

Appendix

45/22

Annual Parish Meeting

Annual Report of the Parish Council

Annual Report from the District Councillor

Annual Report from the County Councillor

Parish Council Accounts for the Year ended 31st March 2022

Parish Council observations on its finances

Annual Report and Financial Statements from:

Great Milton Recreation Ground Management Committee

The Hard Surface Play Area Committee

Neighbours Hall Committee

Old Field Charity

Sheppard Charitable Trust

St Mary's Church

Kent and Couling Charity

Great Milton Neighbourhood Watch

Great Milton Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report 2021/22

- Planning
 - Final amendments to Le Manoir's plans for expansion are now under consideration and will likely be heard by the SODC Planning Committee in June
- Parking, traffic and roads
 - Speeding in Milton Common has been addressed with the installation of a speed indicator to alert drivers
 - Parking in Great Milton especially at school times is still an issue despite some residents offering their driveways as temporary parking areas
 - Discussions with the school and police are on-going
- Strategic issues
 - Chalgrove Airfield development seems to have gone quiet though this will be monitored, as will potential developments at 'Harrington'.
- Parish Clerk
 - Our Parish Clerk, Tim Darch, continues to perform in his role and provides strong and invaluable support to the Council.
- Health
 - Due to health problems, I have been unable to attend a number of PC meetings in recent months and this is likely to continue for another two to three months. Councillor Bill Fox has proved to be adept at standing in for me on many occasions which is much appreciated.

Thanks are of course due to my fellow councillors for their continued efforts and support throughout this year.

Stephen Harrod

Chairman

19 April 2022

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT – CLLR FREDDIE VAN MIERLO

In May 2021, I was elected as your county councillor with 53% of the vote. It was part of a 'yellow wave' that saw Liberal Democrats become the equal largest party in the county, and also the equal largest party in the Henley constituency. A new administration was formed following the elections comprising of 21 Lib Dems, 3 Greens and 16 Labour councillors – the first non-Conservative administration in Oxfordshire County Council.

In the first year of taking control, the new administration has not wasted any time. We have developed new strategies for transport and HGVs, libraries & SEND. Instituted a new policy to meet our promise of delivering 20mph communities and secured grants following ambitious bids to central government to improve bus services. Youth services will be brought back for the first time since they were scrapped by the Tories. We have engaged closely in the Oxfordshire 2050 process to express our concerns on the projected growth targets being set and were a key driver of getting the ox-cam arc and expressway scrapped.

In February this year, the new administration's first budget was passed at Full Council. It is true that a rise in council tax comes at a time when the rising cost of living is hitting people hard. However, to continue to meet our obligations on social care – which makes up over half our budget – there was little choice. The Conservatives offered no amendments at the meeting. Having recently received my own council tax bill, I will pay it through gritted teeth, but knowing that the money is going to some of the most vulnerable residents in Oxfordshire.

As your local councilor, I serve one of the biggest divisions in the county – stretching from Nettlebed to Great Milton, and from Ewelme to Postcombe. Chalgrove village and Watlington town make up the largest settlements, but at my last count there are over 25 distinct villages and communities. I spend a lot of my time campaigning on issues important to Watlington and Chalgrove – as these also have a significant impact on the surrounding villages.

In Chalgrove, I continue to campaign against the airfield development. In August last year, I facilitated a meeting with the new Leader of the Council, Liz Leffman, and Martin-Baker, who currently use the site to test and develop ejector seats. In March 2022 I spoke against a reference to the airfield development at cabinet in papers prepared for HIF1 – a housing infrastructure project around Didcot. In April, I brought a motion to Full Council to position the County as opposed to the development. It was voted down by a Con-Lab coalition, but I will continue to oppose in any way I can. In Watlington, two thorny issues have needed persistence to keep on track. The first is the new 'edge road' that will direct traffic away from the historic town center and the second is working to resolve a long-standing legal bind that has prevented a council-controlled property on the high street from being occupied for 12 years.

Across all villages and towns in the division I have championed local efforts to reduce traffic speeds and volumes. I'm pleased that many of the villages in this division have applied to have 20mph zones and have been successful in being part of the first tranche to implemented by OCC. I have used my priority fund to support the purchase

of SID and VAS signs, and helped villages in accessing OCC matched funding to village gates and other traffic calming features.

