

HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th November 2017
At 8pm in HORSPATH VILLAGE HALL.

Present: Mr T Ayres, Mr K Brooks, Mr D Burgess, Mr J Dobson, Mr M Harris, Mrs H Palmer, Mrs H Kogel (Clerk), Dr. K Johnson (County Councillor).

Apologies Mr P Dobson (Chairman), Mr D Horsley, Mr P Ewart, Mrs E Gillespie (District Councillor).

Absent:

Public: 5

173/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Apologies were made on behalf of Mr P Dobson, Mr Horsley, Mr P Ewart, and Mrs Gillespie. In the absence of Mr Peter Dobson (Chairman), Mr Harris (Interim Vice Chairman) chaired the meeting.

174/17 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – No declarations were made.

175/17 EMERGENCY BUSINESS.

Mr Ayres informed Councillors that he has given the Clerk his letter of resignation which will take effect from 8/11/17 as he is soon moving away from Horspath. Mr Harris thanked Mr Ayres for his help and support over the last six years and also for dealing with the traffic calming project at Cuddesdon Road, all of which is very much appreciated.

An email had been received from Mr Gurden asking for permission to hold the Christmas Carol Singing event on the Village Green again this year and for the use of the power source to use a small flood light for the event. Mr Gurden also requested a donation to go towards the cost of the event.

Councillors agreed to support the event and agreed a donation of up to £80.00.

176/17 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd October 2017 were agreed as correct and signed by the acting Chairman.

177/17 MATTERS ARISING.

168/17 – Correspondence (k) – Mr Harris confirmed that he attended the SODC Town & Parish Forum on 1.11.17, and will report under the Local Plan.

171/17 – AOB (a) – Mr Harris reported that with regards to the Local Plan 2033, he has made enquiries regarding the suggestion from Mr Goss that a line should be drawn around the existing properties to define a village envelope. SODC will not accept such lines drawn around villages in Neighbourhood Plans as they want all planning applications to be considered individually, each on its own merits.

171/17 – AOB (a) – Mr Harris confirmed that SODC has registered the Chequers Inn as an Asset of Community Value. As a result, the owners of the Chequers Inn have challenged this by submitting an appeal through their solicitors. SODC now has until 14/11/17 to respond so we will have to wait to see if the appeal is upheld or rejected.

171/17 – AOB (m) – Mr Harris confirmed that the Parish Council will be laying a wreath on the Village Green on Armistice Day and that he would liaise with Mr Brooks to check on the arrangements for this commemorative event.

178/17 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

P17/S3054/ 120 Gidley Way, Horspath

(Full Application)

FUL

Retrospective application for change of use from integral garage to studio flat. – **Councillors recommended that this application should be approved.**

P17/S3507/ 137 Cuddesdon Road, Horspath *Certificate for Lawful Development*****
LDP Detached swimming pool building. – **Noted.**

PLANNING PERMISSIONS/REFUSALS/APPEALS.

P17/S2940/ 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. (1 letter received from resident). – **Refused.**

179/17 CLERK'S UPDATE.

Internal Audit 2017/18 – Letter of engagement was received from Mr Philip Hood. – Councillors agreed to use the services of Mr Hood for 2017/18.

Review of Internal Audit 2016/17 – The Clerk confirmed that this has been carried out and signed by the Clerk and Mr Harris (Interim Chairman).

Land from Village up to Burial Ground – Horspath Cricket Club have removed their rubbish and tidied the area. A letter has also been sent to Horspath Cycle Speedway who have notified the Parish Council that renovation work is currently taking place and they hope to have all of their rubbish cleared away in the next 3-4 weeks.

Power Supply on Village Green – The Clerk has contacted SSE and arranged for the power supply to be reconnected on 21/11/17.

Christmas tree – The Clerk confirmed that Mr Pettigrove has kindly offered to donate the Christmas tree again this year. The Clerk will contact Mr Pettigrove to arrange for the tree to be delivered on 9th December around 9am. Mr Harris stated that volunteers will be needed to help put the tree up.

180/17 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNILLOR REPORTS.

