

HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th April 2017
At 8pm in HORSPATH VILLAGE HALL.

Present: Mr T Ayres, Mr K Brooks, Mr P Dobson (Chairman), Mr J Dobson, Mr P Ewart, Mr M Harris, Mr D Horsley, Mrs H Kogel (Clerk). Mrs A Purse (County Councillor). Mrs E Gillespie (District Councillor).

Apologies Mrs H Palmer.

Absent:
Public: 3

53/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Apologies were made on behalf of Mrs Palmer.

54/17 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – No declarations were made.

55/17 EMERGENCY BUSINESS – Mr Harris reported that repairs have been carried out at one end of the tunnel. Mr Harris is waiting for the Police to make contact with regards to the damage caused. Mr Harris reported that the total bill for the repairs to the mower are higher than expected as additional repairs were also required to the mower and the Caroni Topper. Councillors approved the payment.

Mr Peter Dobson reported on the recent letter from Mr Brooks that arrived too late to be listed on the agenda. Mr Peter Dobson explained to Mr Brooks that in his opinion he has been fair and has always engaged Mr Brooks in all discussions and also tried to address any issues he may have. Mr Peter Dobson gave Mr Brooks the opportunity to discuss the contents of his letter and also explained that there is a correct procedure to follow if he has any complaints.

Mr Brooks stated that all information is in the letter and that he doesn't like people talking about him and he doesn't care if the Parish Council chooses to take court action against him. Mr Peter Dobson stated that Mr Brooks was present at the October Parish Council meeting when it is alleged that the Parish Council stated that they would take court action, so he would know that this is not true. Mr Peter Dobson stated that he has no information and confirmed that no discussion has been held by the Parish Council regarding any court action towards him. Mr Peter Dobson asked Mr Brooks what the Parish Council can do to avoid any further problems in the future as it is very disruptive to both Mr Brooks and the Parish Council. Mr Peter Dobson also stated that if Mr Brooks has a genuine complaint that he feels is not being dealt with by the Parish Council, then he should follow the correct procedure, or alternatively he can contact Mr Dobson directly to discuss the issues. Mr Horsley stated that he would like to confirm that no discussion has been held by the Parish Council with regards to taking court action against Mr Brooks. Mr Horsley also stated that he has never said to anyone that he will be taking court action against Mr Brooks.

Mr Peter Dobson stated that he will monitor the situation in the future and that he hopes for a positive contribution from Mr Brooks.

56/17 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th March 2017 were amended on:-

Item 43/17 County Councillor – Mrs Purse to read - *The hole in the gutter close to the pavement on Manor Farm Road has now been filled in and the other footpath has been put up for review by OCC*, so Mrs Purse is hopeful.

Item 49/17 AOB (h) to read – Mrs Gillespie stated that she is shocked to hear that *Parish Councillors* are a victim of such ignorant behaviour by others.

Item 49/17 AOB (g) to read - Mrs Purse stated that Maple Children's Centre has secured a grant from OCC for £10,000.00 per year for the next three years.

Item 49/17 AOB © to read - Mrs Watson informed Councillors that the meeting this evening will be her last meeting as a Parish Councillor.

The Minutes were then agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

57/17 MATTERS ARISING.

40/17 – Matters Arising – Mr Harris asked if Mrs Purse and Mr Stenning have carried out an inspection of the footpaths in the village. Mr Ayres stated that Mrs Purse has been unwell so a meeting is being arranged to take place next week.

Mr Harris reported that he has recently attended a meeting to discuss SODC's Local Plan where the SODC Planning Development Manager gave a presentation which resulted in a lot of questions from representatives from Parish Councils. SODC has to develop the Local Plan to show that they have a 5 year development plan for the supply of housing. SODC's proposals are for development on the airfield at Chalgrove and also the airfield site at Culham which will mean additional money from the Government for infrastructure. There are also plans to develop Berinsfield, a site at Oxford Brookes, Wheatley site. The Local Plan will be examined next summer and will hopefully be adopted in December 2018. Mr Harris will keep the Parish Council informed. Mr Peter Dobson passed thanks to Mr Harris for all of his help and also for attending the meetings. Mr Brooks commented that the proposals at Chalgrove also include provisions for a traveller's site.

