

## **Merton Parish Council**

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025<sup>6</sup>  
at The Clinton Hall.

Cllrs. Present: Cllr. Littleales (chair) Cllr. McLaughlan (vice chair) Cllr. Papworth, Cllr. Kops, Cllr Tagg.

Also present: Kerry Littleales - Clerk

### **Business Transacted**

#### **1. Welcome**

The Chair opened the meeting and informed everyone that a recording was taking place to assist in the preparation of the minutes which would be deleted once the minutes had been drafted.

#### **2. Apologies for Absence**

None received at meeting, but Cllr Nancekivell later apologised for absence as he had been caught out by lambing and unable to communicate.

#### **3. Minutes of the last meeting – available on the website (chair)**

Cllr. Littleales proposed that the minutes of the last meeting dated 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025 be signed as a true and accurate record. Cllr. Tagg seconded. Motion carried.

#### **4. Declarations of Interests**

- a) Declarations of interest circulated and returned.
- b) Cllr. Littleales declared an interest in the Grass cutting contract.

#### **5. Public speaking time**

2 members of the public attended and introduced themselves as new business owners in the Parish.

#### **6. County/District Councillors**

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Signed as a correct record 

None present.

## **7. Current and New Business**

a) s106 monies – Cllr. Littleales explained TK play had visited for a consultation and advice on various suggestions made previously – i.e. climbing frame, ball court etc. He advised on what was possible within budget and space constraints. Quotes had been received – some within and some outside the budget. We ended up with 2 choices ( only one can be used) of a trampoline or a whirligig style large swing. We also still have quotes for a small play shelter. Cllr McLaughlan asked for a static style assault course to be considered. Cllrs. agreed to put out a 'vote' on FB and other media to the village to see what the community want? Agreed that the amount needed to be spent should go in the advert. Cllr. Kops suggested asking the top class at the school as well. Cllr. Tagg wants us to be clear in the advert that this equipment is for children/teenagers/10 and up. Cllr. Littleales to draft a consultation document to send to Cllrs. for perusal prior to publicising.

b) Grass cutting – no quote received from Steve Jennings.

c) Speed signs in village – another e mail sent to Mark James at Highways re speed signs but no response so far. Cllr. McLaughlan highlighted that the painted road signs have become very indistinct and need re painting. A member of the public and Meeths Parish Clerk told Cllrs. that in correspondence with Highways she had been informed that these signs are not a priority anymore as they are not lifesaving. Cllrs. agreed to drop the idea of paying for better signs now that Highways have replaced our older ones. Proposed Cllr. Littleales, Seconded Cllr. Tagg. Motion carried.

d) Snow wardens – Cllr. McLaughlan is no further forwarded with this and asked for the links and information to be forwarded to him.

e) Lord Clinton Picture in Hall – Clerk informed meeting that she had attended the hall to have the picture hung but could not find it. The hall has been asked to find it and let us know.

## **8. Policy Updates**

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a) IT Policy – this is a new policy. Cllrs. had prior viewing of it and agreed the policy as read. Proposed Cllr. Littleales, seconded Cllr. Kops. Motion carried.

### **9. Financial Matters (Clerk)**

a) Bank Reconciliation – against statement – reviewed and signed by Cllr. Kops and McLaughlan.

b) Banking checks were conducted by Cllr. Kops and Cllr McLaughlan for payments made against the bank statement between 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025 and 4<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

c) End of year Budget review and final figures – reviewed by Cllrs. Cllr. Tagg proposed we approve and accept the end of year budget figures. Seconded by Cllr. Kops. Motion carried.

### **10.Cllr. reports and Future Agenda Items**

a) Cllr. Tagg reported that the May meeting will be his last as he and his family are moving away.

b) Cllr. Kops raised the issue of some of the community complaining about the enclosure of the Boat yard. The Clerk reported that she had answered an enquiry regarding this and told the enquirer that it was not within the Parish Councils powers to make any decisions or to have any input at this stage. Cllrs. decided this would not become an agenda item for next month.

### **11. Confirmation of next meeting date - Monday 18 May 2026 at 7.30pm with the Annual Council Meeting.**

### **12. Confidential matters Part 11 Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 s1 (20)**

a) Resolution required to move the Council into Part 11 - Proposed Cllr. Kops, Seconded Cllr. Mclaughlan. Motion carried.

The Clerk confirmed that the audio recording had been switched off.

b) To review further correspondence from Mrs Connie Coleman re The Square Drainage.

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The Chair returned the meeting to public session to hear the resolutions.

Resolution B – to make enquiries for the costs of a drain cover and silt trap.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 9pm.

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