

HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018**  
**At 8.00pm in HORSPATH VILLAGE HALL.**

**Present:** 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).

**Apologies** Mr D Burgess

**Absent:**

**Public:** 6

**196/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Apologies were made on behalf of Mr Burgess.

**197/18 DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – None.

**198/18 EMERGENCY BUSINESS** – None.

**199/18 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL.**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018 were agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the Closed Parish Council Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018 were agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

**200/18 MATTERS ARISING.**

**178/18 Matters Arising - 160/18 VILLAGE EXTENSION PROPOSED BY BRASENOSE**

**COLLEGE** – Mr Harris stated that a reply has been received to the letter sent from the Parish Council on 29<sup>th</sup> October to Adrian Duffield, Head of SODC’s Planning Service, in which the Parish Council requested that the Northfield site not to be included in the revised South Oxfordshire Local Plan, and we asked three specific questions with regards to public consultation on the Northfields housing development proposed by Brasenose College and Gallagher Estates for building in Horspath.

Mr Duffield’s reply stated that he cannot give the reassurance that Horspath Parish Council requires as the Northfield site is one of fifteen sites which Officers have been asked to re-assess. Mr Duffield also stated that the land at Northfields was assessed within the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) which accompanied the Publication version of the Local Plan in 2017, which was available for public consultation between October – November 2017, along with exhibitions held across the District, therefore there are no grounds for complaint. “Northfields” was mentioned as a late addition to the scope of the SA, and then only as a site rejected by SODC from the Local Plan. Mr Harris stated that this very large 184 page document with 662 additional pages of Appendices, is only available on the SODC website, and it is stated in paragraph 7.5.6 that 7 Strategic Sites were options previously considered, and neither “Horspath” nor “Northfields” is mentioned there as being one of these. However, despite no listing earlier in the document nor any mention in any index, “Northfields” is listed later on as an additional eighth site in Table 7.6 where it is clear that it is ranked low by the SODC’s consultants, and in Table 7.7 it is stated that “The Council is of the view that exceptional circumstances do not exist for the release of the site from the Green Belt”. In this document the land is referred to as “Northfields site” and also as “Northfield Site”, indicating a connection with “Northfield” which is a ward in Blackbird Leys, but there is no obvious mention of it being in Horspath. Mr Harris has therefore sought legal advice for the Parish Council from an experienced Planning consultant on this matter, and it is likely that SODC would lose this argument if it were to go to court. Mr Harris stated that Regulation 18 governing the preparation of Local Plans in the Town and Country Planning Act England 2012 sets out a clear procedure for the Local Planning Authority to follow when producing the Local Plan. Mr Harris stated that Brasenose College and Gallagher Estates proposed this site to SODC in 2016, but there was no mention of it at all in any of SODC’s Preferred Options documents which were

available to Horspath Parish Council. Mr Harris stated that the revised Local Plan will be considered at the SODC Cabinet meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018, and if it is approved it will go to a full SODC Council meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Mr Harris recommended that the Parish Council should now seek specialist legal advice from a leading QC on Planning law, and he also stated that residents should be encouraged to write letters of objection to SODC. Mr Horsley stated that the time to seek further legal advice is when the Local Plan is approved at the full SODC Council meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Mr Horsley also stated that there are lots of comments published about the 2017 Publication version of the Local Plan from other Parish Councils referring to other sites, but none from Horspath as we were not aware of the “Northfields site” as it has not been included in any documents previously circulated for public consultation, and was certainly not mentioned anywhere in the Publication version of the Local Plan. Mr Harris stated that SODC considers that it has carried out a reasonable consultation, by means of an exhibition of documents including the Sustainability Assessment held in Wheatley library, but as “Northfields” is not mentioned anywhere in the Local Plan document and is actually the name of a ward in Blackbird Leys, no-one was aware that this is in Horspath. Mrs Oakley stated that this site is actually called “Longlands” and that it has never been called “Northfields”. Mr James Dobson stated that, if SODC has not followed the correct process as laid out in Regulation 18, it is very dubious as to whether we have been consulted on this development.