As I look to the next 3 years, and the administration does too, we want to move from a position of firefighting and dealing with legacy issues, to making progress on our priorities. The way that planning works means some projects agreed by the Tories are locked into complicated processes that are difficult to unbind, but I hope that you as residents will see a shift over the next 3 years towards tackling the climate emergency and protecting biodiversity; taking on the inequalities in our county; improving social care and special educational needs provision; and investing in active and sustainable transport.

Not everything will be as popular as 20mph zones – I have had to have difficult conversations with local farmers about the change to plant-based meals at county meetings. No doubt when the Zero Emissions Zone in Oxford is expanded, and residents drive into Oxford for a fee, I will face more difficult questions.

Perhaps it is a dangerous thing post-Brexit to quote a former European Commission President, but I'm going to do it anyway. On climate change, Jean-Claude Juncker, said *"We all know what to do, but we don't know how to get re-elected once we have done it."*

On a personal note, I've very much enjoyed my first year as a councillor. It hasn't been easy, and there is a reason why most councillors are not of working age. It is very hard to make being a councillor compatible with full time or near full time work – but I live life by the motto, *if you want something doing well, give it to a busy person*.

The reason I ran was to be part of a thriving and welcoming community – and to serve them as best I could. On this metric, I couldn't have asked for a better first year. Thank you.

Great Milton Parish Council
 Receipts and Payments Accounts
 Year to 31 March 2022

Receipts	Actual to 31/03/22 £	Budget for the year £	Variance £
Precept	19,480.00	19,480.00	
Bulletin Advertisements	3,500.00	2,000.00	1,500.00
Access/Rental agreements	199.05	150.00	49.05
Allotment rentals	240.00	240.00	
OCC Grass Verge Maintenance	356.39	360.00	-3.61
VAT Claim	1,416.68	1,000.00	416.68
Funding grants	15,288.63		15,288.63
Total receipts	40,480.75	23,230.00	17,250.75
Payments			
Expenses	379.20	350.00	-29.20
Salary	6,110.78	5,750.00	-360.78
Staff training	120.00	150.00	30.00
Parish Council Insurance	347.05	350.00	2.95
Website	239.07	300.00	60.93
Bulletin DTP and Printing	2,745.00	3,000.00	255.00
Rec Grd Maintenance	400.00	400.00	
Rec Grd Insurance	1,105.70	950.00	-155.70
Sundry	237.50	200.00	-37.50
Handyman & materials / Village Maintenance	1,248.78	1,000.00	-248.78
Water Allotments	40.76	70.00	29.24
Grass Cutting	3,954.00	5,250.00	1,296.00
SODC Dog Hygiene	891.90	1,300.00	408.10
Doctor and Hospital service	72.00	50.00	-22.00
Church Clock service	634.86	210.00	-424.86
Subscriptions	394.70	400.00	5.30
Donations	350.00	300.00	-50.00
PCC Grass Maintenance grant	600.00	600.00	
Tree Management	1,314.00	1,400.00	86.00
BT Direct Debit - Council Email	129.60	150.00	20.40
Archive Room overheads - History/GMPC		200.00	200.00
Grants - Replacement bus service/Childrens Centre	500.00	500.00	
Defibrillator maintenance and training	162.00	350.00	188.00
Speed mitigation - Milton Common	17,375.16		-17,375.16
Total payments	39,352.06	23,230.00	-16,122.06
Earmarked reserves			
Transparency Fund		1,865.00	1,865.00
Net receipts/payments	1,128.69	-1,865.00	2,993.69
Balance brought forward	33,567.14		
Balance carried forward	34,695.83		
VAT to claim	4,313.00		
S137 expenditure			

Observations on Great Milton Parish Council's accounts

Financial year ending 31st March 2022

Receipts

Receipts for the 2021/22 financial year amounted to £40,480.75.

The opening cashbook balance was £33,567.14.

Bulletin Advertisements

Receipts from Bulletin advertisements amounted to £3,500 (£1,500 over the budgeted amount for the year of £2,000). The increase is the result of new advertisers from the last few years continuing their commitment, plus several other new additions. There is no debt outstanding from advertisers other than expected slight delays to payments where invoices have been issued.

