



Annual Parish Meeting

Chair's Report 2025-2026

At the end of my third year on the Parish Council, I am delighted to be writing my third annual Chair's Report. It has been a significant and productive year for the Parish Council, combining the delivery of long-standing local projects with increasing engagement in strategic planning matters that could materially affect the future of the parish.

This report delivers a summary of our activity over the year, including our financial position, plus an overview of some things we have planned and challenges that face us all in the coming year.

I have to start by thanking my fellow Councillors and our Clerks, who have all worked hard to make a positive difference in their various areas of responsibility by dedicating their personal time and energy to making our Parish a better place. I want to thank former Councillor Rick Whyte who left us in July, as well as our former Clerk Maria Manthorpe who left us a couple of weeks later at the end of July after almost three-and-a-half years in post.

I also want to welcome Councillors Paul Nagel-Smith and Steve Parsons who joined the Parish Council during the year, who have settled in well and are a great addition to the team. Our new Clerk Shamina Rushton-Cato joined us in July, and has 'hit the ground running' and provides us with the excellent support we require.

We remain one councillor short of our complement, and there is currently no representation from the Old Village or Little Linford. If anyone is interested in joining the Parish Council, and help make a difference in our community, then please contact myself or the Clerk.

Review of 2024/2025

Playground and Recreation Ground Rejuvenation – the most visible achievement this year has been the completion of the new playground, following several years of planning, consultation, and fundraising. It is now a well-used and valued facility for local families and I must thank Maria, as well as the other members of the PC for the collective effort put into this project which was the largest single thing the PC has ever done. It was fabulous to host the opening on 1 August 2025, and to surprise Maria with the honour of cutting the ribbon. The best outcome is seeing all the children enjoy the new facility so much, not just on the opening day, but pretty much every time I pass by, I see lots of fun and smiles from children and parents alike!

Further improvements to the recreation ground have also been delivered to improve and enhance safety, accessibility, and usability of key community spaces, including:

- The refurbishment of the wooden benches and picnic table
- The resurfacing of the skate ramp, supported by Parish Council funds as well as a community fundraising contribution from the skateboarding community
- The installation of a new footpath into the recreation ground, supported through S106 and Community Infrastructure Funding (CIF), both from MKCC
- Other elements of tarmac resurfacing works.

Parish Magazine – the magazine continues to flourish under the editorial leadership of Councillor Carol Langham. The new design and layout introduced in late-2024 appears popular and we have a great range of content with regular contributions from around the Parish; local news, sections on

local charity and community groups as well as a children's "Busy Bees" section that allows our younger residents to showcase their talents and interests and the recently added "Photos from the Parish" section.

Please remember that the Parish Magazine is YOUR magazine, and broader local content is strongly welcomed, helping ensure the magazine reflects the full breadth of parish life. So if you have something you wish to contribute – on a one-off or regular basis - then please contact us.

MK City Plan 2050 – the Parish Council continues to engage with wider strategic planning frameworks affecting the area. The Milton Keynes City Plan 2050 (Regulation 19 stage) consultation has been completed and the plan is now with the appointed Inspector for examination, with adoption anticipated later in the year subject to the outcome.

This forms part of the wider planning context influencing long-term growth and infrastructure planning across Milton Keynes although this plan is totally separate from the potential New Town.

Household Waste Recycling Centre in Old Wolverton –in 2025, the Parish Council formally opposed the proposed Household Waste Recycling Centre at Old Wolverton, primarily due to concerns about traffic impacts on surrounding roads and the wider highway network.

Residents also raised concerns regarding potential noise, odour, and light pollution impacts, based upon experience of the existing industries there, as well as wider environmental considerations, all of which we reflected in our objection.

Although planning permission was granted despite our and other's objections, the Parish Council will continue to monitor this closely and engage with Milton Keynes City Council as needed.

Planning Applications – over the last year the Parish Council has considered and provided representations on 13 applications. Applications are now being determined in good time by MKCC although they have been minor householder applications other than the application for the HWRC. The HcLL Neighbourhood Plan continues to be a key reference point in our discussions, showing clearly the value we have gained from its preparation.

