

# MOULSOE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 22 April 2026 8pm

Moulsoe Millennium Hall, Cranfield Road, Moulsoe

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Present:

Chair Councillor Steve Waters

Ward Councillor McLean

PCSO Ormston

Clerk Kay Hamilton

11 electors

1 member of the public

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1. Welcome from Councillor Steve Waters and apologies received from Ward Councillor Geary
2. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 29 April 2025 were approved.
3. Updates were received from:

Moulsoe Parish Council

Councillor Waters thanked people for taking the time to attend and began with speaking on the ongoing changes within the parish boundary due to MK East developments, including new road networks, housing and employment areas.

New homes located at Ouzelmere (Newport Vale) are now being occupied with approximately 50 homes expected at the nearby Eastbrook development, with further growth anticipated. He explained that the Parish Council agreed to retain governance of the developing area until 200 homes are occupied, at which point governance arrangements will be reviewed. Future options include the creation of a new parish or incorporation into a larger parish; no decision required at present. With the Ward boundary changes From May, Moulsoe will move from Olney Ward into a new urban ward including Broughton. The Parish Council opposed the change, but it was confirmed by the Boundary Commission. There are local elections taking place in May covering both ward councillor and local authority seats. There has been some noticeable political canvassing in the village since late last year it is unfortunate that the existing Ward Councillors will be up for election for the Olney Ward and they were particularly approachable, effective and appreciated the challenges that a rural parish needs to deal with.

There are two vacancies on Moulsoe Parish Council that received no nominations for the forthcoming elections.

On the topic of roads the MK East Road developments are progressing, including:

- Link 301 providing access to Hermitage Farm industrial area.
- The link road over the flood plain towards the M1 will stop short of the M1 until the bridge plans are agreed/finalised.
- The Eastern Perimeter Road which leads from our first roundabout leaving the village, running north along the base of the ridge line towards Renny Lodge is proposed to start at the northern end working south towards Moulsoe but initially stopping in the upper part of the residential development south of Pymms Stable to provide a northern access to that emerging development area. The southern section will be planned for completion as the Eastbrook housing numbers climb towards the 500 threshold.

It has been noted that there is increasing incidents of anti-social and dangerous driving reported; police and local authority are aware. Residents advised to report dangerous driving (rather than noise) directly to the police. The Parish Council engaging with Milton Keynes City Council (MKCC) road safety officers. Over the last 15 years the parish council has campaigned against and reported traffic problems to the both the police and local authority – focussing on speeding vehicles passing through the village, large vehicle traffic – HGVs - and more recently construction traffic. With the advent of MK East one positive is that there is now a development of a speed calming scheme with MKCC funded partially by the developers – it is a legal obligation that developers have to commit to provide local benefit to neighbouring communities and parishes affected by their development activities. Proposals are being drawn up for a range of options designed to lower the average speed limit through the village and limit heavy goods vehicles using us as cut through. These will be circulated by MKCC in due course as an informal followed by a formal consultation process.

The planned village road resurfacing has been delayed; we were scheduled to have a road resurfacing programme through a considerable proportion of the village - this was to have started before April but has been subject to delay and the parish council are seeking an update from Highways.

The monthly coffee mornings continue attract residents hopefully the new intake at MK East may swell numbers as occupancies rise. It is a drop-in session so just turn up.

A second defibrillator is expected to be installed after a few false starts last year. It was confirmed that our stalwart PCSO Arlene Ormston is going to be staying assigned to us since we are still considered by TVP as being rural, thank goodness for good old commonsense. Thanks was given to Arlene for all her work and attention to date.

Councillor Waters thanked his fellow councillors for their help, input and feedback over the past year. There are vacancies for two more members, and the parish council are always ready to welcome new individuals to the fold. He then thanked the Parish Clerk for all the ongoing administration, communications, community events, and support she provides for the parish council.

### St. Mary's Church

St. Mary's Churchwarden, Sarah, started by saying that St. Mary's continues to play a central role in the life of the village. The church does not belong to the Rector or the PCC, but to the whole community, and remains available to all who wish to use or visit it offering a place of welcome, reflection and support in both good times and difficult ones.

Over the past twelve months, St Mary's has hosted a range of services and occasions, including wedding blessings, funerals, interments, and the interment of ashes, alongside the regular pattern of worship. Although there were no christenings during the year.

Services are normally held once a month, on the third Sunday, and this year included several memorable occasions. The church commemorated VE Day 80 at the village flagpole, following the same pattern as the D-Day 80 observance the previous year.

Due to clergy commitments elsewhere in the benefice, several services this year were community led. Thanks to the efforts of Bill Pamplin and the Sarah, who acted as Congregational Worship Leaders, St Mary's was able to continue offering worship when an officiating minister was unavailable.

These services were more informal in nature but were heartfelt and Sarah hoped that it was agreed that the DIY services have brought an added sense of building and celebrating the village community.

In addition to regular services, the church year and the agricultural cycle were marked through:

- Rogation in May and the blessing of crops, animals and people
- The Patronal Festival dedicated to Mary Our Lady, in August
- Harvest Festival in October
- Plough Sunday in January, with Robins tractor
- Remembrance Day in November with a community led service
- Mothering Sunday in March
- Easter celebrations in April with an easter egg hunt, hot cross buns and live bunnies.

