

HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019**  
**At 8.00pm in HORSPATH VILLAGE HALL.**

**Present:** Mr D Burgess, Mr J Dobson, Mr P Dobson (Chairman), Mr P Ewart, Mr M Harris, Mr D Horsley, Mrs B Oakley, Mrs H Palmer, Mrs H Kogel (Clerk). Mrs E Gillespie (District Councillor). Mr T Bearder (County Councillor)

**Apologies**

**Absent:**

**Public: 5**

**01/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** – There were no apologies to be made.

**02/19 DECLARATION OF INTEREST.** – None.

**03/19 EMERGENCY BUSINESS.**

Mr Peter Dobson asked Councillors for their thoughts on digitalising the Horspath village scrapbook to include photographs and data going back to 1955, which would cost around £350.00. Councillors voted unanimously for Mr Dobson to go ahead with this project.

Mr Peter Dobson passed thanks to all of the volunteers who helped to put the Christmas tree up. Mr Peter Dobson will arrange for volunteers to help take the tree down this coming Saturday and will arrange for its disposal.

**04/19 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL.**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 were amended on **Item 222/18 Update on the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway to read:** - Mr Ewart stated that the recommendations from Highways England will include the *multi modal* transport links. The Minutes were then agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the Closed Confidential Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 were agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

**05/19 MATTERS ARISING.**

Mr Harris passed thanks to the Friends of Horspath for distributing the Village Newsletter. Mr Horsley stated that residents at the Berkeley Homes Park at Gidley Way have said that they did not receive the Newsletter. Mr Harris stated that he has checked with the Friends of Horspath, who said that the Newsletter had been delivered to the park.

**06/19 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

**P18/S3066/ 4 Gidley Way, Horspath (Full Application)**

**FUL** Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of Planning Permission P15/S3822/FUL. (As amended by ownership certificate B received 13 September 2018 and drawings received 26 November 2018 omitting formerly proposed dormer windows with replacement roof lights and a reduction in size of the roof light serving Bedroom 1 on the north elevation). (Demolition of existing outbuilding. Erection of new outbuilding to provide motorcycle storage and new accommodation).

– **Horspath Parish Councillors reconsidered the above planning application, and in view of the recent change, Councillors would like to withdraw their previous objection and recommend approval for this planning application.**

## **PLANNING PERMISSIONS/REFUSALS/APPEALS.**

**P18/S2388/ 2 The Green, Horspath**

**(Full Application)**

**FUL**

Erection of a new 2-bedroom house on land presently within the curtilage of No. 2 The Green, Horspath. (As amended by Ownership Certificate B received 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018).

**\*\*\*An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against South Oxfordshire District Council's decision to refuse the above planning application.\*\*\***

### **07/19 CLERK'S UPDATE.**

**Bollards, Village Green** – Sheepwash Fencing have started to fit the new bollards. Mr Pajak has asked if we want to fit reflectors to the new bollards. The Clerk has raised a cheque for payment.

Councillors agreed that the Clerk ask Mr Pajak to purchase and fit reflectors.

**Footpath from the Hub to the Cricket Pitch** – Repairs have now been completed. The Clerk has raised a cheque for payment.

**Repairs to Play Area** – Repairs are due to start towards the end of January.

**Repairs to Village Hall Fence** – Repairs have now been completed. The Clerk has raised a cheque for payment.

**Carol Singing Event** – Mr Gurden has passed receipts of £77.15 to the Clerk to cover the cost of refreshments for the event.

### **08/19 PRECEPT 2019/20.**

The Clerk circulated a draft copy of the Precept 2019/20 to all Councillors at the December meeting. Councillors voted unanimously to set the Precept at £22,000.00. The Clerk will inform SODC.

### **09/19 UPDATE ON THE OX-CAM EXPRESSWAY.**

Mr Harris reported that Highways England are now investigating specific routes. The EAG is actively promoting that the chosen route should be within corridor B1 along part of the A34. The way around Botley avoiding the A34 being widened and houses having to be demolished would be to build a Botley by-pass.