Highways and Road Safety – this area remains a priority for the Parish Council but after a significant amount of activity in 2024-25, this year was more about business-as-usual maintenance matters. We continue to work with actively MKCC to ensure that potholes, street lights, signage and other highways issues are dealt with – some more rapidly than others – but of course this remains a never-ending activity. We also continue to chase for resolution to the flooding concerns that affect both new and old villages.

Subsequent to public consultation, MKCC will shortly be implementing a 40mph limit on the Haversham Road and a 30mph limit on Haversham Hill, along with new signage and road markings. This will hopefully improve road safety yet further. We continue to have other discussions with MKCC around improving road safety across the Parish and in particular the Old Village after the rejection of the 20mph scheme by residents last year.

Allotments – the parish allotments remain a notable success, being fully let last year and almost fully let again this year - at the time of writing we have 2 vacant plots. An Allotment Open Day was held in July, organised and run by allotment tenants themselves, helping to showcase the site and strengthen community engagement. We hope this will be repeated again this year. Some of the tenants have also established a community plot to allow residents to take on a small plot or work on a shared plot. So, if you are thinking about growing your own produce and looking for a way to spend more time outdoors, whilst getting a bit of exercise, then please contact us at allotments@havershamlittlelinfordpc.gov.uk and we can tell you more.

Community Safety and Engagement – The Parish Council continues to support a wide range of community safety initiatives, including defibrillator provision with regular volunteer inspection of these completed to ensure they are available if needed; Neighbourhood Watch; Community Speedwatch and the operation of Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) across the parish

Regular analysis of SIDs data is published on the Parish Council website, supporting transparency and informing residents about traffic patterns and speeds.

Over the year we ran a total of 30 Community Speedwatch sessions logging a total of 10,071 vehicles of which 475 (or 4.7% – reduced from 6.8% last year) were speeding. Only 6 speeders were exceeding 40mph (down from 101 last year) and none exceeded 43mph. A further 37 were driving at between 30 and 39mph in the 20mph zone, compared to 129 last year. Overall, it would seem that speeding is less of a concern last year than previously but we remain vigilant. Thank you to Councillor Carol Langham for her continued stewardship of the Community Speedwatch team.

The CSW initiative relies on volunteers and remains central to local safety and resilience. We would welcome more people on the team as this enables more sessions to be run and it is clear that this initiative is having a positive impact. To volunteer just email the clerk who will pass on your details.

Public Rights of Way (PRoW) –after the Parish Council were successful in getting the footpath running to the north east from the end of Brookfield Road added to the definitive map, that project was completed with the addition of a footpath sign.

Also, in the last 12 months a number of the PRoW signs across the parish have been replaced making our network more visible given it is one of the defining features of our Parish.

Environment – the Parish Council continues to focus on stewardship of parish spaces and environmental quality. The Community Litter Picking group has been running for a number of years now and have a loyal and committed team of volunteers. Thanks to John Clifford for continuing to lead this group and should you wish to volunteer to help with this, please email the clerk.

The sessions typically run in the morning on the first Saturday of every other month but we try and time our sessions to avoid times when we know the MKCC contractors are scheduled to come through the parish. The team ran six sessions during the year and maintained an average collection rate at 16 bags per session with between eight and ten people attending each pick.

There continues to be quite a lot of litter on both the ‘unofficial layby’ on the Wolverton Road just north of the new village and the parking spot near the top of ‘the bends’ between Mill Road and Little Linford Lane.

One benefit of the reduced traffic on Little Linford Lane given the bridge remains closed is that the team managed to do a thorough pick of the road and filled over 20 bags of rubbish from the road including quite a lot from what must be one particular user of the road who seems to have a very specific taste of Tesco Cheese and Onion sandwich's washed down with a bottle of own brand Sauvignon Blanc. They counted over 30 of the sandwich wrappers and 20 wine bottles!

The dog waste bin previously located near the river was removed due to repeated flooding and access issues impacting regular collections, but it was replaced with a new dog waste bin along the footpath at the end of Brookfield Road. Just to remind you a city-wide Public Spaces Protection Order is in place that makes it illegal to fail to pick up after a dog and carries a £100 fine. The Parish Council also welcomed the installation of two new litter bins on the recreation ground by MKCC.