Mr Horsley informed Mrs Gillespie, (District Councillor) that if SODC’s decision goes against Horspath, Horspath Parish Council will take SODC to court. Mrs Gillespie stated that she has made it very clear to Mr Adrian Duffield and Ms Holly Jones at SODC that she does not support any development in the Green Belt and she will continue to fight against it, particularly the “Northfields site”. Mrs Gillespie stated that a lot of SODC Councillors are still not properly aware of important issues in the local area.

Mr Horsley asked who has requested SODC to re-assess the fifteen sites. Mrs Gillespie stated that it was Mrs Jane Murphy, Leader of SODC, who made this request. Mr Harris suggested that Horspath Parish Council should make it very clear to SODC Councillors that they will face a legal challenge if the “Northfields” site is approved, which will then also delay the Local Plan. The Oxfordshire Growth Board will not be happy with this as it will mean that SODC would not be able to show that SODC could meet its housing needs target. Mr James Dobson asked if the Parish Council should raise questions about SODC not following the correct procedure on public consultation with our local MP. Mr John Walsh stated that SODC’s actions are not acceptable, they have put fifteen possible sites into the revised Local Plan to be re-assessed, two of which are recommended and they can only consider a further six that were consulted on, or they will not meet their deadline of March 2019. Mr Walsh also stated that the Scrutiny Committee meets on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018, and their proposal has to be advertised seven days before the meeting. Mrs Gillespie stated that there will be a meeting at SODC this coming Thursday to discuss the Local Plan. Mr Harris will include details of this proposal in the forthcoming Parish Council newsletter so that residents are aware of what is going on and to encourage them to write to the Head of Planning at SODC and ask for their letters of objection to be brought to the attention of SODC Councillors. Mr Peter Dobson suggested that Horspath Parish Council should write to SODC Councillors, seek legal advice, and apply for an injunction on SODC.

Mr Harris recommended that the Parish Council pay for legal advice on “Northfield” from a specialist QC on Planning law who will advise on the next steps to be taken, as residents of Horspath will expect the Parish Council to try and stop it from going ahead.

Mr Horsley proposed that Mr Harris go ahead and obtain a quote for legal advice but should not go ahead to actually instruct legal counsel at the moment, also, to produce and circulate a Newsletter informing residents of the proposal with an attached template letter to be sent to SODC supporting the objections from Horspath Parish Council. Seconded by Mr Ewart, In Favour – unanimous. Mr Peter Dobson thanked Mr Harris for his help and support.

**War Memorial** – Mr James Dobson circulated an update from the Sub-Committee to all Councillors. Councillors agreed the draft text about the memorial to go onto the website. The War Memorial has been delivered ahead of schedule and below the original budget. The Parish Council previously agreed a budget of £15,500.00 with a contingency of £1,000.00. The Sub-Committee is pleased to report that the total cost of the project was £11,465.00. The reduction in cost has been achieved by the generous provision of greater than expected time and goodwill from members of Horspath Parish Council and the local community. Mr Peter Dobson stated that particular recognition should go to Mr Walker, Mr Ewart and Mr Horton. Mr Dobson also passed thanks to Mrs Cath Riley, Mrs Beverley Oakley and Edward and Martha. Mr Horsley suggested that an email should be sent out to all residents on the village database to let them know that Rev.Dr. Emma Pennington will be consecrating the stone on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 10.45am.

## **201/18 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 drawing SK1.02 Rev A accompanying letter from agent dated 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018 in setting the building from the boundary). The Council has received a planning application amendment (no. 3), for development work. The amendment is for: As amended by drawings accompanying letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018 omitting dormer windows and clarification of boundaries. - **Councillors have no strong views on this planning application and accepts that SODC will determine it as it considers appropriate. Councillors also request that any comments received from neighbours are taken into consideration.**
- P18/S3341/ Horspath Pre-School Nursery, c/o Horspath Primary School. (Full Application)**  
**FUL** Retention of existing pre-school nursery ‘porta cabin’ and the renewal of the temporary (3 year) planning permission for the siting of the nursery within the grounds of Horspath Primary School. - **Councillors fully support the approval of this planning application.**

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

- P18/S2667/ 14 Blenheim Road, Horspath (Householder)**  
**HH** Single storey extensions and formation of new roof to existing utility room on rear elevation. Loft conversion with associated box dormer to rear elevation roof slope. Formation of two dormers, insertion of roof light to front elevation roof slope. Change of exterior wall facing material. – **Granted.**
- P17/S3054/ 120 Gidley Way, Horspath**  
**FUL** Change of use from integral garage to studio flat. – **The appeal is dismissed.**

## **202/18 CLERK’S UPDATE.**

**Bollards, Village Green** – The Clerk confirmed that the quotation for installing the bollards also includes disposal of the old bollards. Councillors agreed to accept the quotation from Sheepwash Fencing. The Clerk will order 40 new bollards and arrange a fitting date with Sheepwash Fencing.

