

MINUTES

OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16 MARCH 2026 AT 8:00PM IN OLD MILVERTON VILLAGE HALL

- PRESENT:** Cllrs Emmerson (Chair), Keeling, Pope, Tansey, C/Cllr Edwards, D/Cllrs B Gifford, Syson and the Clerk
- 2483. Apologies for Absence**
Cllr Fitzpatrick, D/Cllrs C Gifford and Kohler
- 2484. Declarations of Interest**
None
- 2485. Public Participation**
None present
- 2486. Minutes of Previous meeting**
- 2486.1. The minutes of the previous meeting on 19 January 2026 were approved and signed.
- 2486.2. Matters Arising
There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.
- 2487. Issues & Projects**
- 2487.1. South Warwickshire Local Plan [SWLP]
No information available on the progress of SWLP.
- 2487.1.1. Greenbelt Reviews
The Chair attended Cubbington PC in February to tell them about initiatives. They were interested in carrying out their own independent green belt reviews and the Clerk has given them contact information for both consultants.
Desk-based review [LUC] is to be expected before Easter – this is a direct response to the ARUP review in SWLP.
Have arranged an update meeting on the wider report [UVECIC] on 23/03/2026. The UVECIC report will assist with responses to planning application(s) as well as the SWLP.
Cllr Pope asked when the Green Belt Review is due to be published. Not known.
ACTION: Clerk to write to SWLP to ask whether the Green Belt Review is complete and when might it be published (cc D/Cllrs) [UPDATE 18/03/2026:
“We do not yet have a firm date for the publishing of the Green Belt review, however it will be in the next few weeks and certainly ahead of any decision on the next draft of the South Warwickshire Local Plan. As I am sure you know, when the review is published, it will appear [on this page](#) on our South Warwickshire Local Plan website.”]
- 2487.1.2. Richborough Land Development Proposal
No further information received. Planning application submission expected in “the Spring” – D/Cllr Gifford understands this may be April.
Information will be ready to post on the website when an application is published.
C/Cllr Edwards will arrange a site visit with WCC Highways when a planning consultation is received.
A discussion followed about speaking at Planning Committee meetings and definition of ‘Grey Belt’.

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2487.2.	CIL Funded Initiatives
2487.2.1.	<p>Footpath signs</p> <p>Cllr Pope has received costings for notice boards [see appendix 1]. All options are in a similar range.</p> <p>Cllr Pope to arrange for signage samples to be displayed at the Annual Parish Meeting. The Chair will arrange for some A2 prints.</p>
2487.2.2.	<p>Blackdown bench</p> <p>Nothing to report - Carry forward</p>
2487.3.	Parish Environment
2487.3.1.	<p>Community Defibrillator</p> <p>Cllr Tansey gave an update. The Old Milverton Village Hall Booking Secretary is interested in taking over the project for installing the defibs, which the PC agrees to.</p> <p>General 10 year costings: Locked cabinet + defib + spare battery/pads, etc are c.£3,000. Bleed kit +£500 approx. A company in Rugby offer a single cupboard for defib + bleed kit and offer remote monitoring and tracking and can show battery status and whether the defib has been used/stolen = fitting £3,600 + running costs @ approx. £10/yr = £4,700.</p> <p>Cllr Tansey talked about the pros and cons of various products, including facilities, e.g. voice prompts, etc.</p> <p>Suggest the JPC decides on a ballpark budget and offers the VH a selection of options that they can then proceed with. It was agreed £3,000-£5,000 should provide sufficient funding to install and run for 8 years, inc. occasional usage.</p> <p>A discussion followed about the ongoing running costs and possible partnership with a charity. Clerk suggested this would cover the initial purchase would be using CIL funds and running costs could be ring-fenced from the precept in a designated fund for the purpose.</p> <p>Venues that accommodate over 200 people are required to have a public access trauma kit – implications for local facilities.</p> <p>A discussion followed about question of security.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Tansey will pass information to OMVH</p>
2487.3.2.	<p>Platinum Jubilee plaque on Old Milverton Green</p> <p>Nothing to report - Carry forward</p>
2487.3.3.	<p>Community Maintenance</p> <p>07/03/2026: OM Tidy Day – Turnout not as many as in the Autumn and less work to be done. Successful event.</p> <p>Potholes throughout area being temporarily fixed, due to wet ground. Please report. Sandy Lane has many potholes.</p> <p>Blackdown roundabout lighting is an issue due to a feeder pillar being knocked out by a vehicle – this powered a number of facilities on the island and is taking some time to fully repair. Please report any lights out in this area.</p> <p>Cllr Keeling has reported blocked drains on Stoneleigh Road. Observed that gas works being undertaken may affect whether drains can be cleared.</p>
2488.	County and District Councillor Reports
2488.1.	<p>Warwickshire County Council</p> <p>Construction on K2L Cycle route – vegetation cutting back has begun. C/Cllr Edwards described the future route as currently planned. Noted that the pavement outside Cranford</p>