MKCC Engagement– the Parish Council maintains a positive and constructive working relationship with Milton Keynes City Council, who provide support across a range of local matters.

While this relationship is generally effective, it is also the case that not all requests or priorities can always be agreed or delivered, reflecting differing responsibilities and constraints across local government. Nevertheless, engagement remains open, professional, and ongoing.

Haversham Social & Community Centre (HSCC) Charity – the Parish Council continues to support the HSCC charity, recognising its importance as a key local facility.

I continue to serve as Trustee and Treasurer, and it has been encouraging to see a strong year across bookings and events. Continued community support is essential to its long-term sustainability.

The HSCC held its AGM on 13 April and post the annual election process, remains with four Trustees so would welcome one or two more. If a Trustee role is not for you, please think about how you may be able to help with HSCC events and keep this vital community asset alive for the future.

Finance Report – based on preliminary unaudited figures as at the end of March 2026, the Parish Council had General Reserves of £19,869.14. This amount has reduced slightly this year but given the works we have completed, especially on the Rec, we are comfortable with the outcome

Our Overall Reserves total £28,087.70, a sizeable decrease but that is due to the use of substantial ring-fenced funds including £22,500.00 for the Playground refurbishment, and £6,510 of grants spent on specific community safety and community recreation. We retain Ring-Fenced funds of £6,073.56 for the maintenance of the defibrillators plus £1,000 set-aside for the SIDS maintenance which is renewed every five years. Given the expenditure on the skate ramp, we have not been able to set-aside any funds for rec equipment maintenance this year but hope to do so this year

In terms of the budget for 2026/27, the Parish Council agreed a modest increase in the Precept amount equating to just 7p increase per week for a Band D household. We continue to focus on cost management and value for money, as well as putting money aside for periodic asset maintenance and repairs, although the skate ramp resurfacing costs meant that we could not put anything aside this year for Rec equipment maintenance. We have budgeted to do so for 2026-27.

Annexed to this report are our budgeted and actual income and expenditure figures for 2025/26 and our signed-off 2026/27 budget which may be of interest.

Looking Ahead to 2025/2026

Our priority continues to be to maintain our services in the coming year and after a very busy couple of years with major projects, we anticipate a reduced set of overall activities in 2026-27 – but we still have a number of projects and initiatives we are planning to progress.