Access Rental/Agreements

£199.05 has been received from access/rental agreements relative to the budgeted amount of £150. Wayleave payments from SSE and BT continue to be received automatically. A rental payment of £100 per year from OCC from the rental of allotment land for provision of a temporary classroom is invoiced in April: outstanding arrears of £30 (£10 per year) resulting from OCC 'holding over' pending agreement on out-of-hours access arrangements for the tennis court/'hard surface' have been also paid.

OCC Grass Verge Maintenance

£356 received (budget £360).

VAT reclaim from 2020-21

The budgeted sum was £1,000, while the amount received from the reclaim for 2020-21 was £1,417 (£417 over budget for the year).

The higher figure can be largely attributed to SODC increasing their costs for dog bin emptying by around 400% at the beginning of the financial year (cheaper options have subsequently been pursued), increased costs for mowing caused by optimal growing conditions, printing costs for planning application leaflets and 'kindness cards' (part of the village Covid relief effort), and costs for redesigning the village website. All of the above attracted VAT on payments.

Allotment rentals

Income was £240, exactly as budgeted due to anticipated continued full occupancy of allotment plots.

Funding grants

£15,289 was received from CIL funds pertaining to housing development in Milton Common, which has been used for speed mitigation measures including VAS signs, gateway features, road markings and improved signage. Although expenditure on these items is forecast to be £17,375, the reclaim of associated VAT (£2,896) will eventually result in expenditure of £14,479, which is broadly in line with the funding received.

Payments

Total payments for the financial year 2021-22 amounted to £39,352.06.

Areas that were over budget:

Salary

Expenditure was £6,111, over budget by £361 (budgeted sum £5,750). This was the result of a £200 bonus granted by the Parish Council to the Clerk for work done during the Covid pandemic and an increase in the hourly rate on the 'Green Book' pay scale which was finally agreed in March 2022 and backdated.

Expenses

Expenditure was £379, over budget by £29 (budgeted sum £350). This was largely the result of an increase in the usage of postage stamps for a variety of reasons.

Recreation Ground insurance

Recreation Ground insurance expenditure was £1,106, £156 over the budgeted sum of £950 as a result of increased premiums.

Sundry

Expenditure was £238, over budget by £38 (budgeted sum £200). Sundry expenses were on a speed monitoring survey, a gift for a former councillor who was seriously ill, and the hire of a larger hall for a parish council meeting to discuss a planning application that had attracted significant public interest.

Village Maintenance

Expenditure was £1,249, over budget by £249 (budgeted sum £1,000). The majority of expenditure has been on path strimming, litter-picking equipment, digging out drainage 'gripps' which allow water to drain into ditches from road surfaces, and the removal of trees damaged or felled by Storm Eunice at the village allotments.

Doctor and Hospital service

Expenditure was £72, over budget by £22 (budgeted sum £50) due to increased insurance costs.

Church Clock Service

Expenditure was £635, over budget by £425 (budgeted sum £210) due to the need for unplanned repairs to the clock mechanism.

Donations

Expenditure was £350, over budget by £50 (budgeted sum £300). Donations were made in 2021-22 to Wheatley Park School, Cleanslate, Citizens' Advice and the Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary (the latter requested by the internal auditor in lieu of fees).

Areas that were under budget:

Staff Training

Expenditure was £120, under budget by £30. One training course was undertaken in the financial year by a new councillor.

Parish Council insurance

The continuation of the long-term arrangement has led to predictable costs of £347, £3 under the budgeted sum of £350.

Website

Expenditure was £239, under budget by £61 (budgeted sum £300). An ongoing monthly maintenance charge of £19.99 (£29.99 for the first month) guarantees an element of professional assistance if required, rather than relying on voluntary services from village residents.

Bulletin DTP and printing

Expenditure on 31 March 2022 was £2,745, which is £255 below the budgeted sum of £3,000.

Allotment water supply

Expenditure was £41, under budget by £29 (budgeted sum £70). Estimated readings are now more realistic. It is not possible to read the meter as it is under soil and water in the access hole. The supplier has been advised of this but as yet no remedial works have been undertaken.

Grass cutting

Expenditure was £3,954, under budget by £1,296 (budgeted sum £5,250). Despite an increase mowing frequency by the new mowing contractor from 2021 to 2023, reduced costs relative to those of the previous incumbent have generated a significant cost saving.