### **10/19 UPDATE ON THE SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE LOCAL PLAN 2034.**

Mr Harris reported that all the documents for the Local Plan 2036 run to several thousand pages, with the main report being 300 pages and the Sustainability Appraisal being about 1300 pages. SODC is proposing to build a "Phase 1" of the Northfield housing estate south of Horspath, to which Garsington Parish Council is totally against as they have not been consulted on this proposal. A conceivable "Phase 2" of the Northfield housing estate could well be in Horspath. Mr Harris has been discussing with Mr Chris Wright, Chairman of Garsington Parish Council the possibility of joint legal representation, which would then halve the cost to both Parish Councils. Mr Harris stated that he is looking for permission to speak to Ms. Saira Kabir Sheikh, QC, to find out if joint representation for Horspath and Garsington would be suitable, and if so, Mr Harris suggested that he and Mr Chris Wright attend meetings together with Ms. Saira Kabir Sheikh, QC to seek legal advice on the "Northfield" development. Mr Horsley stated that he is concerned that Horspath will be spending a lot of money, to protect Garsington. Mr Harris stated that "Northfield" is included in the Local Plan 2034 along with the map for consultation. SODC has not held a meaningful consultation on the "Northfield" site and a very important planning issue is that this site is in the Green Belt, which is seen to be more important in this area. SODC will claim that a consultation has taken place and on that basis that they could allocate the whole site ready for Phase 1 and Phase 2 to start. Mr Harris stated that Horspath will need a very good QC to represent the village at the Examination in Public. It will be very expensive but we may have an option to share the cost with Garsington.

Mr James Dobson asked, are we looking at legal advice for a consultation to take place which would delay the Local Plan. Mr Harris stated that if a consultation was carried out, Horspath would have an opportunity to say no to the proposals. Mr Harris stated that as a result of the present consultation details on the Local Plan cannot be altered now, our responses will just tell the Inspector why Horspath does not want the development and the Inspector will look into the reasons why. There will be no big delay caused by objecting to “Northfield” but it could be that the Inspector takes it out of the Local Plan as there was not adequate consultation. Mr Harris stated that the issue with the “Northfield” site is that a proper consultation has not taken place. Four other sites have been consulted on, and they are in contradiction with policies in the currently adopted Local Plan. Multiple objections to the Housing policy came from Chalgrove residents, and the majority of people did not want urban extensions in South Oxfordshire.

Mrs Gillespie stated that, SODC is not carrying out proper consultations in line with Regulations 18 & 19, and needs to submit the Local Plan to the Oxfordshire Growth Board by March 2019. Mrs Gillespie stated that all that the Parish Council can do, is lay down an audit trail for the Inspector.

Mr Harris proposed that he contacts Ms. Saira Kabir Sheikh, QC, to enquire to the possibility of joint representation with Garsington Parish Council, on condition that Garsington Parish Council pay 50% of the legal costs. Councillors voted In Favour – Unanimous.

Mr Harris will liaise with Ms. Saira Kabir Sheikh, QC and Mr Chris Wright, Garsington Parish Council. Mr Harris reported that SODC has sent a response form for people to complete, which is very complicated and people will need guidance when completing the form. Mr Harris asked that the Clerk to contact Mr Adrian Duffield, Head of SODC Planning Service, to ask for confirmation that they will also accept letters and emails from residents as well as their response form.

#### **11/19 DRAFT CONTENTS OF THE HPC JANUARY NEWSLETTER.**

Mr Harris stated that there will be a further Newsletter published in January 2019 to update residents on the Local Plan 2036 and also to include a sample letter of objection that residents can enter their name and address on the letter and send to SODC before the deadline 5pm on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Residents also have the option of writing their own letters to SODC.

Mr Peter Dobson passed thanks to Mr Harris for all of his help and support. Mr Harris stated that he has attended several meetings with regards to the Local Plan 2034. At the last full Council meeting, SODC had booked a conference room for 50 people and around 200 people attended so many people were forced to stand up for four hours. Mr Harris was able to speak for 3 minutes, to present Horspath PC’s case and Councillor Elizabeth Gillespie spoke in support of protecting the Green Belt, but the majority of SODC Councillors ignored these objections and voted to approve the Local Plan 2034 without amendment.

#### **12/19 RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION ON THE OXFORD CITY LOCAL PLAN 2036.**

This item was not discussed due to the pressure of time.

#### **13/19 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS.**

**District Councillor** – Mrs Gillespie reported that the Local Plan 2034 has recently been passed by the majority of Councillors. There were 6 Councillors who objected to the Plan, all of which, including Mrs Gillespie, have now been formally suspended from the Conservative Group for 21 days while they are investigated. Mrs Gillespie stated that they have tried this before with her, but this time because she spoke on the radio about the need to defend the Green Belt in the Local Plan, this has gone against her. Mrs Gillespie stated that there will be another Conservative Group meeting after the 21 days and the maximum punishment for her is 6 months out of the Group.

Mrs Gillespie stated that the Local Plan 2034 is flawed on its content and on the processes that have not been followed correctly by SODC. SODC has committed to 30,000 new houses when we only need 10,000.