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2488.2.	<p>is not to be widened to accommodate the K2L. There will be a pedestrian crossing a little way into Stoneleigh Road. Crossing for Avon is yet to be planned.</p> <p>The OM&B Feasibility Study should be promoted by the JPC at appropriate time.</p> <p>Warwick District Council</p> <p>Nothing further to report.</p> <p>D/Cllr noted that SWLP trialled AI on the last consultation and found it did not summarise all comments adequately. A discussion followed.</p>
2489.	<p>Planning</p>
2489.1.	<p>Applications Decided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRANTED - W/25/1549 - Moorfields, Leamington Road, Blackdown, Leamington Spa, CV32 6RG - Installation of 6no 15m high lighting posts, along with 6no luminaires to provide adequate (RFU SAFETY STANDARD) lighting the 2nd pitch of the Rugby Club. • GRANTED - W/23/1698 - Woodberry of Leamington Spa, Bericote Road, Blackdown, Leamington Spa, CV32 6QP - Demolition of existing office (Use class E (g) (i)), storage buildings (Use class B8), manufacturing building (use class B2) and erection of a new storage building (Use class B8) with ancillary office space. (Use Class E (g) (i).
2489.2.	<p>Applications Ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W/25/0655 - Nuffield Health Warwickshire Hospital, Old Milverton Lane, Old Milverton, Leamington Spa - Full planning permission for the erection of a Radiotherapy Centre at Nuffield Health Warwickshire Hospital, Old Milverton Lane, Leamington Spa, CV32 6RW OBJECT - inappropriate development in the Green Belt and inadequate provision of car parking (Sent: 17/06/2025) AMENDMENTS RECEIVED 19/11/2025 OBJECTION REMAINS - C/Cllr Edwards noted that WCC Highways are in agreement with the PC • W/25/1440 - Woodland Grange, Old Milverton Lane, Old Milverton, Leamington Spa, CV32 6RN - Demolition of existing courtyard buildings and erection of single storey infill extension and associated works. No objection (Sent: 18/11/2025) raised some inaccuracies in the application with the Planners
2489.3.	<p>New Applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W/26/0164 - Riverside Hotel, Leamington Road, Chesford, Kenilworth, CV8 2LN - Installation of hardstanding (retrospective). Cllrs had not successfully received notification of this application due to an error with the email distribution group. ACTION: Clerk forwarded original email to all Councillors <i>[UPDATES: See appendix 1]</i>
2489.4.	<p>FOR INFORMATION ONLY: Other Applications</p> <p>Councillors discussed W/25/0930 – 20 Old Milverton – this appears larger than expected, but not sure that there are any grounds for complaint. <i>[UPDATE 19/03/2026: Cllr Fitzpatrick compiled a report on concerns with the development of 20 Old Milverton not conforming with the planning permission, which the Clerk forwarded to the Planning Officer and Planning Enforcement for comment.]</i></p>
2490.	<p>Finance</p>
2490.1.	<p>The Financial Report & Bank reconciliation was approved and signed.</p>

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- 2490.2. The following payments were approved:
- Refund (JE): Gift for SR + 2025 APA £129.45
 - Refund (RP): Tidy Day expenses £33.80
 - Pension 2025/26 (As per budget) £480.00

A discussion followed about providing a regular pension payment to the Clerk in the future. The PC asked the Clerk to seek advice from WALC for future consideration.

2491. Council Administration

2491.1. Communications

2491.1.1. Recruitment

Nothing to report.

There was a brief discussion about when the next elections are and that the planning/SWLP issues may encourage interest in a vacancy. Otherwise Cllr Keeling will continue until someone expresses interest in being coopted, or the May 2027 elections.

2491.1.2. Report on progress of website migration to ombparish.gov.uk.

The migration of the website is complete and the Clerk is now the Administrator and confirmed with the previous administrator that all contacts have been updated successfully. This completes the email/website set up/migration.

ACTION: Clerk to remove this item from future agendas

2491.4. Training

None requested.

2492. Items for Forthcoming Meetings

None

2493. Any other business

Planning for Annual Parish Meeting – there was a brief discussion about the agenda (Chairman’s report, Planning: SWLP/Richborough Development, Signage, Defibs) and advertising the event. Cllr Keeling suggested PCSO Ed King may be interested in attending and talking at the Annual Parish Meeting.

ACTION: Chair to ask PCSO whether he would like to attend

2494. Next Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting (Public Meeting) will be held on Monday, 27 April 2026 at 8pm in Old Milverton Village Hall. The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday, 18 May 2026 at 8pm in Old Milverton Village Hall.

Signed as a
true record:

_____ (Chair)

Date: _____



MINUTES**Appendix 1 - UPDATES re W/26/0164**

17/03/2026:

Cllrs instructed Clerk to write, *“It has been noted that the planning statement includes reference to a “detached single storey outbuilding within the grounds of an existing children’s nursery” (5.3), which does not appear to be relevant to this application, possibly a reference left over from another report, but this document needs proof-reading, correcting and re-submitting before it can be properly considered.*

The PC notes that this is a retrospective application and has asked whether it is possible for Planning to carry out a review of this site as exists versus what they have permission for?”

20/03/2026:

Reply from Planning Officer, *“I note your comment regarding the Planning Statement, and this will be rectified.*

In terms of your question regarding the planning consents for this site, I have identified other areas of hardstanding across the site that do not benefit from planning permission and would not be considered lawful, this includes the new parking area opposite the main entrance and the inner courtyard area which was originally lawn. I have requested the existing pan be amended to reflect their original condition and layout, we will of course include these areas in our assessment in terms of biodiversity loss and flood risk.”

DRAFT