Dog hygiene

Expenditure was £892, under budget by £408 (budgeted sum £1,300). The Parish Council parted company with SODC after a planned near-1000% price increase over two years was announced. After the replacement contractor ceased trading shortly after taking over, a local company is now performing these duties reliably and at reduced cost.

Subscriptions

Expenditure was £395, under budget by £5 (budgeted sum £400). Adjustments to the budget following increases in membership fees for OALC, SLCC, ALCC and the addition of the ICO 'Data Protection Fee' over the last few years appear to have been successful.

Tree management

Under budget by £86 (expenditure £1,314, £1,400 budgeted). The sole expenditure was on tree maintenance following the routine annual inspection.

BT Direct Debit Council e-mail

Under budget by £20 (expenditure £130, budgeted sum £150). The monthly sum of £10.80 for the package has not changed for several years.

Archive room overheads

No expenditure (not claimed in 2021-22). Budgeted sum £200.

Defibrillator maintenance and training

Under budget by £188 (expenditure £162, budgeted sum £350). Expenditure was on ongoing maintenance costs. A further training session funded by a donation from a local fund-raising event is to be arranged during 2022 now that Covid restrictions have ended.

Areas where payments were exactly as budgeted:

Recreation Ground maintenance (Annual grant of £600)

PCC grass maintenance grant (Annual sum of £400)

Unbudgeted item

Milton Common speed mitigation

£15,289 has been received from CIL funds pertaining to housing development in Milton Common, which has been used for speed mitigation measures including VAS signs, gateway features, road markings and improved signage. Expenditure on these items is forecast to be £17,375. The reclaim of associated VAT (£2,896) will eventually result in expenditure of £14,479, which is broadly in line with the funding received. The remaining £810 will be held over and ring-fenced for further infrastructure-related expenditure in the vicinity of the housing development.

Earmarked reserves

The remaining funds from the Transparency Fund (£1,865) remain earmarked for use if required (for example for replacement of ICT equipment). A £500 grant for Covid support from SODC was not used. A request to SODC to divert these funds to support Ukrainian refugees who will shortly be welcomed to the village was refused, so the sum will be returned shortly.

Section 137 expenditure: NIL

SUMMARY

Receipts exceeded expenditure by £2,994.

Total receipts were £17,251 over budget.

Total payments were £16,122 over budget.

Total reserves to carry forward into 2022-23: £34,695.83

Tim Darch

Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer, Great Milton Parish Council

Great Milton Recreation Ground

Great Milton Recreation Ground Management Committee

Annual Report for the year to 31 March 2022

1. **The Recreation Ground**, The Green, Great Milton, Oxfordshire, OX44 7NP is registered with the Charity Commissioners (No 304308) and constituted by a scheme dated 4th July 1979.
2. **The charity** is administered by the Great Milton Recreation Ground Management Committee, which for 21/22 comprised

Chairman	Mr James Cunningham
Vice Chair	Mrs Michele Block
Secretary	Ms Clare Blakeway-Phillips
Treasurer	Mr Paul Dennis
Other members	Dr Emily Johns, Mrs Caroline Smith

3. **The Custodian Trustees** – Great Milton Parish Council
4. **Composition of the Committee** – the maximum membership may be 3 elected members, 8 representative members and up to 4 co-opted members. The committee hold office until the following AGM.
5. **Elective members** – there were no members elected at the last AGM.
6. **Co-opted members** –Emily Johns, Caroline Smith and James Cunningham were co-opted to the committee.
7. **Representative Members** – the appointing body and number to be appointed were-

<u>Body</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
• Parish Council	2	Mrs Michele Block + 1 vacant
• PCC	2	Ms Clare Blakeway-Phillips +1 vacant
• Youth Club	1	Not represented
• Cricket Club	1	Mr Paul Dennis
• Football Club	1	Not represented
• Governors of GM School	1	Not represented

We will be asking the PC and PCC for representatives to join. Whilst 20/21 was quiet we are now looking to increase the committee.

8. **Objects** – the object of the Charity is the provision and maintenance of facilities for the recreation and leisure time occupation for the residents of Great Milton parish. In particular a playing field with ancillary facilities and a playground for young children.
9. **Discussion** – The Pavilion continues to be home to the Cricket and Athletics Clubs as well as various bookings from the Great Milton Choir, the Great Milton Toddlers Club, the Arts and Crafts Club ,Yoga Classes, Parish Council meetings and as the village Polling Station.

