



Milland Parish Council Minutes – July 2025

MILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mrs Louise Myles
Clerk: Miss Viki Williams
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**MINUTES of the Meeting of MILLAND PARISH COUNCIL held on
Wednesday, 14th May 2025 in Milland Memorial Hall**

Present: Mrs. L Myles (LM) (in the Chair), Mr. J Parker (JP), Mr A Farley (AF), Mrs G Morton (GM), Mr J Wassenberg (JW) Mr S Hall (SH), Mrs J Pilkington (JPi), District Councillor Brett Burkhart (BB)

Members of the public: 11

242. Apologies: Nigel Oldham (NO), Sue Hoar (SH), County Councillor Yvonne Gravely (YG)

243. Minutes of the Meeting 14th May 2025

Approval **proposed** Mrs G Morton and **seconded** Mrs J Pilkington

244. Declaration of personal or prejudicial interests

- None

245. Reports from the County and District Councillors – full report attached - Summary below:

Update from District Councillors May 2025

- Petworth Men's Health Fair
- Weekly Food Waste Collections to start in Spring 2026
- Chichester Local Plan 2021-2039
- Digital Marketing for Midhurst
- Report Fly Tipping
- Supporting You team

Update from County Councillor May 2025

- BB updated on the status of the nearly finalised Local Plan and confirmed that it would not be able to solve all of the issues in the area including the ongoing problems with the A27 in Chichester.
- BB updated all of the planning issues with regard to a Gypsy and Traveller (G&T) site in Lurgashall. If allowed to remain it would set a precedent as it has been built illegally within the South Downs National Park. The enforcement period for planning has now ended and it is therefore hoped that the site should now be returned to its original state by October. However, BB did warn councillors that this would be a complicated and very possibly drawn-out process.

246. Public Participation

See below 250. a. iii. – Traffic calming Milland Lane.

247. Matters arising from the Minutes

- None

Action: Clerk

248. Other Administration

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a) Milland Valley Memorial Hall Heads of Agreement Review

- The Clerk updated that she had now sent the quote for the survey to the Chair of the Hall Trustees for consideration.
- It was **AGREED** that if the VH Committee accepted this quote, the cost should be shared equally.

Action: Clerk

b) Milland Tennis Club

- AF confirmed that he had attended the last MTC committee meeting and reported that:
 - The treasurer was aware of the PCs request to look at the accounts but was currently experiencing an issue with accessing the MTC bank accounts. As soon as this is resolved, the accounts will be sent over for PC scrutiny.
 - The committee are still waiting for the quote for works and projected lifespans of current surfacing so that the ground rent could be adjusted accordingly.

Action: AF / Clerk

c) Millanday

- Following earlier discussions and information in the Milland Valley News, there was no update available for the meeting. It was **AGREED** that LM would follow up with the organiser.

Action: LM

d) Milland Stores

- LM updated that the shop had raised some concerns with fundraising for some now essential improvements, including:
 - Remodelling the kitchen which generates the majority of the income.
 - New freezers.
- It was suggested that the shop be asked to submit a schedule of works and costings to determine the most appropriate line of fundraising including the potential for:
 - Public Works Loan (PWL) which would be applied for via the Council.
 - Grants.
 - Charity Events.
- JW suggested that the Council could potentially contribute to the business plan and a long-term solution for making the shop more sustainable. It was **AGREED** that LM would introduce JW to the business manager in order that he can assist.
- LM to also introduce the shop to the Hollycombe estate manager to discuss opportunities with regard to working with the Estate.

Action: LM / JW

e) Adding value to the Parish

i. Welcome Packs

- The Clerk updated that she had received the following quotes for booklet printing:
 - 10 = £57
 - 30 = £122
 - 50 = £164
- It was **AGREED** that once the updates have been made, 30 copies would be reprinted with 20 copies given to the shop for sale at £7 each.

Action: Clerk / JP

ii. Milland Meet Up

- The last Meet Up, which took place on 11th June, was again well supported. The next Meet Up will take place Wednesday 13th August 10am-11.30am at the Milland Stores coffee shop and this will be advertised via all available means, including a message on the WhatsApp group.