58/17 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

P17/S1063/ High Tilt, 73 Old Road Wheatley (Householder)
HH Demolition of the existing stables and erection of a replacement outbuilding. – **Councillors agreed that there are no strong views on this application and accepts that SODC will determine it as it considers appropriate.**

PLANNING PERMISSIONS/REFUSALS/APPEALS.

P17/S0031/ Little Lynchies, 171 Cuddesdon Road, Horspath (Full Application)
FUL Change of use from summerhouse to residential extension/annexe. - **Granted.**
P17/S0161/ 10 Butts Road, Horspath (Householder)
HH Proposed 2 storey rear extension and loft conversion. - **Granted.**

59/17 CLERK'S UPDATE.

Damage to Village Green – SSE will arrange for the damage to be inspected and carry out any necessary repairs after further works due to be carried out on 10th April 2017.

Manor Farm Road – Mr Peter Dobson met with OCC - Mr Keith Stenning to discuss the location of the dropped kerb. It was decided that it will be positioned as close to Oxford Road to the entrance of the shop for mobility purposes. Mr Stenning will arrange a date for the works to be carried out.

New Dog Bin – Waiting for confirmation from SODC.

Mrs Silvia Watson – The Clerk confirmed that she has received a letter of resignation from Mrs Watson.

Tree at Blenheim Way – Councillors accepted the quote from Mr Prior – ARB UK to remove the tree to ground level. The Clerk will inform Mr Prior.

Japanese Maple Tree – Mr Prior has provided a quote to supply the tree. Taking into consideration that there is a huge variety of shapes and sizes, based on a similar size to the tree being planted on the Village Green, the cost to supply will be £350.00 with an additional cost of £200.00 for planting etc. Councillors agreed to defer on this to look at other options/nurseries.

60/17 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNILLOR REPORTS.

Mrs Anne Purse (County Councillor) – Mrs Purse confirmed that she will arrange a date with Mr Ayres to carry out an audit of the footpaths in the village before arranging for OCC Keith Stenning to come to the village. If Councillors have any other issues with regards to Highways let Anne know the details and she will raise them with Keith Stenning. Mr Peter Dobson reported that he met with Keith Stenning to discuss the dropped kerb in Manor Farm Road but he has not confirmed a date as yet.

Mrs Purse reported that having visited other villages, there are a lot of people that are anxious about a Unitary Council. Mrs Purse stated that she thinks that there will be far more representatives for villages if a Unitary Council goes ahead.

Mrs Elizabeth Gillespie (District Councillor) – Mrs Gillespie reported that the consultation has now started on the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2033 and she urged residents/Councillors to respond. SODC has requested that the red line around the Wheatley Brookes University site is removed but other than that they are satisfied with the plan.

Mrs Gillespie stated that she has concerns over a Unitary Council. The consensus of opinion at SODC was that it was better to be at the table and to have a voice rather than no voice at all. The Local Plan will be in place for 5 years. The Clerk circulated a report on behalf of Mrs Gillespie.

61/17 TRAFFIC CALMING PLAN – Cuddesdon Road.

Mr Ayres reported that there is no further information to report as the consultation period has not yet ended.

62/17 HORSPATH VILLAGE HALL.

Councillors discussed the three quotations for the fire safety works required in the village hall. Councillors voted and agreed to accept the quotation from Chris Lewis Fire and Security. Councillors also agreed that as HSPT has recently given a grant of £4,500.00 towards the cost of these works, Mrs Julian should approach Horspath Cricket Club and HVSA for a contribution towards the remaining cost. If both organisations are not willing to contribute towards the cost, the Parish Council will then need to consider how to pay the remaining balance.