There has been a slow restart to the formal use of the Rec. The Cricket club enjoyed a number of friendly matches. We have hosted a number of “ultimate Frisbee” training sessions. Unfortunately

the Football club did not reform this season. Sadly the molehill club has been very active on the recreation ground, we have tried a number of approaches to engage with them to stop their activity. We will have to undertake some remedial repair work as well as continued dialogue with the offenders.

The Committee had organised working parties during the year to clear away the excess plant growth and debris at the rear of the Pavilion. The Diamond jubilee garden had to be removed as it had become unsafe, we will be replacing this area with some tree planting for the Platinum jubilee. We will be using some of our reserves to give the pavilion and Rec a refresh.

The financing of the insurance and most of the grass cutting and grounds maintenance is provided by the Parish Council, and the maintenance of the Recreation Ground entrance is carried out by Greenford Ltd.

The proceeds from the sale of the "garage strip" in 2003 continues to be invested according to the guidelines laid down by the Charity Commission and I would like to thank the Trustees of the Sheppard Trust for their continued support.

10. **Financial Information** - the Accounts for the Year ending 31st March 2022 show that the Charity held uncommitted cash reserves of £12,200, down from last year. The bulk of the reserve had come from the covid grant. We will be utilising some of this with upkeep of the Rec and pavilion.
11. **Connected Party Transactions** - Trustees have received reimbursement of expenses incurred with third parties on production of receipts.
12. **Future Developments** – there are no plans for further developments at the moment and we would welcome suggestions from the community for new projects.
13. **Conclusion** – Finally, I would like to thank all the committee members for their many efforts, and I would also like to express my gratitude to all those people who have given their time throughout the year to help maintain the Recreation Ground, Pavilion and Play Area for the benefit of the community and we would be delighted if more people in the village would offer their help towards the common good.

Signed

James Cunningham
Chairman
31st March 2022

GREAT MILTON HSPA – REPORT 1 May 2021 to 30 April 2022

Overall: - Activity limited in 21/22 because of Covid. Fingers crossed for a vibrant 22/23!

Committee:

Committee members that have kindly agreed to maintain their responsibilities for 22/23:

Chair – Mark Nethercleft (Wheatley)

Treasurer – Dan Bennett (Little Milton)

Membership Secretary – Sarah MacMahon (Great Milton (GM))

Yet to be asked for season from 1 May:

Committee Member – Henry Elphick (Great Milton)

And further recruitment and succession planning will continue in the 22/23 season. Ideally, the committee would like additional GM village residents to take active roles and / or participate with the running and activities for the good and longevity of the club in the local GM community.

HSPA Maintenance and Upgrade 21/22

Play Area Surface was repainted and relined for good and safe playability and longevity.

Permanent

industrial grade 5-a-side goals and reconditioned junior and senior netball nets were installed to

improve, extend and promote additional sports usage by local members, local groups and GM school

children in future seasons.

Memberships 21/22

16 family memberships and 0 individual memberships.

Renewals due 1 May 2022. 22/23 membership fees will remain unchanged at £30 family, £10 individuals. Existing booking system remains unchanged for now but may be updated in 22/23 for

members convenience (tbc). Membership recruitment for 22/23 to be run from April 2022.

Firstly

existing members, secondly new enquiries, thirdly promotion via word of mouth, referrals and posters in the community.

Tennis Camps on the HSPA 22/23

Neil James (Tennis Coach) has been offered the court free of charge to run camps/courses for local

children and adults at a fee of his choice with understanding that participants would be asked to pay

the £30 family or £10 personal annual fee to the club to facilitate maintenance of the facilities.

Hourly hire to local Sports Groups

The HSPA is available for hire to sports groups at £25 per hour. This was taken up by 2 football

groups during the summer of 21. The plan is to extend this to other football and netball groups seeking a venue to train and play. Proceeds will facilitate ongoing maintenance of the facilities.

Great Milton HSPA.
Summary of Accounts for the period 1 May – 30 April 2021
(Prepared by Mark/Dan/Sarah).