The special Christmas Carol Service was once again a highlight of the year, supported by the Pamplin Family Players providing the musical framework for the evening and enhanced by creative contributions to the Moulsoe Treescape displayed in Newport Pagnell and Moulsoe. What will the team come up with this year?

St. Mary's doesn't any central funding from government or the Church of England as such, so everything that is done is done on a shoestring by volunteers and we are dependent on your generosity in church for helping us out in kind and in supporting such events such as the Harvest supper and Spring supper, thank you.

Sincere thanks are extended to all who have helped during the year, including those involved in:

- Flower arranging and church maintenance
- Planting, cleaning and general upkeep
- Soup making, washing up
- Moving furniture, gutter clearing, and practical repairs
- Providing biscuits, bread, and hot cross buns

Sarah also wanted to mention the excellent collaboration between village organisations, there is an overlap of the Parish Council, MCA, and PCC. A thank you to all who jump in to help where they can to support all the activities irrespective of which 'bit' they officially belong to.

She explained that the church has been going through village life making do, but with the development of MK East bringing with it the prospect of new residents joining our village through it was time to think about tweaking our approach and updating our facilities to meet the needs of this new 21st century community and beyond. With the hope of the prospect of getting the loo and some sort of basic kitchen facilities in the church, the PCC have been talking to Dave the Bishop of Buckingham and diocese advisory people in Oxford to see if a project can be started to make St. Mary's fit for the future. If there were parishioners who would like to be part of this next major step with experience in project management, fundraising or historic building conservation, and have a little time to offer please reach out to Sarah or any other member of the PCC. It will be a long-term undertaking but one that is desperately needed.

A reminder was given about the village educational charity, originally established to support the village schoolteacher and now intended to benefit children and young people in the village. If there are any youngsters who could use a small award to fund books, trips or special projects, please get in touch. If the charity is not used the church will lose it.

There will be a Rogation Service on 17 May at 9.30am, please wear appropriate footwear for short walk through a couple of fields to meet some sheep.

Please also note the date of Sunday 20 December at 5.00pm for this year's Christmas Carol Service.

### Moulsoe Community Association (MCA)

Nigel Richards the chair of the MCA explained the activities and future plans of the village hall and community association. The MCA is made up of only a small number of people on the committee and welcome anyone to join them in managing the hall, especially as some members now not living in the village. The hall is widely used, particularly for children's parties. They have brought forward the cut off time for evening booking to avoid late-night lock ups. Although there is some flexibility for those bookings from village residents.

A key priority is improving the acoustics within the hall, with proposals for sound absorbing panels currently being looked at. Firstly, panels would be placed on the wall with the possibility of further panels later. This is a costly project (around £10,000), so external funding, including Section 106 contributions, is being explored to making it viable. They do have existing reserves, although the MCA also need to consider any reserves that are earmarked for essential maintenance such as the boiler. It is still the original boiler so will need to be replaced at some point in the future. The flooring may also need some attention in due course.

The committee will be holding another quiz night in the autumn and would like to be able to hold more events but do need people to help with any plans.

Overall, the committee is keen to keep the building well maintained, financially sustainable and fit for long-term community use, especially as housing growth may bring more residents and increased demand for facilities.

### Questions

Q.1

Question asked about the fact that the date for a traffic calming scheme given in a Moulsoe Mail last year has now been changed in the latest edition. Was this a case of 'kicking the can down the road'?

Councillor Water replied that the monies for the scheme had to come from S106 money and this has now been released. There was a scheme drawn up St. Joseph and their road planners, that were based on physical methods of slowing traffic. Since those were drawn up there has been a new road safety officer at Milton Keynes City Council (MKCC) so the schemes have now been reviewed. And with the advances in road calming methods there is now an electronic

scheme available to us as well as the physical means such as speed cushions. MKCC have also added some funding to the scheme to enable the schemes to be progressed. Clerk pointed out the dates given in the Autumn Moulsoe Mail were dates given to the parish council by the developers, but MKCC are now delivering the scheme not the developers. Options have been drafted by MKCC Road Safety, and those options will be part of a consultation run by MKCC for the residents to decide on the most appropriate scheme.

Q.2

Would the result of the upcoming elections affect the scheme?

It is hoped that the upcoming elections will not affect the scheme, as all the funds are ringfenced for traffic calming.

Q.3

What would happen if the residents picked the most expensive option and there was not enough in the allocated budget for it?

All options will have been costed to ensure that they fall within the given budget.

#### Comments

- There was a discussion on the need for adequate pedestrian and cycle links from MK East into Newport Pagnell and surrounding area. There are 2 bridges planned over the A422 and A509, the crossing over the A422 is of a better design for various types of cycle than the one planned for A509.
- Ward Councillor McLean who has been our Ward Councillor for 15 years will be staying within the Olney Ward. It would be his last visit to Moulsoe, so he wished the parish well for the future, and to the parish council who are very committed.
- PCSO Ormston spoke on the antisocial behaviour of the vehicles on the new road layout. If residents do report any incidents to report them as racing and speeding and use Newport Road, Moulsoe as the location. It is one of the locations that officers are coming out to. There are other locations that the vehicles gather at and they do move on to other locations when police arrive. Neighbouring counties have banned such meetups.

Meeting closed 20.44 and was followed by refreshments

Signed

Dated