

LITTLE BRICKHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13 April 2026 at 7.45pm in the Community Centre, Little Brickhill, Milton Keynes.

Present:


Cllr D Lewis - Chair
 Cllr K Morgan
 Cllr E Priestley
 Cllr L Walker
 Cllr S Flowerdew
 Cllr T Bailey (Ward Councillor)
 A Kemp (Parish Clerk)

In attendance:

L Lewis (Resident)
 R Jones (Resident)
 N Baker (Resident)
 S Avery (Resident)
 R Avery (Resident)
 D Williams (Resident)

<p>1. Apologies for Absence:</p> <p>Ward Cllr's D Hopkins & V Hopkins.</p>	
<p>2. Public Open Session:</p> <p>2.1 – Levante Gate, Watling Street, Little Brickhill - Residents requested for more clarification on this future development. <u>It was agreed to include this as an agenda item on each Parish Council meeting to ensure that we can monitor this developments site and response and inform residents accordingly.</u></p> <p>2.2 – Crime Figures – Residents asked for a break down of the crime figures for Little Brickhill. <u>Clerk responded that he was obtaining the crime figures from TVP for the Annual Parish Council meeting / Village meeting on the 21 May 2026.</u></p>	ACTION
<p>3. Declaration of Interest:</p> <p>Cllr D Lewis declared an interest in item 11.1 with the Chair being handed over to Cllr K Morgan.</p>	
<p>4. Approval of the Minutes of Meeting held on 2 March 2026: 3665</p> <p>Approval of the minutes of the meeting were signed and approved.</p>	
<p>5. To discuss and progress priority actions: 3666</p> <p>2025/2026 Priority Actions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise and implement the road layout and other measures on the A5 southbound junction (both to reduce likelihood of drivers going the wrong way down and also overrunning the T-junction when coming off) – <u>Completed October 2025.</u> • Identify and implement additional measures to discourage fly tipping and other antisocial behaviour within the village. <u>This is a continuing problem; the Parish Council are in contact with MKCC to try and reduce these occurrences.</u> • Implement traffic calming measures within the village (those proposed by Keith and discussed with the Highways officer last year). <u>Most of the work was completed by MKCC in December 2025 with a new Speed Indicator Device being installed on Great Brickhill Lane in mid-April 2026.</u> 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solicit opinion from villagers on future housing requirements within the village, including potential proposals from Milton Keynes Council on Levante Gate. MKCC extended the deadline to respond to the MK City Plan 2050 (Regulation 19) to the 16 February 2026. <u>The Parish Council responded this consultation on the on 12 February 2026 and will join with other Councils within the Danesborough Ward to ensure that we plan for the future of the Village when the MK2050 plan reaches the Planning Inspectorate stage.</u> • Solicit opinions from villagers on how to best use Roundacre field on Great Brickhill Lane. <u>This objective will be carried forward to 2026/2027.</u> <p><u>A separate meeting will be arranged to agree a new set of objectives for 2026/2027 for the AGM / Annual Village meeting on the 21 May 2026.</u></p>	Clerk
<p>6. Progress on matters from last Minutes: 3667</p> <p>6.1 - (item 2.3 of minutes 06/03/23) - Street Lighting – A resident asked if consideration could be given to installing some more street lighting on Watling Street near the George / Community Centre. MKCC have agreed to this request to install one additional street light at the front of the George. Confirmation received from MKCC (Streetlighting Team) that the work to install the new column will be completed in this budget year. They will raise the necessary paperwork and provide an actual completion date but will try to keep the Parish Council updated as much as possible.</p> <p><u>Still waiting date for when the work will be completed. Clerk contacted MKCC again to request an update and will follow up again in 7 – 14 days.</u></p>	Clerk
<p>6.2 - (item 7.6 of minutes 03/03/25) – Hall Honour Boards displayed in the Community Centre – These require updating.</p> <p>Clerk has contacted the contractor, and they still have the art work from when the boards were update last time. When we are ready to have the boards updated, they can provide a quotation. <u>No change.</u></p>	
<p>6.3 - (item 2.3 of minutes 09/06/25) – Waste Bin Issue – A resident has contacted the Parish Council to report that the bin on Watsons Field was overflowing with waste scatted near the play area. The resident has kindly cleared this but there is a problem with the bin not closing. Clerk has reported this problem many times to MKCC. <u>Clerk advised that the estimated cost to replace this bin is £733.79 + VAT.</u></p> <p><u>Before obtaining a further quotation, the Clerk has asked MKCC to inspect this bin to establish if it could be repaired or replaced.</u></p>	
<p>6.4 – (item 7.1 of minutes 01/09/25) – Letter received 08/08/25 from MKCC regarding the Household Support Fund with a grant offer of £500 to help low-income and vulnerable households.</p> <p><u>Clerk has notified MKCC on the 10 April 2026 that the funding was used as noted below:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The Residents Association will have used the funding to open the Community Centre for residents to meet with refreshments included, in March 2026.</u> 	