Dr. Kirsten Johnson (County Councillor) – Dr Johnson reported that she has been at a OCC meeting all day where she put forward a motion to reinstate the bus service to which she received a unanimous approval. This will not be a complete restoration of the original bus services but they are looking at the future possibilities. A sub-group will now look at how we can get a daily bus service back. Mr Harris stated that the local bus companies are in competition with each other, but none see any profit to be made from the Horspath route. Dr Johnson confirmed that she has met with Mr Martin Sutton – Managing Director of Stagecoach (Oxfordshire), and he stated that for Stagecoach to run a service in Horspath, it would involve a subsidy from Horspath Parish Council. Mr Harris stated that he and Mrs Palmer also met with Stagecoach last year, and they reported that there was no profit in running the service. Dr. Johnson stated that Social Enterprise Companies may be able to provide a service as they can re-claim 95% of the cost from bus passes. Mr Harris stated that Mrs Palmer carried out a survey for people wanting a bus service, and the results indicated no peak times in the local demand for a bus service. Dr. Johnson stated that she is happy to meet with Stagecoach again with a representative from the Parish Council if needed.

Dr. Johnson also asked Leader of the Council, - Mr Ian Hudspeth, at the full OCC meeting, “To ensure public confidence in the decision on where the OxCam Expressway is placed, it is important to give local residents a say. Will you ask Highways England to conduct a full public consultation on the general corridor of the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway in Stage 1A of the options, prior to HE’s announcement of this corridor in July 2018”? Councillor Ian Hudspeth replied “As members are aware I often write to government and departments regarding various matters and I’m content to ask the question in the context of the greater Strategic scheme. This is a national piece of infrastructure that could provide a local solution for Oxfordshire particularly around the A34 which impacts on the majority of Oxfordshire’s residents. To reject a scheme that would benefit the majority of Oxfordshire on the basis of some important but local matters would not be looking at the strategic view across the County. Whatever route is chosen by HE there will inevitably a negative reaction from the local communities affected. We need to take all the views into consideration and look for mitigation”. Dr. Johnson later followed up the question, “I welcome your

statement that we need to take all views into consideration, however, you haven't answered my specific question. In your answer you have again diverted the issue on to congestion of the A34, which needs sorting now, not in 2035. This new expressway is to encourage growth, with a million houses planned along the greater corridor, and businesses developed. It will increase traffic, not decrease traffic. Further, the environment is not a local issue, as you imply, but is a global concern". Dr. Johnson asked Mr Hudspeth the same question. He refused to give an answer, only to say that he had answered the question and his answer stood. Dr. Johnson stated that she will continue to fight for public consultation on the Ox-Cam Expressway.

181/17 EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2016/17. – The Clerk circulated a copy of the External Audit Report to all Councillors. The report listed the following matters:-

Electors' rights period during the year. – The inspection period for the exercise of electors' rights which occurred during the year did not include the first 10 working days of July as specified in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, which for last year was from 1st to 14th July 2016.

The Clerk stated that this was for the audit in 2015/16 but due to the date being in 2016/17 this matter has been listed. However, the Clerk will ensure that the correct dates are adhered to in the future.

182/17 TRAFFIC CALMING UPDATE.

Mr Keith Stenning, OCC agreed that he would install the additional 30mph signs. However, Mr Mark Francis, OCC has stated that "When Oxfordshire County Council install signs we have to adhere to the regulations specified in the 'Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016', if there is a system of street lighting (a system of carriageway lighting furnished by lamps lit by electricity placed not more than 183 metres apart in England and Wales) the regulations do not permit the installation of speed limit repeater signs", so they are unable to install the signs. Mr Ayres stated that the implementation of additional signs should be left to Mr Stenning or Mr Francis to decide. Dr. Johnson stated that there are legal reasons why the signs cannot be installed and Mr Mark Francis has asked to meet with a representative from the Parish Council to discuss alternative measures. Mr Harris asked the Clerk to contact Mr Horsley to see if he is able to meet with Mr Francis. Mrs Palmer suggested that if signs are not allowed, would it be possible to provide 30mph road markings. Mr Harris thanked Mr Ayres for all of his help with the traffic calming project.

183/17 TRIAL MINIBUS SERVICE.