RECEIPTS 30/04/2022

Membership Fees £480.00
HSPA group hire (Football) £275.00
Coaching 0
Summer Holiday Tennis 0
Interest (est) 0
Grants & Fundraising 0
Court Fees/ sale of balls 0
Interest on Savings 0.30
TOTAL RECEIPTS 755.30

EXPENSES

Advertising 0
Wages 0
Security inc Padlocks £19.69
Snacks 0
Court Maintenance/Upgrade £855.60
Court resurfacing/plans £2532.00
Insurance £198.07
New balls 0
Loo hire for fun weeks 0
TOTAL EXPENSES £3605.36

Surplus/deficit -£2850.06
Opening bank balance £7255.40
Closing bank balance £4405.34

Neighbours Hall Management Committee
Chairman's report to PCC

The last year had its challenges as everyone is aware.

Due to the superb tracking of the financials and the careful monitoring of grant availability by our excellent treasurer, the hall has come out of the dark times financially stable and while not flush with funds, not in desperate need.

We used the 'down time' to resurface the hall floor and the car park. Steady income from the use of the latter, by the Manoir, covering much of our outgoings.

We have been fortunate with one yoga class run by Claire, replacing the spots that were lost with Hayley moving away from the village. And are very grateful for Yvonne continuing her classes.

The noticeable gaps in the diary being the Bingo.

Saturday nights have started to show an increase in ad hoc bookings for parties, both private and public. We wish a full and speedy recovery to Ann Price, and hope to see another mid-week Bingo session resume for the less mobile residents of the community.

It would be great to see another regular activity, whether Bingo, or something else, fill the role of bringing the community together socially in our hall, so kindly donated by the Reverend Potts nearly 100 years ago.

I would like to thank the wonderful commitment and energy of the members of the management team on the committee.

That said, Village committees always need younger blood, with fresh energy and ideas to thrive.

I would like to throw open a general invitation to residents of the three villages to get involved!

Stay safe,
Mike Robinson,
Chair, Neighbours Hall Management Committee.

Annual Report

The Old Field, Thame Road, Great Milton

Allotment for Exercise and Recreation (Old Field)
Charity Number 283269

As the Chairperson of the “Old Field” I would like to thank all of the time served volunteers and the new faces that have joined us in our efforts this last year. Although some previous trustees have stood down after years of service they still continue to attend our monthly gatherings at the field and are true friends of the village. In particular, David Holme is ever present as a wise advisor to the committee and Hazel and Manny Stone are devoted attendees.

As Covid continued to restrict everyone’s activities over much of last year we managed to adapt our physical operations to work in relative isolation and the facility was maintained to a high standard. Use of the field has increased again and we continue to get positive comments from walkers and casual picnickers.

This year we have installed the carved Owl on a plinth close to the picnic table and it makes a handsome feature. The Owl was donated by Clive Catherall to celebrate the marriage of his daughter in the village. The plaque reads “John and Jac Wren, Married at St Mary’s 18.5.2019”.

The Owl was chosen as the feature because the school uses Owls as a theme and we hope that younger generations will use the field for relaxation and to learn about the annual cycle of nature.

A donation of wooden rails from Tetraclad Ltd and posts from David Cartwright allowed us to renew the fence surrounding the pond. David not only provides his valuable expertise and energy but we rely on him for his wood cutting tools to keep the forest maintained. We have suffered two high wind events this year that cause some of the trees to fall and the last meeting was spent cutting out and making safe the walkways.

Prior to last months meeting David Mackrory put out a notice in the parish magazine asking for volunteers to assist us with the clearing of brambles from the hedgerow adjacent to the path. This had built up over two years as we weren’t able to gather in the previous years. The response was excellent and villagers came with all manner of tools to help us. We hope that some of those new faces will continue to join us regularly.

The path, close to the A329 continues to be a problem with drainage, especially now the use of the path has increased. I have approached Creative Pathways, who have been doing work locally and I am in discussion with them about depositing a quantity of type 2 aggregate so that we could spread it along the pathway to improve drainage and make it safer. The income of the Old Field Charity is not sufficient to fund a larger project such as this so we would welcome any assistance from the Parish through direct funding or a grant to be able to do this properly.