<p>6.5 – (item 2.1 of minutes 03/11/25) – Littering / Fly Tipping.</p> <p><u>It was noted that the situation had improved, and it was agreed to close this action with any further instances beginning reported again.</u></p>	
<p>6.6 – (item 7.1 of minutes 02/02/26) - Email received 23/12/25 from a resident asking for consideration for a Library Box to be installed in the Village.</p>  <p>Clerk advised that the best option is to install this in the Bus Shelter but we would lose 50% of the seating. The cost to purchase one (from MK Men in Sheds) with a pitched roof is £695 + cost for installation (estimated up to £200) and we would have to arrange collection.</p> <p>Cllr T Bailey (Ward Cllr) has provided a Ward Councillor grant of £250 towards the cost that was accepted by the Parish Council at the February 2026 Parish Council meeting.</p> <p>Parish Council contribution £645.</p> <p>We would need to agree a process for the regular management of this facility by volunteers?</p> <p><u>All present agreed to this expenditure and the Clerk was given permission to proceed.</u></p>	Clerk
<p>6.7 – (item 19.1 of minutes 02/03/26) - It was noted that Cllr L Walker has made a planter for the village. Clerk advised that if the intention is to place it on any land that is under the control of MKCC, that we would need to obtain permission before installation. <u>Ongoing.</u></p>	
<p>6.8 - (item 19.2 of minutes 02/03/26) – Cllr S Flowerdew gave an update on the meeting held with Thames Valley Police in the Village Hall on the 5 February 2026 to discuss several recent incidents in the Village.</p> <p><u>It was agreed to try and arrange another meeting as soon as practical.</u></p>	
<p>6.9 - (item 8.2 of minutes 02/03/26) – Email Received 11/02/26 from TVP asking if any local events are being organised over the next 10 months that they are available to attend.</p> <p><u>Nothing new at the moment, review again at the May 2026 meeting.</u></p>	

<p>7. To discuss a response to the MK Local Transport Plan Consultation due to close in mid-April 2026. 3668</p> <p>This was discussed in the Public Open Session – see minute reference 2.1, see below:</p> <p>Murray Woodburn (Traffic & Transportation Manager) attended the meeting in connection with Agenda item 7 – Local Transport Plan 5 and discussed other issues as noted below:</p> <p>Local Transport Plan Consultation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation of the contents and purpose of the consultation was given, and questions were answered from Councillors and Residents. • It was noted that this consultation is scheduled to close on the 31 March 2026 but will be extended for comments for an extra two to three weeks. • Concerns were raised that the current transport network will not cope with the potential for new housing developments / additional warehousing sites and it was suggested that more detailed traffic surveys are required. • Little Brickhill Parish Council are concerned that the Redway's do not connect with the village. • It was disappointing that there are no plans in the place for a Lorry Park to be included. <p>The LTP5 consultation is now live on the Commonplace website here. Have Your Say Today - The Local Transport Plan - MK Transport Conversation</p> <p><u>Clerk agreed to draft a response based on the drafts prepared by the Chair and obtain agreement from the Chair before including obtaining Parish Councillors agreement to respond to MKCC.</u></p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>8. Correspondence: 3669</p> <p>8.1 – Notification received 02/04/26 from National Highways regarding Important roadworks information: A5 northbound between Kelly's Kitchen Roundabout and Old Stratford Roundabout – they plan to complete work over approximately three weeks starting from Monday 20 April 2026 and work overnight between 8pm and 6am on weeknights only, weather permitting.</p> <p><u>This was noted; no actions were required.</u></p> <p>8.2 – Email received 08/04/26 from EWR announcing details of the final route-wide consultation starting on the 14 April 2026 and closing on the 9 June 2026. https://eastwestrail.co.uk/news/latest-stories/east-west-rail-announces-details-of-final-consultation for details.</p> <p><u>This was noted; no actions were required.</u></p>	
<p>9. Clerks Report / Local Issues: 3670</p> <p>9.1 – Newsletter – <u>Clerk apologised for the delay with this latest issue because of shortage of content but will try and send enough content during week commencing 13 April 2026. A no Cold Calling article and sticker will be included together with details of the Litter Picking equipment that we hold.</u></p>	

9.2 - Overhanging Tree at Roundacre Field – Clerk has contacted the contractor, and the work is waiting for MKCC to approve a traffic management plan but hopefully should be completed in April 2026.