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249. Planning

a) Planning Applications/Decisions

New Planning Applications

Week 21

- **SDNP/25/01976/LIS** Replacement windows. Old Kingsham Farm, Cooks Pond Road, Milland, West Sussex, GU30 7JY

Week 22

- **SDNP/25/02137/FUL (Called in Application)** Landscape works comprising the excavation and construction of Hatch Farm Pond, East Pond, and West Pond; a temporary construction compound and access routes; and a comprehensive scheme of landscaping and biodiversity enhancements. Hatch Farm, Wheatsheaf Enclosure, Milland, West Sussex, GU30 7EL

Note: This application is from Ropemaker Properties which is associated with Hollycombe House.

Planning Decisions

Week 22

- **SDNP/25/00151/HOUS** 1 no. outbuilding in rear garden for home office use. Meadow House, 9 Mill Vale Meadows, Milland, West Sussex, GU30 7LZ – **APPROVED**

Week 24

- **SDNP/25/01281/HOUS** Ground and 1st floor rear/side extensions. Birchen House, Wheatsheaf Enclosure, Milland, West Sussex, GU30 7EH – **APPROVED**

Discussion in the Meeting

- JP updated on the proposed changes to the Landscape and Environs at Hollycombe House which include a couple of large ponds and considerable work to improve the biodiversity of the area.
- JP updated that the Council had been informed that an enforcement notice had been issued to Tuxlyth House.

250. Environment & Amenities and Highways matters

a. Traffic Calming

i. Borden Wood

- GM updated that the Speed Reduction Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) had now progressed to the Public Consultation Phase, but that she had received no further updates as to whether it was able to progress to completion.
- The Clerk updated that following the successful meeting held with the Highway Manager, a location for the white gates had now been finalised and the licence is to be issued imminently.

Action: Clerk / GM

ii. Wardley Lane

- The Clerk reported that she had heard nothing further from the residents who had initially raised concerns about speeding on the lane. AF to follow up to find out if there is any support for submitting a Traffic Regulation Order.
- AF also raised his concerns regarding the infrequency of verge cuts by Highways which was now making the lane even more dangerous for anyone on foot. It was **AGREED** that a follow up report should be sent to Highways.

Action: Clerk / AF

iii. Milland Lane

a. Speeding

- JPI summarised the concerns with the ongoing speeding issues on Milland Lane.

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- After considerable discussion between both the Councillors and the members of the public it was **AGREED** that a Working Group would be formed and a Traffic Regulation Order applied for.

b. HGVs

- Concern was raised by a member of the public regarding the impact of HGVs using the Lane.
- JP summarised the complicated history and difficulties with banning HGVs entirely, the use of SATNAVs and how to accommodate essential HGV use.
- The current position of the 'unsuitable for HGVs' sign was discussed. It was **AGREED** that the Councillors would carry out some research to understand the history of the signage in order to formulate a plan moving forwards.

Action: LM

b. Durrants Pond

- It was updated that the warden had advised that he would arrange a ranger driven public session to remove the Himalayan Balsam. This had not been scheduled but was expected to take place in August.

c. Smugglers Copse

- GM updated that she was continuing to work with the local residents to understand and support them with their concerns regarding the grazing that was taking place in the area. The current concerns raised were:
 - A significant number of tree saplings have died.
 - Horse grazing has resulted in new shoots of planted saplings being eaten.
 - Non-native trees being planted.
 - An inadequate density of tree planting was taking place.
- JP confirmed that he had also managed to speak to a member of Forestry England and had requested a visit in order to understand the residents' concerns and would continue to follow up and supply feedback.

Action: GM / JP

d. Cartersland Wildflower Group

- The Clerk reported that she had received an email from the Wildflower Group raising concerns regarding a horsebox parking on the green. The group had asked that a second fence adjacent to the Rake Road be considered.
- After discussion it was **AGREED** that as this was currently an isolated occurrence and to initiate action could potentially involve considerable expense, the situation should be monitored and reviewed at a later date if it becomes a recurring issue.

Action: Clerk

e. Village Hall Car Park Lights

- The Clerk confirmed that this would be ongoing until the Heads of Agreement with the VH was agreed. She confirmed that she was continuing to investigate alternative fittings but the final decision to be made would be a joint one with the Village Hall Trustees.