Mrs Palmer reported that the grant from OCC has not yet been paid into HPC bank account. Dr. Johnson has emailed OCC regarding the grant and it has been delegated to someone to deal with it. Mrs Palmer stated that 001 Taxis are ready to start as soon as the grant has been paid. Mr Harris thanked Mrs Palmer and Dr. Johnson for their help with this project.

184/17 OXFORD-CAMBRIDGE EXPRESSWAY.

Mr Harris reported that he has attended several meetings over the last four weeks. There is a lot of speculation on where the actual route will be. The NIC are due to release their report at the end of this month. Mr Harris reported on a meeting in Milton Keynes on 18th October with Highways England, who stated that there will not be a public consultation as they will decide the route. Mr Harris has purchased a copy of the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011-2033 showing diagrams of land that is reserved for transport infrastructure, including land near Culham for a new bridge planned to be built over the River Thames to link the Culham Science Centre with Didcot Garden Town.

Mr Harris also attended a presentation at SODC where it was reported that along with OCC, they have applied for £177million for transport and infrastructure. Mr Harris stated that there has been no specific information from SODC or NIC, or from Ian Hudspeth, Leader of OCC, about the possible use of this

bridge for Ox-Cam Expressway, but the safeguarded land in the Local Plan 2033 is for locations where the road could go over the river near Culham. Mr Harris stated that the Expressway Action Group, made up of about 24 villages, believes that the route has already been decided, which is likely to be the southern route, across the Green Belt of South Oxfordshire, however, they will continue to fight for a Public Enquiry so that villages can have their say. The northern (A34) route is likely to be objected to as it crosses Pixey Mead, part of the Oxford Meadows Special Area of Conservation. The EAG is very effective and at the last meeting Horspath Parish Council agreed to contribute £50.00 towards the group, who now have a very experienced PR lady on board as well as CPRE Oxfordshire who are also asking for a Public Enquiry about the choice of routes. The Local Press have been briefed by Ian Hudspeth that the Expressway should be south of Oxford. MP John Howell has given his support to EAG and is against the route being south of Oxford. Mr Harris proposed that Horspath Parish Council supports the aims of the Expressway Action Group in objecting to a route south of Oxford for the Ox-Cam Expressway and requesting a Public Enquiry. Councillors voted unanimously in favour.

185/17 HPC RESPONSE TO SODC'S CONSULTATION ON THE FINAL VERSION OF THE SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE LOCAL PLAN 2033.

Mr Harris reported that he has read through the final version of the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2033 where he has noticed lots of mistakes. They have also deleted a policy that protects Shotover as they say that it is no longer needed. On behalf of the Parish Council, Mr Harris will write the draft response and circulate it to all Councillors and he will include the suggestion that they reinstate the policy that protects Shotover and the area around it. Mr Harris stated that the Plan has also omitted to list Horspath Wildlife Conservation Area. Mr Harris stated that any policies which protect such things as open spaces, will be included in the Horspath Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Mr Harris stated that the Local Plan 2033 still classifies Horspath as a small village. The Local Plan 2033 states that we have to build approximately 30 houses between 2011-3033. We will have to check how many houses have already been built to date. The overall strategy for housing is to build on the outer edge of the Green Belt in such locations as Culham. In Wheatley, they are proposing to build 300 new houses and Berinsfield will be permitted to expand considerably. Also, on much of the airfield site in Chalgrove several thousand new houses are planned.

Councillors agreed that Mr Harris draft the response to SODC which will give Horspath a right to attend the Local Plan's Examination in Public next year in order to represent Horspath.

186/17 REVIEW OF BURIAL GROUND RULES.

Councillors agreed to defer this item until Mr Horsley is present, as he has administered them.

