only one volunteer came forward following the article in Castlethorpe News about Community Speed Watch, we potentially have four volunteers now	Ongoing
5	The village grass cutting has now finished for the year, hedges are being scheduled for end Oct/early Nov	Ongoing
6	Steve and I have started sorting out the papers currently stored in his garage	Ongoing
7	The boiler in the village hall has been serviced, recommendation given to purchase smoke detectors	Ongoing
8	First unit of CILCA submitted and passed, this unit contained 4 of the 30 Learning Outcomes.	For info
9	The village green sign needs to be replaced, S106 public art monies to be applied for	Outstanding
10	Historic England have confirmed that Scheduled Monument Consent would be required to carry out drain repair in Castle Field and that an archaeologist watching brief would be required. Michael Lever to supply quote for investigation works and then a decision of action to be taken can be made. Michael has reported back that as the drain is an old clay French land drain, there isn't a camera small enough to investigate. He suggests fixing the problem area and see if that improves the issue.	Outstanding
11	The damaged part of the climbing frame in The Fishponds has been taped up by MKCC, I have asked MKCC if this is a temporary fix and whether the equipment should be in use. Chased this up on the 19/8	Outstanding
12	We have asked MKCC to look at installing 'Give Way' road markings and signage at the junction in Thrupp Close by the sign to The Pavilion – awaiting response	Outstanding
13	A request has been made to our new PCSO asking if the bleed kits that Tilly Skippen was securing for us are still available, have chased this and waiting for a response.	For info
Items to be carried forward		
14	The Clerk has contacted Hanslope and Haversham Clerks for their view on approaching Hanslope Park for an exgratia grant. They are happy to proceed but have no historic data to refer back to. Cllr Merritt will forward speak to a colleague in the Estates Dept at Hanslope Park	Cllr Merritt
15	Listing' of water tower: The Clerk had written to Newport Pagnell TC asking for advice as they have recently made application for their Police Station to be listed by English Heritage. The Newport Pagnell TC Clerk informed that they had employed a consultant to make the application. The resultant copy has been circulated	Cllr Bradbury
Items outstanding reported to MKCC Highways Department		
1	Animal crossing sign is still missing	FS614236402

2	Bullington End Road pothole – near build out coming out of the village – agreed by Highways and will be scheduled	Completed
3	Potholes approaching Devils Dip – agreed by Highways and will be scheduled	Completed
4	Fence at 1 Wolverton Road has been erected on Highways land	
5	Missing and dislodged kerb edgings on Station Road parking area causing aggregate to spill onto Station Road	Closed, not at investigatory level
6	Email and photo sent to Highways customer services asking if it is possible to reverse the priority coming through the build out in front of the terraced houses in Station Road to give priority to vehicles coming into the village. Highways will carry out a traffic survey. Keith Wheeler advised not feasible due to traffic flow, he suggested yellow lines as an alternative.	Closed, Highways say not possible
7	A19 enquiry with the Adoptions Team to establish current progress with Carrington Grove has been opened	
8	Street name sign for Carrington Grove is outstanding – Carrington Grove is not yet adopted.	Update given 26/2/24
9	Potholes and poor surface of Bullington End Road have been reported to MKCC by numerous residents, Cllr Ayles has written separately to Highways asking for an emergency repair. An emergency repair has been done but residents who reported it have now had their cases closed even though all the other repairs, and finalising the temporary repair, have not been done.	
10	Damaged kerbstones on North St especially corner by No 22 and by No 14. These have been previously reported – will be repaired when funds allow	Nr. 22 completed Nr.14 o/s
11	Repair of build out on BE Rd and improved lighting on all build outs- costs recoverable from Bill's coaches for BE Rd damage – repair is being planned once permit has been approved. No lighting will be installed though. Works have been approved and will be scheduled in new contract with Ringway later this year	Completed
12	Resurface parking area by Castlethorpe First School – an inspector will visit to assess. This isn't at investigatory level but MKCC may repair when working in the area	Update given 26/2/24
13	Pothole at edge of recently resurfaced section by 'The Chestnuts' / village shop	Reported 22/1
14	Leaning 30mph sign at Station Rd village entrance	FS586527848
15	Street light 11 SS, South Street, flickering – reported again 17/9	FS647704462
16	Street light 9 NS, North Street, flickering – reported again 17/9	
17	No delimit signs for the new 40mph construction traffic signs at Hanslope Park	FS586534290
18	Conversion of conservation area streetlights to LED (awaiting funding)	
19	Missing cross bars from conservation area streetlights (reported)	
20	Pothole in alleyway from Station Road to Shepperton – 17/9 logged again with Rachel Munday and an inspection will be carried out – 16/10 – not at investigatory level	Completed
21	A resident has reported that the street lights on Bullington End Road are going off at 07.30 when it is still dark	FS680009679
22	Give way to oncoming traffic roundel near Mill Lane entrance has faded and is not visible when dark – MKCC confirmed no action will be taken	FS688383434
23	Give way to oncoming traffic roundel at first entrance into the village from The Navi has faded and is not visible when dark – MKCC confirmed no action will be taken	FS688378445
24	Damaged bollard outside Carrington Arms	Completed
25	Damaged bollard near bus stop on North Street	Completed
26	Street light outside 2 Fox Covert Lane is turning off around 10.00 pm	Completed
27	Lantern on street light outside Sunny View Farm has blown off	FS751811566