9.3 – Blocked Drain – A resident has reported a blocked drain outside the White House to MKCC and received a reply that it does not meet the criteria for a repair. Clerk has reported this to MKCC many times since the 17 September 2025 with photo evidence.

Clerk has reported this again to MKCC. Ongoing.

9.4 – Play Area – MKCC have removed the slide for safety reasons.



Clerk advised that the cost would be around £1,860 + VAT to replace this item.

It was agreed to delay any expenditure until a review of spend for 2026/2027 has been agreed.

9.5 – Other Village Issues: No other issues were raised.

10 . Unitary Councillors' Report: 3671

Cllr T Bailey gave an update on some village issues and initiatives that MKCC are currently undertaking as noted below:

- Raised an issue with MKCC regarding the road markings being redone.
- Taking residents concerns over the Levante Gate site.
- Confirmed that she attended the Levante Gate consultation event on the 16 March 2026 and explained some details on what was included in the proposed development.

11. Planning: 3672

11.1 – PLN/2026/0446 - The retention of 1.8m tall fence on the boundary of the land adjacent to a highway at Home Farm, Watling Street, Little Brickhill.

The chair for this item was handed over to Cllr K Morgan and following discussion the Clerk was asked to write to MKCC to request that residents' views / concerns are taken into consideration as part of the planning evaluation.

11.2 - PLN/2026/0346 - Consultation on construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed Grand Union Canal Transfer (water transfer project) under section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 or Regulation 11 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 at Grand Union Canal and Land around Little Brickhill, Milton Keynes.

Notification received from MKCC 02/04/26 confirming the Council's decision on this application.

Clerk

12. To discuss any Highway issues: 3673

12.1 – Great Brickhill Lane Road Defect – Clerk reported this problem to MKCC under reference number FS77216972 and was informed that it was on an unadopted highway. Following discussion with MKCC the Clerk was asked to report this to Bucks CC. Bucks CC say it is not their responsibility, so the Clerk has again requested further advice from MKCC.



It looks like MKCC have inspected this since being reported to MKCC again on the 23 February 2026. Clerk has emailed MKCC (Highways Department) to request a date when the repair will be undertaken. Ongoing.

12.2 - (item 2.1.2 of minutes 02/03/26) – Other Transport Issues.

- Concerns were raised with the safety of Kellys Traffic Roundabout (McDonalds). MKCC gave a brief update on the improvement proposals that Highways England are planning for this junction at the Parish Council meeting held on the 2 March 2026.
- MKCC will support applications for the introduction of 20 MPH Zones should any local authorities consider applying for consideration. It was agreed to keep this under consideration.
- There are still issues with vehicles trying to access the A5 northbound from the wrong slip road following the improvements completed by Highways England. MKCC agreed to investigate installing a camera on a temporary basis to obtain evidence to enable this safety issue to be reviewed again. Clerk to contact MKCC for an update.

12.3 - (item 6.9 of minutes 02/02/26) – National Speed Signs – A resident asked for an explanation of why these signs were removed by MKCC when the recent improvements were made.

MKCC have confirmed that the removal of the signs was to see whether it has any impact on vehicle speeds as motorists exit the village, as most drivers were accelerating as soon as they saw the national speed limit sign.

Clerk asked MKCC to provide evidence what impact this has achieved and received this response.

- I will add this to our next batch of counts and another one to add to the list – Watling Street, Little Brickhill.

Clerk confirmed that MKCC would be undertaking the speed counts during week commencing 13 April 2026.

12.4 – Great Brickhill Lane – Speed Indicator Device – Clerk confirmed that MKCC would be installing the new SID during week commencing 13 April 2026.

13. To discuss the use / improvements of Roundacre Field: 3674

It was agreed that we need to undertake more research (housing needs survey) on this as it was felt that villagers would prefer the field to stay as open space for residents to use and improvements made as per the application for lottery funding that was not successful. It was noted that there are other opportunities for grant funding and it was agreed to start the process of obtaining quotations in improving the facility for consideration.

Agree scope of work required to enable quotations to be obtained and grant applications to be submitted. Tree and Shrub clearance, type of replacements boundary fences on all four sides, new benches etc.