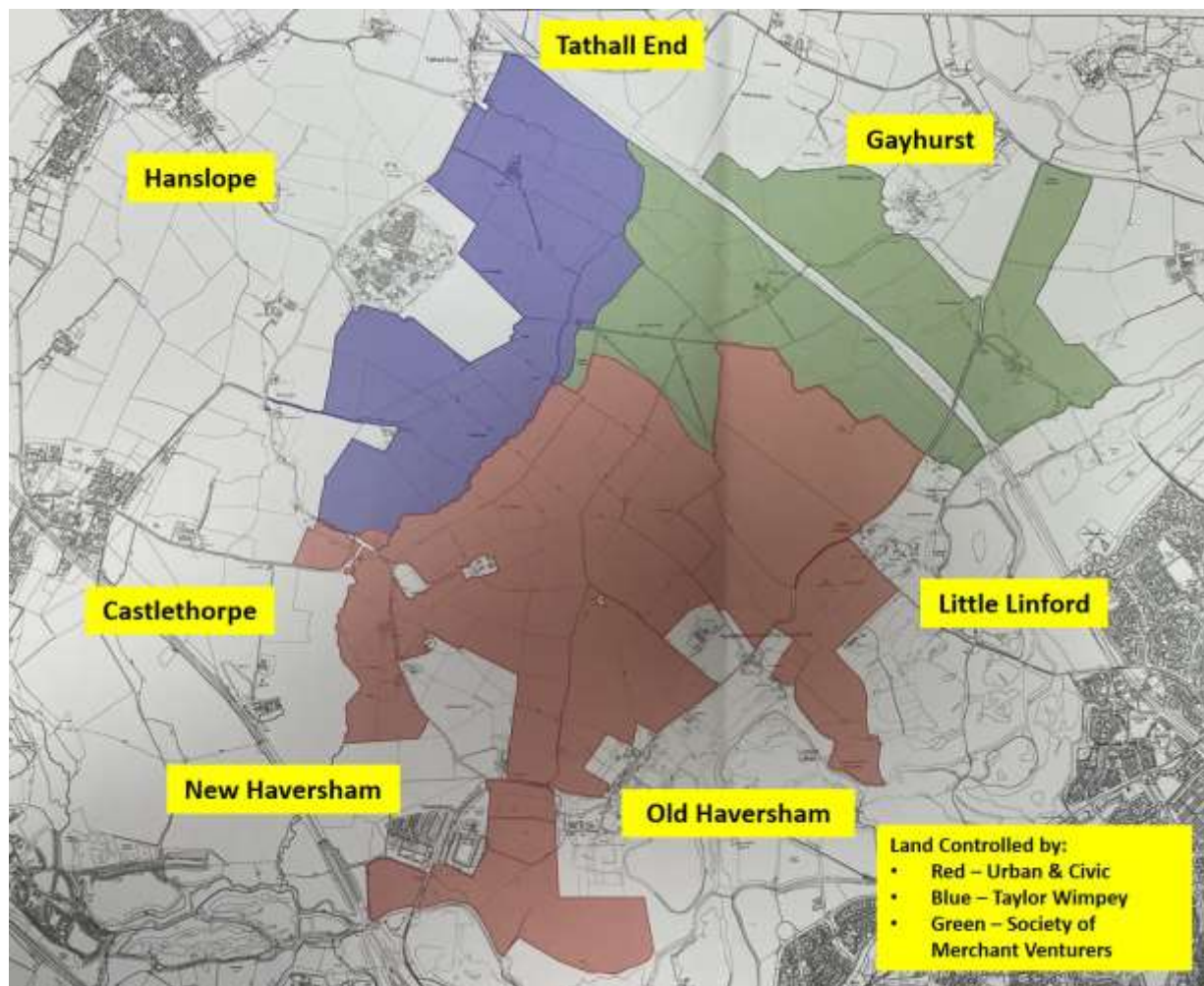
New Towns Programme – perhaps our greatest strategic challenge for the Parish in the coming year is the emergence of MK North as a potential location for part of the Government proposed MK New Town. The proposal is for up to 21,500 houses (as part of the overall proposal for 40,000 dwellings above the 60,000 being proposed in MK City Plan 2050) to be developed along with a new J14a on the M1 and a landmark bridge over the flood plain to connect what is currently the rural north with the rest of MK.

While these proposals are badged nationally as a “New Town” initiative, the Parish Council’s position is that the emerging approach is more accurately characterised as a developer-led urban expansion, rather than a fully planned New Town in the traditional sense.

The Government are running a consultation on the New Towns Draft Programme and this remains open until 11:59pm on 19 May 2026 and we strongly encourage each and every resident to respond as the Parish Council will be doing. Based on our discussion at our meeting on 20 April, we have also prepared guidance on how resident could respond to the consultation which is published at

www.havershamlittlelinfordpc.gov.uk/newtown along with all the information currently available. We will continue to update the page as further information becomes available.

The map below shows the land area in question which is all under the control of three developers.



If taken forward at the scale indicated, the implications would be profound and permanent, affecting:

- Local infrastructure capacity
- Transport networks and congestion
- Environmental and landscape character
- The identity and separation of existing communities

The Parish Council will continue to:

- Firmly represent the views of residents
- Engage fully in consultation and statutory processes
- Work with neighbouring authorities and stakeholders
- Challenge proposals that lack credible infrastructure delivery or sustainability justification

Household Waste Recovery Centre – as this scheme moves into construction and through to operation, the Parish Council will continue to engage with Milton Keynes City Council to ensure that the development:

- Does not create unmanaged traffic impacts during construction

- Is operated in a way that minimises disruption to surrounding communities
- Includes appropriate mitigation for environmental impacts

MKCC have set-up a community liaison group that I, Paul Nagle-Smith and other Haversham residents are part of, and whilst neither Paul nor I are allowed to participate in our Parish Council capacity, we will use this platform to represent all our residents alongside other residents.