**Sycamore Trees at Oxford Road** – The Clerk has received a quotation to thin the crowns of the two trees. Councillors agreed to accept this quotation. The Clerk will arrange for the work to be carried out.

**Footpath from the Hub to the Cricket Pitch** – The Clerk has received a quote for the repair work required. Councillors agreed to accept this quotation. The Clerk will arrange for the work to be carried out.

**Electricity Supply** – SSE will re-connect the electricity supply on the Village Green on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

**Mr Brooks** – A letter of his resignation was received on 29.10.18.\*

**Horspath Cricket Club** – The Clerk has received an email asking for permission for the Cricket Club to site a new scoreboard at the location adjacent to the nets area, recessed slightly into the bank. Mr Horsley stated that they could use Bluetooth for the scoreboard so that it doesn't need to be there during the winter months. Mr Peter Dobson asked Councillors to approve the request in principle for the summer months and further details will be discussed at the next meeting. Mr Harris stated that the Cricket Club will require planning permission if it is to be a permanent brick building rather than a mobile construction, possibly on wheels like the sight screens.

**Repairs to Play Area** - The Clerk circulated to all Councillors the quotation received from Oxford City Council Direct Services to carry out the repairs in the Play Area. Councillors voted unanimously in favour of accepting the quotation. Mr Peter Dobson stated that the repairs will make good the Play Area while we look at all other options available for re-furbishing the area. Mr Peter Dobson stated that one piece of equipment has been removed as it is unsafe. The Clerk will make a grant application to HSPT to cover the cost.

### **203/18 CHEQUERS INN CAR PARK – Update.**

Mr Peter Dobson stated that there is nothing further to report at the moment.

### **204/18 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS.**

**District Councillor** - Mrs Gillespie reported that the Cherwell District Council Local Plan went to the Inspector recently and they have been given the green light on some of the sites listed in their Local Plan. This is not good but they have based their decision on the old NPPF. Mrs Gillespie stated that she is worried that SODC Officers are concentrating on developing housing on Green Belt sites. The VWHDC has removed the Dalton Barracks site from their Local Plan as the proposal was for too many houses, and they have been told to come back with a smaller housing development proposal. Mrs Gillespie will keep HPC updated on any developments with SODC's Local Plan and she will continue to fight to protect the Green Belt. Mrs Gillespie stated that SODC has always wanted to protect the Green Belt, but this is not the case anymore.

Mrs Gillespie will continue to fight, along with Mr Harris, against the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway. Mrs Gillespie referred to the recent letter received from Mr Adrian Townsend from Garsington and stated that it is good to have a voice with regards to asking District/County Councillors to withdraw their support from the Oxfordshire Growth Board. Mrs Gillespie stated that the County does need more roads, but in the right place, such as a Botley by-pass.

**District Councillor** – Mr John Walsh stated that with regards to the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway, Horspath is more protected than other villages as the route closest to Horspath has been rejected. Mr Walsh is also involved with the EAG and defending Otmoor. Mr Walsh stated that there is a good chance that Highways England will opt for the western route as the disadvantage of the southern route is that people in houses to be built along it will still commute to London.

**Mr Walsh reported that he is looking at the local bus services.** The way that buses are being looked at is being based on what services were in place before and how much money was taken on those routes. The feeder routes into Horspath were impractical and this needs to be looked at and properly planned routes put in place to give an hourly service to Cowley and into Oxford. Mr Peter Dobson stated that HPC would like the reinstatement of a bus service in Horspath as has been fought for by Dr. Johnson. Mr Walsh stated that this also applied to other villages, but Horspath is large enough to have its own service.

**205/18 GDPR** - Mr James Dobson stated that there is nothing further to report.

### **206/18 CORRESPONDENCE.**

- a. SODC – Extra Garden Waste collections available this month. – (Circulated via email).
- b. SODC – Free Network Event in Chinnor. – (Circulated via email).