Action: Clerk

f. Nature Friendly Road Verges

- After discussion it was **AGREED** that this initiative would not be taken any further currently. Although the PC absolutely supports wildlife corridors and an increase in biodiversity, it was felt that there were no suitable verges and it was therefore preferable to continue to support the work being carried out by Cartersland Wildflower Group.

Action: Clerk

250. Finance



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West Sussex County Councillor Report from Cllr Yvonne Gravely

Firstly I would like to pay tribute to the amazing work Kate O Kelly did as your County Councillor for 7 years. She is missed by many and has big shoes to fill, but I will do my very best!

The last couple of months have proved to be very busy with no less than 30 cases crossing my path. These are mostly from people concerned about highways issues within their communities, and in particular, speeding. I met with the Highways team in Drayton to talk through many of the queries and concerns being raised and we had very useful discussions about each and every one of them.

The main issue in Milland, from a group of residents in Milland Lane, concerns real concerns about speeding and the erosion of areas of the road. I spoke with Highways and as a result they did come out to do some further investigation work, and I have put in an urgent message this morning (9th July) about the situation deteriorating and a large hole developing. I will keep the Clerk updated when I hear from them. With respect to the proposed TRO for Milland Lane, you have my support to apply for a 20mph limit. Initial suggestions from Highways was that 40mph would possibly be more appropriate but due to concerns, I am happy to support an initial starting point of 20mph.

At the meeting with Highways, I also learned about a Sussex Police initiative 'Operation Crackdown' which you can find details about on the Operation Crackdown website. Using it you can report antisocial behaviour of drivers and abandoned cars – the scheme has resulted, in June 2025 alone, of 552 reports submitted online, 34 of which resulted in prosecutions, with many other drivers receiving for example letters with warnings. Please report anti social driving with video evidence – the reporting mechanism does work.

I have attended several parish and town council meetings within my patch – I am only sorry I cannot attend meetings on a Wednesday due to other commitments but I will try to submit a report for each council meeting where possible. It is wonderful to see how dedicated Parish and Town Councillors are, and how much work you do behind the scenes for your communities. It is really inspirational.

One of the big issues that developed recently within the Division, was that I discovered, through complaints from Midhurst residents and businesses, that SGN would be carrying out roadworks on North Street in Midhurst. I realise that this does not affect Milland residents directly but I know how many do come to Midhurst for various reasons. SGN were due to commence work for 6 weeks on 9th June and this involved installing traffic lights and having one way traffic around the works on North Street. I was extremely concerned about the chaos, yet again, this would cause through Midhurst and the knock-on effect to surrounding villages. I had three meetings with SGN and managed to persuade them to delay the works until 22nd July when the school holidays will have started and when Festival of Speed and the Gold Cup will have ended.

I am requesting on behalf of the businesses in Midhurst, that while the works are being undertaken, people still visit the town. Car parks will still be available with free parking for 1 hour in North Street and for 2 hours at the Grange. We will still be very much open for business. I will be meeting SGN weekly during the works to review the arrangements and ensure the works cause as little disruption as possible to the town but we are still recovering from the damage to the town caused by the fire and we need all the support we can get.

I attended a briefing session on applying for Community Traffic Regulation Orders and Community Highway Schemes and was surprised to learn that only 10 to 15 CHS's are agreed throughout the whole



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of West Sussex each year. In a separate briefing I learned more about the number of children in the care of West Sussex County Council and how vulnerable and traumatised they can be. I will be attending a briefing on a scheme called 'Independent Visitor' next week where volunteers meet with a child in care, perhaps once a month to befriend them and to give them support, comfort and guidance. I have also received training in adult and child safeguarding.

I have been appointed to the Appeals Committee at WSCC and the Health and Adult Social Care Committee, replacing Kate O' Kelly, and have my first meeting 23rd June. I also attended a very interesting presentation at Rother Valley Together, a charity operating from the Grange in Midhurst. They provide social care 2 days a week for the elderly, including those with dementia. They are provided with a range of fun activities and have a very good lunch with a charge of £18 per day. They have capacity to take more clients and made the point that elderly people don't necessarily have access, or use, the internet so are not aware of the service they provide. They are therefore relying on the elderly's families and friends and other community groups to bring it to their attention. My late mother was a user of the service and loved it dearly. I would recommend it to Milland residents who may be feeling isolated.