Neighbourhood Plan Site – work on the Neighbourhood Plan allocated site process has continued in 2025-26, although progress has been gradual and largely behind the scenes. After a further public exhibition of plans on 22 April, it is anticipated that a planning application will be submitted in due course, followed by a formal determination process, including agreement of a Section 106 legal agreement.

Given the scale of work required, including design, development and ecological mitigation, it is now considered unlikely that construction would commence before spring 2029, although potentially that could be brought forward to 2028. The Parish Council will continue to engage closely as this process develops.

Community Book Exchange – unfortunately the CBE had to be removed earlier in the year having sustained significant damage. We are currently exploring a new option to improve its robustness so we can replace it with something sturdier. We will also consider the best location and have allocated funds for its replacement this coming year.

Parish Vision – we have not had the capacity to take this idea forward in the last year, but looking to the future remains very much a part of what we want to do. Specifically, we would like to explore ideas for a formal football pitch on the Rec; improved accessibility, connectivity, and usability of our Public Rights of Way; making more of the heritage and landscape within the parish, perhaps via a parish map; ideas for sustainability such as water collection in the allotments and others.

We welcome ideas on what matters to you and would love to talk to any resident who wishes to get involved by being a part of the ‘vision team’ to shape the Parish for the future.

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I would like to end by re-iterating my thanks to fellow and former Councillors who I have worked alongside over the last 12 months and of course to our hard-working former and current Clerks.

The team remain committed to ensuring that Haversham-cum-Little Linford is properly represented, maintained, and protected, while continuing to improve facilities and services for residents. I hope that we have done that this year by bringing some of our projects to fruition.

We will continue to act firmly in the best interests of the community to safeguard the parish’s identity, sustainability, and quality of life for current and future generations and we are fully aware of the challenges ahead.

We do welcome your feedback on what we are doing, as well as suggestions for things you would like us to address. I will always try and make time to talk to you when out and about or at events and listen to your comments and concerns, but it does take more than just a small group of Councillors to maintain and improve our Parish, so we welcome any support you can provide.

If you have any feedback or questions for us, then please contact us, either via Facebook messenger or email the clerk at clerk@havershamlittlelinfordpc.gov.uk