Clerk presented a draft fencing plan. Cllrs agreed to have a site meeting to discuss options for continuing discussion.

It was agreed to delay this until a review of spend for 2026/2027 has been agreed.

14. Financial: 3675

14.1 - Cheques presented for payment:

101075	£284.14	Vision ICT Ltd - Website and Email Hosting
101076	£174.00	Vision ICT - Website MOT
101077	£30.49	Clerk - New Lock for Roundacre Field
S/O	£204.00	Clerk – Salary April 2026
101078	£140.00	HMRC – Tax for Clerk – April 2026
101079	£120.00	RTM – Grass Cutting
101080	£6.00	Clerk - Salary shortfall (April 2026)

This expenditure was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously.

14.2 – Payments received:

- None

14.3 - It was noted that the **Bank Balance** following the payments made tonight (£470.00) and Cheques not cashed (£488.63) was **£34,338.56**

14.4 - Year end 2025/2026 / Budget 2026/2027:

Clerk will update the budget at the end of this fiscal year to reflect the precept increase and year end balances. This will be completed when the bank statement is received showing the balance as of 31 March 2026.

14.5 - Bank Mandate:

Clerk confirmed that he had contacted Barclays Bank and that he would have to ring back with a current signatory to arrange for a new mandate to be generated to add other signatories. It was agreed that all Parish Councillors should become signatories.

Progress has been made with Barclays Bank and Clerk brought documents to sign at the Parish Council meeting.

<p>14.6 - (item 5.6 of minutes 07/10/24) – Play Equipment – Clerk to ask MKCC if they can clean all the play equipment on Watsons Field. <u>Clerk confirmed that the cost for MKCC to clean all the play equipment is £300 for two men at £75 per hour.</u></p> <p><u>It was thought best to delay this until a decision has been reached on the play item replacement. See minute reference 9.4.</u></p> <p>14.7 – Assertion 10 AGAR new regulations for Annual Returns 2025/2026 – Clerk attended a free training course on the 19 September 2025 to understand what the changes are.</p> <p><u>To ensure that we are compliant an audit of the website was undertaken by our website provider at a cost of £145.00 and confirmation was given that we are compliant with the new regulations.</u></p> <p>14.8 – Bench in Wyness Avenue – This could do with repairing / replacing.</p> <p>Quotation being sought. <u>Ongoing.</u></p> <p>14.9 - Grass Cutting Contractor for 2026/2027:</p> <p>Grass cutting has commenced by our new contractor who have provided to the Clerk scheduled dates for the when they will complete the grass cutting in the village.</p> <p>14.10 – Year end tasks: Clerk will arrange for the internal audit to be completed by Auditing Solutions Limited, complete PAYE reports and re-claim VAT paid in 2025/2026 of £1,270.79.</p> <p>14.11 – The Pensions Regulator: Clerk confirmed that he had completed the re-declaration of compliance online documents on the 2 March 2026 to confirm that the Parish Council have no employees that should be enrolled in a pension scheme.</p>	
<p>15. To discuss the Clerks Position: 3677</p> <p>Clerk advised that it was time for him to step down as Clerk and start the process of recruiting a replacement. The following actions are required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to prepare Job Specification – Action Clerk • Agreed number of hours, pay and conditions and working from home allowance – Action Parish Councillors / Clerk • Purchase Laptop and Office Software for a new Clerk – cost estimated up to £500 - Action Parish Councillors / Clerk • Agree and place an advert on notices boards / website, MKCC website and BALC website - Action Parish Councillors / Clerk • Who will interview for the position - Parish Councillors? <p><u>Clerk will stay in post until a replacement has been found. No change.</u></p> <p><u>To progress this task clerk suggested that we should establish a working group of two Parish Councillors and the Clerk to move this task forward to ensure that a replacement Clerk is appointed as soon as possible. A separate meeting will be arranged.</u></p>	Clerk

<p>16. To receive reports on the Community Centre: 3678</p> <p><u>It was noted that the AGM for the Community Centre would be held on the 16 April 2026.</u></p>	
<p>17. Councillors Report: 3679</p> <p><u>No issues were raised.</u></p>	
<p>18. Items for the next / future agendas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Review - TBA. • Others? 	
<p>19. Date of Next Meeting:</p> <p>Future dates are noted below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 21 May 2026 – Annual Village Meeting – 7.30 pm • Monday 6 July 2026 <p><u>There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.53 pm.</u></p> <p>.....</p> <p>Chair for Little Brickhill Parish Council</p>	