187/17 CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. RSN – Rural Intelligence from behind the headlines 6.10.17. – (Circulated via email).
- b. OALC – Introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations. – (Circulated via email).
- c. CPRE Oxfordshire – Comments on South Oxfordshire Local Plan. – (Circulated via email).
- d. SODC – Reminder Yellow Letter – Press Notice. – (Circulated via email).
- e. SODC – Time is running out to have your say on proposed housing delivery strategy. – (Circulated via email).
- f. Open Spaces Society – South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2033 – Publicity period now live. – (Circulated via email).
- g. Sovereign – Free Outdoor Play Area Quotation Service. – (Circulated via email).
- h. SODC – Presentation from Parish & Neighbourhood Planning Group briefing on the Local Plan 11th October 2017. – (Circulated via email). – **Attendance for HPC by Mr Martin Harris.**

- i. Thames Valley Police – PCSO Ryan Dollery – October 2017 Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- j. SODC – Residents invited to comment on Local Plan. – (Circulated via email). – **Mr Harris stated that anyone can comment on the Local Plan.**
- k. RSN. – Rural Transport October 2017. – (Circulated via email).
- l. Thames Valley Police – Summary Leaflet – Police & Crime Plan 2017 – 2021. – (Circulated via email).
- m. SODC – SODC is coming home to Crowmarsh. – (Circulated via email).
- n. OALC – Community Resilience Innovation Fund. – (Circulated via email).
- o. SODC – Town & Parish Forum 1.11.17. – (Circulated via email). – **Attendance for HPC by Mr Martin Harris.**
- p. Thames Valley Police. – Hidden Harm Campaign. – (Circulated via email).
- q. RSN – Weekly Email News Digest 9.10.17. – (Circulated via email).
- r. Community First Oxfordshire – Attracting new volunteers in your community – New free event. – (Circulated via email).
- s. RSN – Rural Intelligence from behind the headlines 13.10.17. – (Circulated via email).
- t. Trust for Oxfordshire’s Environment (TOE2) – New Funding for Woodlands. – (Circulated via email).
- u. Thames Valley Police – Protect Your Worlds Campaign Support. – (Circulated via email).
- v. CPRE’s – Initial concerns and recommendations – Vale of White Horse District Council – Local Plan Part 2. – (Circulated via email).
- w. Community First Oxfordshire. – Oxfordshire Transport & Access to Services Survey 2017. – **(Passed to Mrs Palmer to complete).**
- x. RSN – Rural Housing Spotlight. – (Circulated via email).
- y. RSN – Weekly Email News Digest 16.10.17. – (Circulated via email).
- z. SODC – Press Notice – Ground Breaking Transport Awarded Government Funding. – (Circulated via email).
- aa. SODC – Proposed new public places orders could help tackle anti-social behaviour. – (Circulated via email).
- bb. RSN – Weekly Email News Digest 23.10.17. – (Circulated via email).
- cc. CPRE – Conspiracy of silence on Expressway. – (Circulated via email).
- dd. RSN – Rural Intelligence from behind the headlines 20.10.17. – (Circulated via email).
- ee. OPFA – Autumn 2017 Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- ff. SODC – South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011-2033 Update. – (Circulated via email).
- gg. CPRE – Press Release – Oxford – Cambridge Expressway. – (Circulated via email).
- hh. RSN – Weekly Email News Digest 30.10.17. – (Circulated via email).
- ii. CPRE - Oxfordshire Liberal Democrats Petition - Halt the Cherwell Housing Plan. – (Circulated via email).
- jj. RSN – Rural Opportunities Bulletin. – (Circulated via email).
- kk. RSN – Rural Intelligence from behind the headlines 27.10.17. – (Circulated via email).
- ll. SODC – “Don’t bin your batteries” call following waste and recycling truck fires. – (Circulated via email).
- mm. Open Spaces Society. – Vote For The Great Outdoors – The Extra Mile Award. – (Circulated via email)
- nn. RSN – Rural Seminar – Rural Places, Rural Challenges. – (Circulated via email).
- oo. OALC – October Update for Member Councils. – (Circulated via email).
- pp. RSN – Rural Broadband October 2017. – (Circulated via email).
- qq. Clerks & Councils Direct. – November 2017 Newsletter.*
- rr. Tony James Memorial. – Application for the erection of a memorial. – **Councillors approved this application.**
- ss. Wheatley Parish Council. – October/November 2017 Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- tt. Thame & Wheatley Ramblers Group. – TW Ramblers Walk Poster October 2017.*

- uu. Oxfordshire South & Vale Citizens Advice. – Donation Request. – (Circulated via email).
 * *original held by the Clerk, copy available on request.*
 # *displayed on Village Hall & village noticeboards.*

188/17 PAYMENTS.