Councillor Richard Pryor
03 May 2026

Annex A – Income and Expenditure Summary 2024/25

Income 2026-26			
Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance
Precept	£ 31,592.50	£ 31,592.50	£ -
Interest Received	£ 700.00	£ 1,310.67	£ 610.67
Magazine Advertising & Subs	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,306.00	£ 306.00
Allotment Rental	£ 1,891.00	£ 1,988.25	£ 97.25
Allotment Security Deposit	£ -	£ -	£ -
Allotment Key Deposit	£ -	-£ 15.00	-£ 15.00
Sailing Cub Dog Bin	£ 95.00	£ 95.00	£ -
S106 Income	£ -	£ 6,293.86	£ 6,293.86
CIF Grant Income for Rec Path	£ -	£ 6,307.14	£ 6,307.14
Rec Path Donations and Grants	£ -	£ 22.43	£ 22.43
Skate Ramp Community Funds	£ -	£ 1,200.00	£ 1,200.00
Other Grants and Donations	£ -	£ 500.00	£ 500.00
NET TOTAL	£ 35,278.50	£ 50,600.85	£ 15,322.35
V.A.T.		£ 25,659.11	£ -
GROSS TOTAL		£ 76,259.96	£ -
Expenditure 2025-26			
Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance
Clerk Salary (incl Pension)	£ 16,582.00	£ 13,590.08	£ 2,991.92
Parish Council Grant Expenditure	£ 200.00		£ 200.00
Other Grants and Donations Expenditure	£ -	£ -	£ -
Office and Admin	£ 500.00	£ 414.23	£ 85.77
Hall Hire	£ 566.00	£ 495.00	£ 71.00
Audit Fees	£ 565.00	£ 505.00	£ 60.00
NALC/BMKALC Subscription	£ 145.00	£ 143.22	£ 1.78
ICO Registration	£ 35.00	£ 47.00	-£ 12.00
Chairs Report	£ 50.00	£ -	£ 50.00
Training	£ 300.00	£ 145.00	£ 155.00
Council Insurance	£ 1,200.00	£ 1,300.19	-£ 100.19
Rec and Crescent Cutting	£ 3,000.00	£ 2,771.90	£ 228.10
Village Signs Planting	£ 360.00	£ 360.00	£ -
Dog Bin Emptying	£ 910.00	£ 728.00	£ 182.00
Fixed Asset Repair and Renewal	£ 800.00	£ 917.36	-£ 117.36
Defibrillators Maintenance	£ 700.00	£ 699.12	£ 0.88
Skate Ramp Maintenance	£ 4,500.00	£ 6,250.00	-£ 1,750.00
Playground Equipment Maintenance	£ 1,500.00	£ 3,480.00	-£ 1,980.00
SIDS Maintenance	£ 3,500.00	£ -	£ 3,500.00
Allotment Cutting	£ 1,121.00	£ 1,113.96	£ 7.04
Allotment Water and Drainage	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,707.17	-£ 707.17
Allotment Repairs and Renewals	£ 250.00	£ 60.00	£ 190.00
Magazine Printing	£ 2,280.00	£ 2,380.00	-£ 100.00
IT Equipment	£ -	£ 49.19	-£ 49.19
Office Software	£ 472.00	£ 592.38	-£ 120.38
Accounting Software	£ 408.00	£ 408.00	£ -
.GOV.UK Domain Fees	£ 75.00	£ 75.00	£ -
Website Fees	£ 750.00	£ 135.00	£ 615.00
Neighbourhood Plan	£ -	£ -	£ -
Playground Rejuvenation	£ 22,500.00	£ 22,500.00	£ -
Additional Dog Bin	£ 210.00	£ 148.99	£ 61.01
Community Safety Relocatable CCTV Project	£ -	£ 6,000.00	-£ 6,000.00
Rec Path Replacement	£ -	£ 12,751.00	-£ 12,751.00
Neighbourhood Watch	£ -	£ 202.92	-£ 202.92
NET TOTAL	£ 64,479.00	£ 79,969.71	-£ 15,490.71
V.A.T.		£ 26,040.24	
GROSS TOTAL		£ 106,009.95	

Budget 2026-27			
Title		Income	Expenditure
Precept	£	33,416	
Interest Received	£	400	
Magazine Advertising	£	1,000	
Allotment Rental	£	2,006	
Sailing Cub Dog Bin	£	95	
Clerk Salary (incl Pension)	£	-	£ 12,086
Parish Council Grant Expenditure	£	-	£ 400
Office and Admin	£	-	£ 500
Hall Hire	£	-	£ 570
Audit Fees	£	-	£ 565
NALC/BMKALC Subscription	£	-	£ 160
ICO Registration	£	-	£ 47
Chairs Report	£	-	£ 50
Training	£	-	£ 700
Council Insurance	£	-	£ 1,375
Rec and Crescent Cutting	£	-	£ 3,250
Village Signs Planting	£	-	£ 360
Dog Bin Emptying	£	-	£ 728
Fixed Asset Repair and Renewal	£	-	£ 1,000
Defibrillators Maintenance	£	-	£ 500
Skate Ramp Maintenance *	£	-	£ 1,600
Playground Equipment Maintenance *	£	-	£ 3,500
SIDS Maintenance *	£	-	£ 1,000
Allotment Cutting	£	-	£ 1,257
Allotment Water and Drainage	£	-	£ 1,800
Allotment Repairs and Renewals	£	-	£ 250
Magazine Printing	£	-	£ 2,580
IT Equipment	£	-	£ 650
Office Software	£	-	£ 680
Accounting Software	£	-	£ 444
.GOV.UK Domain Fees			£ 75
Website Fees	£	-	£ 750
Community Book Exchange Replacement	£	-	£ 540
NET TOTAL	£	36,917	£ 37,417
From Reserves			£ 500
Net budget excluding reserves			£ 36,917
Budget Figures exclude VAT			
For items marked * any unspent funds will be added into a maintenance reserve for known periodic costs - e.g., 5-yearly contract cycle for SIDS maintenance			