63/17 CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. RSN – Weekly Email News Digest 6.3.17. – (Circulated via email).
- b. OALC – Spaces Available on Getting to Grips with Finance – OALC Training. – (Circulated via email).
- c. SODC – Councils agree Proposal for a New Council for a Better Oxfordshire. – (Circulated via email).
- d. RSN – Rural Intelligence from behind the headlines 3.3.17. – (Circulated via email).
- e. OALC – Updated Unitary Proposals From County Council with South & Vale. – (Circulated via email).
- f. RSN – Spotlight on Rural Health. – (Circulated via email).
- g. OPFA – Newsletter Spring 2017. – (Circulated via email).
- h. RSN – Rural Intelligence from behind the headlines 10.3.17. – (Circulated via email).
- i. SODC – South Oxfordshire Summer Town & Parish Forum 2017. – (Circulated via email).
- j. Mr Graham, Gidley Way – Mud on the road at Gidley Way. – **(Clerk sent reply)**.
- k. Mr Hackett, Manor Drive – Footpath in Manor Drive & Conker Tree. – (Circulated via email).
- l. SODC – Benefit fraudster ordered to carry out unpaid work. – (Circulated via email).
- m. SODC – Over 60s can swim for a month for £5. – (Circulated via email).
- n. SODC – South Oxfordshire Local Plan Second Preferred Options Consultation – Briefing. – (Circulated via email).
- o. RSN – Weekly Email News Digest 13.3.17. – (Circulated via email).
- p. SODC – Views on Didcot Garden Town Help to Shape Final Proposals. – (Circulated via email).
- q. SODC – Communities urged to get involved in South Oxfordshire Local Plan. – (Circulated via email).

- r. OALC – Rural Oxfordshire Network 5th April Cassington Village Hall. – (Circulated via email).
- s. SODC – More than £1 million for community groups in South Oxfordshire. – (Circulated via email).
- t. SODC – Thame Leisure Centre set for new £353,000.00 pool changing area. – (Circulated via email).
- u. RSN – Rural Intelligence from behind the headlines 17.3.17. – (Circulated via email).
- v. Mr R Gray – Increase in charges for maintenance of Village Green & other areas. – (Circulated via email).
- w. SODC – Restaurant stopped from using food storage area following rat problem. – (Circulated via email).
- x. SODC – Call for landlords to join White Horse lettings. – (Circulated via email).
- y. RSN – Rural Vulnerability Service – Fuel Poverty March 2017. – (Circulated via email).
- z. Thames Valley Police – PCSO Ryan Dollery – Monthly Update. – (Circulated via email).
- aa. RSN – Rural Economy Spotlight. – (Circulated via email).
- bb. OALC – NALC Proposed Employment Contract Template. – (Circulated via email).
- cc. RSN – Rural Intelligence from behind the headlines 24.3.17. – (Circulated via email).
- dd. SODC – Media Release – Council welcomes major £1 million investment for Berinsfield regeneration. – (Circulated via email).
- ee. OALC – March Update. – (Circulated via email).
- ff. TW Ramblers – Walks Poster. – (Circulated via email).
- gg. RSN – Rural Vulnerability Service – Rural Transport March 2017. – (Circulated via email).
- hh. Open Spaces Society – South Oxfordshire Local Plan Consultation. – (Circulated via email).
- ii. SODC – Local Plan Briefing 28.3.17. – (Circulated via email).
- jj. SODC – Compost Give Away. – (Circulated via email).
- kk. SODC – Have Your Say on South Oxfordshire’s new Local Plan. – (Circulated via email).
- ll. RSN – Weekly Email News Digest 20.3.17. – (Circulated via email).
- mm. Horspath Cycle Speedway – Developing the Pit Area. – (Circulated via email). – **Mr Ayres has recently inspected the trees and confirmed that the roots of the trees are cracking and lifting the concrete area. Councillors agreed that the trees could be removed. Mr Clarke will contact Mr James Prior to see if he is able to assist.**
- nn. Kath Lamont – Wheatley Care Scheme. – (Circulated via email).
- oo. RSN – Weekly Email News Digest 27.3.17. – (Circulated via email).
- pp. Mr R Gray- Increase in Charges. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors authorised the increase in charges.**
- qq. Mr King – Email regarding Cycling safety in Horspath. – (Circulated via email). – **The Clerk will inform Mr King that the traffic calming scheme for Cuddesdon Road is at the consultation stage and when implemented it will slow the traffic.**
- rr. SODC – South Oxfordshire Local Plan: Second Preferred Options Consultation Posters.#*
- ss. Abingdon Stone & Marble – Sample of material for memorial. – **The Clerk will inform Abingdon Stone & Marble that Councillors have authorised the use of the natural stone material that was provided as a sample to be used for the memorial.**
- tt. Rt Hon. John Bercow MP – UK Parliament Week.
** original held by the Clerk, copy available on request.
 # displayed on Village Hall & village noticeboards.*

64/17 PAYMENTS.