APPENDIX A2 – FILE NOTE FROM PARISHES FORUM 11/9/25

Parish/Town Council success story

Delia Shephard, Clerk to Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council, gave a presentation on the success of their in-house landscaping team. Despite initial reluctance from some councillors the council decided to take over the landscaping work themselves and although it is currently costing more than the grant from MKCC the quality of work is vastly improved and the in-house team of 4 now also provide some landscaping work to a couple of nearby parish councils in Buckinghamshire. Could be worth investigating for our needs.

MK University Hospital

A report was given on major new developments at the Hospital, including:

A Community Diagnostic Centre at Lloyds Court in the city centre which opened in October 2024.

Building on the success of the Community Diagnostic Centre in Whitehouse Medical Centre, this new facility allows more patients to access more services in the community. Services include:

- Bone density scan (DEXA scan)
- Ultrasound Scan (non-obstetric)
- Echocardiogram (ECHO)
- Ophthalmology (Eye Clinic)

A new Radiotherapy Centre which opened in January.

A new Multi Storey Car Park (No 3) which opened in July, providing over 450 extra parking spaces.

A new Imaging Centre, estimated completion in March 2026, which will concentrate all Imaging departments and services in one place.

Two new Oak wards to the east of the hospital, providing 48 new beds

A new centre for Women's & Children's Services, with Surgical Capacity is planned, Improving the quality of facilities in maternity, neonatal and paediatric services

High Voltage Power Enhancements throughout the hospital

A Community Survey Launches on 6 October 2025 for residents to have their say on development at the hospital. More details are available at www.mkuh.nhs.uk/MKView

MKCC Families First Partnership Programme

The existing child protection and family help services have been streamlined into two new hubs – one for the north and west of MK and the other for the south and east, both reporting to the Head of Early Help and Protection. Each hub has separate Family Help and Child Protection teams for both of the areas they are responsible for reporting to the hub's Service Manager.

Help for families of suicide victims

Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide (SoBS) Milton Keynes is the local branch of a charity with peer-led support groups and a national helpline which can provide a safe, confidential environment in which those impacted by suicide can share experiences and feelings, thus giving and gaining support from each other. Services also include email support email.support@uksobs.org and an online community forum Telephone:07598 158 379 Email: milton.keynes@uksobs.org

APPENDIX A3 -PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Payee	Description	Sub-Total	VAT	Total
J Ladyman	Salary August	£878.80	£0.00	£878.80
HP Instant Ink (paid by JL)	Monthly printer cost - Sept	£11.24	£2.25	£13.49
Stacey Blease	Village hall cleaning - Aug	£246.00	£0.00	£246.00
Sue Illidge	Cleaning bus shelters - Sept	£40.00	£0.00	£40.00
Shield Maintenance Ltd	Monthly dog waste bin collection charge	£119.16	£23.83	£142.99
Tove Landscapes	Village landscaing - 3rd month	£491.67	£98.33	£590.00
NBR Printing	Castlethorpe News, Sept issue	£495.00	£0.00	£495.00
Castlethorpe Church	Household support fund contribution (from MKCC)	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00
Lexisnexis	Charles Arnold-Baker 14th edition book	£185.00		£185.00
Bryson Heating Limited	Boiler service at village hall	£115.00	£23.00	£138.00
Direct Debits				
Tesco Mobile	Clerks phone	£7.50	£1.50	£9.00
Talktalk	Broadband supply village hall	£25.06	£5.01	£30.07
Everflow	Water supply village hall Sept	£71.83	£0.00	£71.83
Google Cloud	26107096G05ASYDKH7	£58.25	£0.00	£58.25
British Gas Lite	Electricity supply village hall - Aug 25	£24.60	£1.29	£25.89
EDF	Gas supply village hall - Aug 25	£15.53	£0.78	£16.31
Monthly Total		£3,284.64	£156.00	£3,440.64