The knock-on effect of the increased use of the field is a noticeable increase in dog-walking and unfortunately we have noticed that fouling is becoming a problem. There are no facilities at the field for depositing dog waste and this may be a contributing factor. We know that the Parish contributes to the installation and maintenance of dog litter bins in the village and we would appeal to you to extend this facility to the entrances to the Old Field. Even one bin with appropriate notices at the entrance from Thame Road would be beneficial but ideally one could also be useful at the exit on to the A329.

I will submit the financial report from our Treasurer, David Mackrory, separately but you will see that expenditure has been controlled, mainly due to the generosity of volunteers, trustees and occasional donations. The capital that is invested in the Charitable Trust has increased this year and given that interest rates are rising this is likely to result in modestly higher quarterly yields in the coming year. In summary the charity continues as a viable self-funding trust supported by the efforts and enthusiasm of volunteers from the village.

Adrian Buckmaster (Chairperson)
April 2022

				Parish of Great Milton			
				The Old Field			



Summary of Accounts to Year End 31st March 2022							
Brought Forward from 31/3/2021				£9,917.35		Expenditure	£415.13
						COIF Investment Account	£11,772.62
Income				£402.17		COIF Deposit Account	£485.46
Change in value of COIF Investment Fund 1/4/2021 to 31/3/2022				£2,869.66		Barclays Cheque Account	£455.60
						Petty Cash	£60.37
				<u>£13,189.18</u>			<u>£13,189.18</u>
						Less Expenditure	-£415.13
						Carried forward to 1 Apr 2022	£12,774.05

Financial Report Allotment for Exercise and Recreation (Old Field) Charity Number 283269

Produced for the Annual Parish Meeting 19th April 2022

The "Old Field" is run from voluntary activity and the interest from two investments; COIF Charities Investment Fund and COIF Deposit Account. All other income is from voluntary donations. A small amount of petty cash is held but this has not been utilised throughout the last year.

We have had income of £322.61 which are interest payments from the COIF fund. There was a small amount of interest from the Deposit Account of £0.04 making total income £322.65

The value of the capital in the COIF fund has increased, due to market influences, by £3,274.75.

Expenditure was for Insurance of £183.91, Thames Water Bill of £231.22 giving a total of £415.13. There was also an expenditure of £80 for hedge cutting but the balance shows that the previous years cheque was not cashed so this has been written back.

The Old Field is a registered charity and a full and detailed analysis of the accounts are available for inspection by prior arrangement.

David Mackrory (Treasurer)

22nd March 2022

THE SHEPPARD TRUST

In 1906, Miss Ellen Sheppard's wish was that her legacy be used to provide support for charitable purposes for the benefit of the inhabitants of Great Milton. The fund is managed by CCLA, and income in 2021 totalled £10,700. Many local organisations have benefited from Miss Sheppard's generosity over the past decades.

The Trustees have not met face to face during the Covid lockdowns but have been in touch via email to discuss requests received. The following grants were made during 2021.

Great Milton School £3000

This grant was made to assist with the cost of installing artificial grass in the Early Years Outdoor Learning area, to complete the refurbishment work commenced in 2020, when unsafe equipment had been replaced.

Great Milton Football Club £500

Back in January 2021, there was renewed interest in re-establishing the village football team. The club were looking to compete in the Oxford City League, and funds were granted to cover administrative costs such as insurance and registration fees and to help with general running costs

Great Milton History Society £100

The History Society had not been able to carry out any of their usual fund raising activities during 2020 and this grant was made to cover their insurance bill for 2021.

The Trustees are planning to meet on 4th July. Several Trustees' terms of office will have expired by that date and we are grateful to them for the work they have carried out, many for several years. The Board consists of representatives from St Mary's Church and the Parish Council, with other members being co-opted from the village. A vacancy exists at the moment – if you are interested in becoming a Trustee, please do contact Rev Simon Cronk. Your commitment will be three relatively short meetings a year!

There are funds available for distribution. If your group/organisation meets the criteria of being based in Great Milton, and benefitting the inhabitants of Great Milton, please do apply. Applications should be sent to:

Mrs Jane Willis, Briarwood, Haseley Road, Little Milton, Oxfordshire, OX44 7QE. Or emailed to janewillis1@live.co.uk. Applications should be delivered **by Monday 20th June 2022**

Report for the Parish Council - St Mary's Church

St Mary's emerged after an extraordinary two years bruised but not broken. There is no doubt that the pandemic hit the finances of the church very severely due to a substantial loss of income especially from the events organised by Le Manoir. However due to the continuing and extraordinary generosity of church members and others we have kept going. We very much look forward once again to hosting Le Manoir carol concerts and other musical events.