Chq	To Whom Paid	Details	Vat	Total £
2448	Tetbury Accounting Ltd	Payroll Fees 2016/2017	32.00	192.00
2449	OPFA	Annual Subscription		40.00
2450	Edward Hawes	Hedge Cutting	38.50	231.00

2451	Mrs H Kogel	Salary 24/2/17-24/3/17		387.17
2452	Mrs H Kogel	Home Office March 2017		30.00
		Postage		29.64
2453	Mr P Aries	Bus Shelter & Play Area Maintenance Feb/March 2017		120.00
2454	SODC	Emptying Dog Bins	14.65	87.91
2455	Alan Stone Engineering	Repairs & service to mower and topper	113.18	679.02
2456	Mr Bob Hamlet	Installing 2 x defibrillators	44.00	264.00
		TOTAL	242.33	2060.74

*Mr Peter Dobson will contact NHS to arrange the training on the second defibrillator.

65/17 RECEIPTS – Horspath Recreation Charity

Date	Received from	Details	Total £
28.3.17	Punch Taverns	Quarterly rent for Chequers Car Park	712.50
		TOTAL	712.50

66/17 AOB

- a. Mr Brookes asked Mr Peter Dobson why he has not replied to emails sent by Mr David Wright. Mr Peter Dobson confirmed that he has now replied.
- b. Mr Ayres stated that he is concerned about the undergrowth on the bridge. The owner of the bridge should carry out the necessary works before it causes damage to the fabric of the bridge. Mr Harris will try and make contact with the owner.
- c. Mr Harris stated that the new bollard on the Village Green has been installed with no reflectors. Mr Harris or Mr Peter Dobson will fit the reflectors.
- d. Councillors agreed for Mr Ewart to re-erect the Hub sign that was in front of the Methodist Chapel next to the pathway.
Mr Ewart mentioned the email from a resident regarding the safety of cyclists around the chicanes and offered to clear the area of debris. Mr Peter Dobson stated that this is the responsibility of OCC.
- e. Mr Horsley gave his apologies for the APM and the May Annual Parish Council meeting.
Mr Horsley asked who is responsible for cleaning the cycle path. Mrs Gillespie stated that SODC are responsible and she will ask them to arrange for cleaning to take place.

Public:

- f. Mr Clarke asked if it could be arranged that when the grass is cut in the village that the grass under the trees could be strimmed at the same time. The Clerk will pass this onto Mr Rob Gray.
- g. Mrs Purse confirmed that she has received a copy of the letter from a resident regarding cyclists in Horspath and has passed the information on to OCC Highways to arrange for the area around the chicanes to be cleared of any debris.
- h. Mrs Riley reported that the grass cutting etc have not yet been taken away from the Village Hall car park. Mr Peter Dobson stated that Mr Prior has been held up on urgent works and the work will be carried out next week. Mr Ayres stated that Mr Aries is being paid to maintain the play area and asked what this involves. Mr Peter Dobson stated that the Parish Council has not given Mr Aries a specific list of works as yet as the area needs to be cleared first. Mr Dobson stated that this will need to be considered in the future.
- i. Mrs Oakley suggested that the village is in need of a volunteer litter picking day and offered to organise an event on the first Sunday in May. Mrs Gillespie can arrange for bags, gloves, jackets etc to be delivered to Mrs Oakley to be used on the day. Mrs Oakley will display a notice on the village noticeboard.

Mrs Oakley asked what is happening with the war memorial as it was reported at the last meeting that a memorial can be erected on the Village Green. Mr Peter Dobson stated that the Parish Council has not yet looked at the implications with the Charity Commission. Mr Peter Dobson stated that he has spoken with Mr David Wright and the sub-committee to see how to take this forward.

67/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Parish Council Planning Meeting – Tuesday 18th April 2017 (To be confirmed)

Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 3rd May 2017.

Horspath Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 9th May 2017. ***Please note change of date***