In July we will be meeting at County Hall to discuss the Council Plan and Budget for the next financial year, there will be a full Council Meeting on 18th July and I will be attending a meeting on learning about a Volunteer project, for children in care throughout West Sussex, aiming to provide them with adult support and direction that may be missing in their lives.

As well as discussing the planned Local Government reorganisation at Full Council in May, I attended a briefing on plans within WSCC and what reorganisation means for local communities. I am attaching a letter from the Leader about the proposed reorganisation which talks about a survey I would urge you to participate in, concerning reorganisation. It is vital we make the point about keeping the focus on local issues.

An extraordinary meeting is to be held in September at County Hall, which I believe will be to announce the proposals to be put forward to the government about what the structure of a Unitary Authority would look like for us. I also understand that Mayoral elections will take place in 2026 once the geographical structure of the new organisation is agreed.

Finally, I am also attaching a News Release from the Fire Service asking residents of West Sussex to participate in a survey about their services, and I would again urge the Council to review this particularly so that the voice of rural communities is heard.

Once again, my apologies for not being able to meet your meetings on a Wednesday.

Yvonne Gravely

09 July 2025

District Councillor Report - July 2025

Petworth Men's Health Fair

Chichester District Council is hosting a free Men's Health Fair in Petworth on Tuesday 15 July, from 10am to 2pm at Petworth Park Sports. This community event is all about supporting men's health and wellbeing in a friendly, informal setting. Come along and have your blood pressure checked with Chichester Wellbeing, and chat to our Social Prescribing and Choose Work teams, as well as representatives from Everyone Active and West Sussex County Council's Prevention Assessment team. You'll also be able to learn about weight management, healthy eating, and cutting down on alcohol; discover ways to get more active and quit smoking; and enjoy some free refreshments while you're there! We know that men are often less likely to seek help when it comes to their health, and so providing this opportunity for men in our communities to access free checks and expert advice in a relaxed and welcoming environment is an important opportunity.

Weekly Food Waste Collections to start in Spring 2026

To help residents to prepare, CDC are encouraging everyone to download their free Chichester District App from either the Apple or Google Play store and turn on notifications. This is the best way to receive regular, tailored updates about your bin collections. By turning on notifications, you can get reminders and updates specific to your collection schedule and stay up to date with information on the new service rollout. People can find out more about the app at: www.chichester.gov.uk/chichesterdcapp This will keep you well-informed of our progress and provide more details as we approach the launch of the new service.

Chichester Local Plan 2021-2039

The final consultation for the is underway and it is hoped that the plan will be passed by the inspector this summer. CDC has a website at <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/localplanexamination> charting the progress of the examination of the Plan.

Digital Marketing for Midhurst

Chichester District Council is continuing its support for local businesses in Midhurst with the launch of a new digital marketing campaign. The campaign aims to promote Midhurst as a vibrant destination for shopping, dining, and leisure, and to encourage both residents and visitors to shop locally.

This additional support follows concerns raised about the impact of ongoing roadworks in the town — which the council is not involved with. The campaign will highlight that Midhurst is very much open for business and will also promote the town's free parking periods.

Since the fire at the Angel Inn two years ago, the council has provided ongoing support to help the town recover. Over £300,000 has been invested in a range of initiatives, including £50,000 which was allocated to the Midhurst Recovery Group and used to fund a website; a Midhurst Business Partnership Coordinator; and a promotional campaign for the town.

The council has also offered business grants, training opportunities, and supported a number of events that have had a positive impact on footfall. It is currently exploring options to support further events in the future.



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The new digital campaign will promote the message that Midhurst is open for business and will draw attention to the town's free parking offer. This includes:

- **Two hours' free parking per day** at The Grange car park
- **One hour's free parking per day** at the Post Office and North Street car parks
- **Free parking after 6pm and before 8am** Monday to Saturday
- **Free parking after 5pm and before 10am** on Sundays

Report Fly Tipping

Residents and businesses can report fly tipping at: www.chichester.gov.uk/reportflytipping

Supporting You team

They will do everything possible to help, and anyone struggling should make contact with the team using the email supportingyou@chichester.gov.uk
<https://www.chichester.gov.uk/supportingyoucampaign>.

With thanks and best wishes,
Brett Burkhart