The last year has seen a move back to full worship in the church building following times of lockdown. St Mary's, along with the other two churches in the Benefice, St James Little Milton and St Peter's Great Haseley are involved in a review of the Sunday worship pattern, reducing services around the Benefice from three to two services every Sunday in the hope of bringing more people together. This will be reviewed in the Autumn with a final decision to be made then about the way forward.

I had to take a substantial amount of time away from ministry last year and I am very grateful for the Lay readers in the Benefice, Toby Garfitt and Tony Jefferis, for doing so much to keep things going as well as the help of local retired clergy and especially our own Andrew Meynell. I am now fully back. The church must also say a huge 'thank you' to Clare Blakeway-Philips and Trudy Timbs, who carried on making the day-to-day practical decisions as churchwardens.

I hope that the village will be now very aware of plans for the development of the church. This will involve the restoration of the Dormer monument to its original position in the church, and the installation of necessary facilities to make the church a more useable space both for those coming to worship but also for other varied events, as well as necessary work on the building and particularly the tower. This very large project is being co-ordinated by a committed planning group. A full and thorough open day is being planned in the autumn on Saturday 1st October to present this to the village.

I am delighted that the automated locking system on the North door remains fully functioning. This now ensures that visitors to the church can come to look or simply enjoy the space and peace of the building. I really hope that this will be appreciated by the village and perhaps by those who might not habitually come to worship. It has been a delight after such a long break to hear the bells ringing once again, both with practice on a Thursday evening and on a Sunday morning. The loss of Graham Griffiths who for many years was the bell tower captain was a huge and sad blow, but the St Mary's band have kept going.

There will be challenges ahead and not least with our finances at a time when everyone is feeling the pinch but we keep optimistic and hopeful.

Simon Cronk, Rector April 2022

The Kent and Couling Charity: Report for Parish Council 2022

The Kent and Couling charity exists for the benefit of the villagers of Great Milton and distributed in the form of financial payments. The charity was very fortunate through the Pandemic to be the recipients of generous financial gifts which enabled more generous provision to local people.

We do not publicise who gifts are given to and we can assure anyone applying to the charity that their approach to us will remain anonymous. Although we cannot commit to regular payments we are eager to hear from local people who might benefit from help that the charity can give.

Should anyone wish to apply to the charity please do get in touch with either Tricia, Sue or me.

tricia.treanor@hotmail.co.uk

susandenham15@gmail.com

simon.cronk@btinternet.com

Simon Cronk - April 2022

Great Milton Neighbourhood Watch

Annual Report

During the past year it has become apparent that there has been an increase in the number of reports of criminal activity, including burglary, theft of items from garden sheds and outbuildings, thefts of cars and theft of items from motor vehicles.

With those facts in mind it was decided to upgrade our stance on this position. I enlisted the help of Rod Snowdon to assist with Neighbourhood Watch projects and the day-to-day running of crime prevention activities.

We have just set up a Neighbourhood Watch 'WhatsApp' group, the idea being to exchange information more instantaneously, offering help and advice to the residents of Great Milton in relation to petty or more serious crimes.

We now have a dedicated page in the Great Milton Bulletin that allows us to offer tips, ideas and help on ways to improve property protection and security. We also can use this page to announce and advertise any forthcoming events. Thames Valley Police have scheduled two visits to meet and chat with our residents and offer help and advice as to how to make our village a more secure place to live. The first event is at the Pavilion on Saturday 23rd April, while the second is on Saturday 16th July. We will also now have a stall at the annual Great Milton Church Fete on Saturday 11th June, with the hope that we can talk face-to-face with our residents about any concerns or help needed and perhaps find some more volunteers.

Looking to the future, we would also like the village's Neighbourhood Watch to have an increased presence and visibility in and around Great Milton.

We would like to express our thanks and gratitude to all of our Parish Council members for their full backing and support.

Jola Miziniak
Great Milton Neighbourhood Watch
12 April 2022