Chq	To Whom Paid	Details	Vat	Total £
2502	Mr M Harris	Copy of Final Local Plan 2033		60.82
2503	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Salary 24/9/17 – 24/10/17		402.77
2504	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Home Office October 2017 Postage		33.50
2505	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Payment for tax to HMRC		98.40
DD	PWLB	Loan Repayment for Village Hall		798.00
2506	SODC	Emptying Dog Bins	14.65	87.91
2507	BDO LLP	External Audit Fees 2017/18	46.00	276.00
2508	Mr Robert Gray	Grass Cutting Burial Ground		294.00
		Grass Cutting Play Area		72.00
		Diesel		64.43
		Bin Bags		4.00
		TOTAL	60.65	2191.83

PAYMENTS – Horspath Recreation Charity.

Date	To Whom Paid	Details	Total £
7.11.17	Mr Robert Gray	Grass Cutting Village Green from 14.5.17 – 22.10.17	950.00
		TOTAL	950.00

189/17 RECEIPTS.

HORSPATH RECREATION CHARITY.

Date	Received from	Details	Total £
27.9.17	Punch Partnerships Ltd	Quarterly rent for Chequers Car Park	712.50
		TOTAL	£712.50

190/17 AOB

- a. Mr Burgess reported that he has received a complaint about over-hanging branches coming from the Malthouse on Manor Farm Road which is a danger to the public and also to passing traffic. The Clerk will write to the owner of the property. Mr Brooks stated that this was reported before - approximately three years ago.

Public:

- b. Mrs Riley confirmed that the plumbing repairs have been carried out in the Village Hall and the invoice was posted through Mr Dobson's door. Mr Hamlet has agreed to look at the repairs to the electrics in the hall.
- c. Mrs Oakley stated that in June 2016 she mentioned that the roadside gates in Cuddesdon Road need repairing and re-painting. Other villages have had new gates installed and ours have still not been repaired and they are now covered in weeds. The Clerk will report this to OCC Highways.
 Mrs Oakley reported that Arncott village have had a new war memorial installed on their Village Green. If other villages can do it, so can we.

Mrs Oakley reminded Councillors that at the last meeting she suggested that HSPT should stop all individual grants being made and save the money for legal representation for any Public Enquiry into the Ox-Cam Expressway. Mr Harris suggested that Mrs Oakley write to HSPT with her recommendation. Mrs Oakley suggested that the Parish Council should employ a lengthsman in the village to clear all of the leaves etc. Mr Harris stated that street cleanliness is the responsibility of SODC and this should be included when SODC carry out their “deep clean” in villages. Dr. Johnson stated that it might be OCC’s responsibility to clear the leaves from the roads. Mr Harris stated that either SODC or OCC should carry out this task as the Parish Council may not be allowed to spend money on this type of work. Mr Burgess stated that Manor Farm Road was vacuumed yesterday. The Clerk will contact OCC and SODC to request that the leaves are cleared. Dr. Johnson will also contact OCC Highways. Mr James Dobson asked if there is an option for applying for community service people coming to the village to clear the leaves. Mr Harris stated that this is always a thought, but he wouldn’t know who or where to ask. Mr James Dobson stated that there may be a register of people to contact.

Mr Aries asked if there is any information from SODC regarding the property in Gidley Way where building operations are underway which now look more like houses without planning permission. The Clerk confirmed that no further correspondence has been received to date. The Clerk will contact SODC for an update.

- d. Mr Clarke asked for an update with regards to the war memorial. He stated that this would be very important for older people in the village. Mr James Dobson stated that the sub-committee met two weeks ago, and a meeting has taken place with an external organisation recommended by the British Legion which is going to come back to the sub-committee with a proposal by the end of November 2017. The sub-committee is hoping to bring a proposal to the Parish Council in January 2018. Mr Brooks stated that he has received an email from the organisation dealing with it.

191/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Parish Council Planning Meeting – Tuesday 21st November 2017 (To be confirmed).

Horspath Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 5th December 2017.

HSPT Meeting – Monday 11th December 2017 at 8pm.