The new Plan also wants us to build 1500 new houses each year which means that all towns and villages will be affected. Mrs Gillespie stated that seven of the strategic sites listed in the Local Plan are in the Green Belt and there is just one site that isn't. Mrs Gillespie doesn't believe that SODC has carried out the correct consultations on the other sites and there are no exceptional circumstances for removing them from the Green Belt. The Oxfordshire Growth Board has not stipulated on where the new houses need to go and South Oxfordshire does not have an unmet housing need. Mrs Gillespie stated that Chalgrove Airfield was an ideal site for development and there is no need for development to be in the Green Belt. Mrs Gillespie stated that SODC said that all Councillors are aware of the legal advice with regards to Regulation 18, whereas, this is not true, as Councillors were not aware.

Mr Harris stated that he doubts that SODC has consulted correctly on the other sites and the proof will be in the Sustainability Appraisal and its Appendices which is a vast document without a detailed index.

Mrs Oakley asked about the reaction of the Conservatives to Mrs Gillespie, and asked if this will stand in good stead for the Plan being thrown out by the Inspector. Mrs Gillespie stated that this will not be the case, but as lot of people are unhappy about it, it will make the Inspector look more carefully at what has gone on.

Mr James Dobson passed thanks to Mrs Gillespie for persevering with her stance. Mr Harris asked if there is anything that Horspath Parish Council can do to help Mrs Gillespie. Mrs Gillespie stated that HPC could send a letter to the Conservative Councillors' Association stating that they are unhappy with the way that the six Councillors have been treated over this matter. Mr James Dobson stated that HPC needs to be clear on what is written as the context is different coming from a Parish Council and should be non-political. Mrs Gillespie stated that she will continue to fight against the B3 route for the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway.

**County Councillor** – Mr Tim Bearder stated that he is disgusted with what is happening with the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway. The expected cost is £8 billion pounds, £5 billion coming from Highways and Rail Link, £0.5 billion from the Growth Deal direct and the rest from contributions, they have no idea where the remaining £2 billion is coming from.

Mr Bearder reported that Wheatley is organising a meeting in January 2019 to discuss the possibility of a future bus route.

Mr Bearder reported that there is a resident from Cuddesdon Road who has raised concerns about the chicane in Cuddesdon Road. Mr Bearder stated that the County Councillor with special responsibility for cycleways will be coming to inspect the chicane in February with a view to look at redesigning the traffic calming.

Mr Bearder reported that there is a Strategy Meeting coming up, and they will be looking at having Enforcement Officers for parking in South Oxfordshire.

Mr Harris asked Mr Bearder if he thinks that he can make any headway with people taking forward the Growth Agenda. Mr Bearder stated that it is clear with the Local Plan that the Conservatives want to steam roller everything through. His role is to scrutinise everything.

**14/19 GDPR** - Mr James Dobson stated that there is nothing further to report. It was agreed that this item will be removed from the agenda and Mr Dobson will request it to be relisted when required.

#### **15/19 CORRESPONDENCE.**

- a. RSN – Rural Funding Digest, December 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- b. RSN. - The Rural Bulletin 4/12/18, 11/12/18, 18/12/18. – (Circulated via email).
- c. SODC – Oxfordshire Plan 2050 – Statement of Community Involvement. – (Circulated via email).
- d. NALC – Spring Conference 2019, 13/12/18, 20/12/18. – (Circulated via email).
- e. OALC – November Update for Members. – (Circulated via email).

- f. SODC – South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2014 – Update. – (Circulated via email).
- g. Open Spaces Society – Latest News. – (Circulated via email).
- h. Wheatley Park School. – Draft Admissions Policy 2020/2021. – (Circulated via email). – **Mr James Dobson stated that he would be interested in other people’s views on the changes to the admission policy. Mr Peter Dobson will request this information from the School.**
- i. Mr Ashley, Garsington. – Email regarding SODC Local Plan Vote. – (Circulated via email).
- j. Shotover Preservation Society. – Winter Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- k. CPRE – BBC Radio Oxford Green Belt Debate. – (Circulated via email).
- l. SODC – Didcot Garden Town Looks Forward to the Future. – (Circulated via email).
- m. SODC – Restaurant shut down after rat infestation. – (Circulated via email).
- n. Mr Adrian Duffield – Northfields. – (Circulated via email).
- o. SODC – Voluntary & Community Sector Forum 13/3/19. – (Circulated via email).
- p. SODC – Charity Concert 26/1/19. – (Circulated via email).
- q. SODC – Changes to bin collection days in South Ox over Xmas & New Year. – (Circulated via email).
- r. CPRE – Green Belt Update. – (Circulated via email).
- s. SODC – Tree Preservation Order Confirmed.\*
- t. Wheatley Parish Council – Oxford-Cambridge Expressway. – (Circulated via email).
- u. Waterstock Parish Council – Oxford-Cambridge Expressway. – (Circulated via email).
- v. Ms Sue Cooper, SODC – Local Plan 2034. – (Circulated via email).
- w. TVP – Police & Crime Bulletin for December 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- x. CPRE – News December 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- y. Ms Mary Alston – Email regarding recycling project. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors agreed no further action.**
- z. TVP – Survey on an increase in Council Tax to help protect operational policing is launched. – (Circulated via email).
- aa. SODC – Charity Concert Celebrates the New Year. – (Circulated via email).
- bb. OCC – Oxfordshire Resilience Group – Communities Evening. – (Circulated via email).
- cc. SODC – Nomination deadline for business awards is fast approaching. – (circulated via email).
- dd. The Maple Tree – Donation Request. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors agreed that as Horspath owns a Nursery building and subsidises the village nursery, no donation will be made.**
- ee. OALC – December 2018 Update. – (Circulated via email).
- ff. Thames Water – Work starting on Cuddesdon Road on 7/1/19 for four weeks. – (Circulated via email). – **Noted.**

*\* original held by the Clerk, copy available on request.  
# displayed on Village Hall & village noticeboards.*

## 16/19 PAYMENTS.

Chq	To Whom Paid	Details	Vat	Total £
2616	Mrs B Oakley	Decorations for Armistice Day		74.00
2617	Mrs C Riley	Decorations for Armistice Day		46.00
2618	Mr P Dobson	Refreshments for Armistice Day	16.00	318.24
2619	Horspath Hub	Hire of Hub for Armistice Day		55.00
2620	ARB UK	Pruning 2 trees on Oxford Road		750.00
2621	Giles Macdonald	Supply of War Memorial		9,025.00
2622	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Salary 24/11/18 – 24/12/18		435.57
2623	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Home Office December 2018		30.00

		Postage		4.45
2624	Parchments Print	Printing of Newsletter		227.00
2625	ARB UK	Repairs to footpath from Hub to Recreation Ground		1850.00
		Repairs to Village Hall Fence		100.00
2626	JJ Bark	Repairs to mower	109.07	654.41
2627	Mr M Harris	Christmas Tree Lights		46.99
2628	001 Taxis	January 2019 Minibus Service		240.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£125.07</b>	<b>£13,856.66</b>

**17/19 RECEIPTS.**

Date	Received from	Details	Total £
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**18/19 AOB**

- a. Mrs Oakley stated that the salt bins in Butts Road and Sandy Lane have still not been filled. Mr Peter Dobson will arrange for some of the village salt to be delivered to Mrs Oakley.
- b. Mr Harris stated that he is looking to retire from the Parish Council as soon as possible. Mrs Oakley suggested that HPC could use Mr Harris as a consultant as and when required.
- c. Mr Ewart stated that he agrees with the suggestion from Mrs Oakley with regards to holding a public meeting to let people know about the “Northfield” development, which is a threat to the village. Mrs Gillespie stated that this would be a good idea. Mr Harris stated that a public meeting would mean that anyone can attend, it would be better to have a residents’ only meeting whereby people sign in with their name and address. Mr Ewart proposed that HPC holds a residents meeting after Mr Harris has sought further advice from Ms. Saira Kabir Sheikh, QC, also to include a letter writing tutorial for residents who wish to write letters of objection to SODC. In Favour – 6, Against – 2. It was agreed that a meeting will take place on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 to organize the residents meeting to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 8pm.

**Public:**

- d. Mrs Southall a resident of Horspath for 15 years, thanked HPC for the recent Newsletter which she found to be very informative. Mrs Southall stated that there are lots of very important things happening at the moment which she is very worried about. Mrs Southall asked if the Parish Council could change the format of Parish Council meetings and explain any important issues at the start of the meeting so that people in the village are aware. Mr Peter Dobson stated that from a timing point of view, this would add a lot of time to the meetings, and it has been known in the past for meetings to go on until 10.30pm. Mr Peter Dobson stated that all Minutes from Parish Council Meetings are listed on the village website for residents to view, and if residents attended meetings on a regular basis they would be aware of what is going on. Mr Horsley stated that there is Parish Council elections in May but asked Mrs Southall to spread the word that there are currently three vacancies for people to be co-opted onto the Parish Council and Mr Harris is looking to retire which will be another vacancy.

**19/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.**

Parish Council Planning Meeting/Organising Residents Meeting – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
Residents Meeting Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 8pm.  
Horspath Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019.