- c. RSN. - The Rural Bulletin 2/10/18, 9/10/18, 16/10/18, 23/10/18, 30/10/18. – (Circulated via email).
- d. NALC – Spring Conference 2019. – (Circulated via email).
- e. Terry Pollard of the North Otmoor No Expressway Group (NONE) – Minutes of the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway Villages Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018.
- f. TVERC – Neighbourhood Planning: Wildlife Data and Maps Workshop. – (Circulated via email).
- g. SODC – Polling District and Polling Station Review. – (Circulated via email).
- h. OALC – Spaces still available on GDPR Training. – (Circulated via email).
- i. DR K Johnson. – Resignation as County Councillor, Wheatley Division, Chair of the Woodeaton Quarry Liaison Group and as Trustees for Horspath Stone Pit Trust.
- j. Macmillan Cancer Support – Oxfordshire Buddy Scheme. – (Circulated via email).
- k. Oxfordshire South & Vale Citizens Advice – Grant Request. – (Circulated via email).
- l. RSN – Funding Digest October Edition. – (Circulated via email).
- m. Oxford City Council – Oxford’s Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule Review October 2018 – Invitation to join. – (Circulated via email).
- n. Yvonne Rees, Chief Executive, OCC & Cherwell District Council. – New OCC & Cherwell District Council Partnership Starts Today. – (Circulated via email).
- o. SODC - £145,000 available for Local Groups in South Oxfordshire. – (Circulated via email).
- p. Wheatley Parish Council. – October/November Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- q. OALC – September 2018 Update. – (Circulated via email).
- r. Community First Oxfordshire – At a Glance – Latest News. – (Circulated via email).
- s. BBOWT – Oxford-Cambridge Expressway Consultation. – (Circulated via email).
- t. Charity Commission. – News October 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- u. SODC – Survey Launched on updates to the Housing Allocation Policy. – (Circulated via email).
- v. Oxford City Council – Oxford Central (City & University) Conservation Area Appraisal. – (Circulated via email).
- w. SODC – Housing Allocation Policy Consultation 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- x. SODC – Exciting race night coming to Didcot. – (Circulated via email).
- y. NALC – Newsletter October 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- z. NALC – Spring Conference 2019. – (Circulated via email).
- aa. TVP – Police & Crime Bulletin for October 2018 – Thames Valley Chief Constable to retire after 32 years in Policing. – (Circulated via email).
- bb. Tim Stevenson – Armistice: Bells. – (circulated via email).
- cc. BHIB Insurance – The Aviva Community Fund.\*
- dd. Highworth Memorials – Permission to erect a memorial.\* - **Councillors approved this request.**
- ee. Open Spaces Society – Draft Strategic Plan 2019-2024. – (Circulated via email).
- ff. SODC – Invitation to GO Active Gold Celebration Event. – (Circulated via email).
- gg. Oxfordshire South & Vale Citizens Advice – Headlines October 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- hh. SODC – South & Vale Business Awards Launch. – (Circulated via email).
- ii. OCC – Oxfordshire Resilience Group Communities Evening. – (Circulated via email).
- jj. OALC – October 2018 Update. – (Circulated via email).
- kk. SODC – First round of grants awarded to a local charity. – (Circulated via email).
- ll. SODC – South News October 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- mm. CPRE – Oxfordshire News October 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- nn. SODC – Conversion of existing annex to a separate dwelling to be numbered 2A Blenheim Way, Horspath. – (Circulated via email).
- oo. Sutcliffe Play South West. – Introductory Brochure. – (Circulated via email).

- pp. Mr Ashley, Garsington. – Email – Oxfordshire Housing and Expressway. – (Circulated via email).
- qq. NALC – Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- rr. CPRE – Public Event:- Find out about the joint Statutory Spatial Plan 19/11/18. – (Circulated via email).
- ss. Oxford City Council – Oxford Local Plan 2036: Proposed Submission Draft Consultation and CIL Charging Schedule – Invitation to join. – (Circulated via email).
- tt. Mr Adrian Townsend – Email regarding the Oxfordshire Growth Board. – (Circulated via email). – **Noted.**
- uu. Ms Lisa Hofen – Email regarding the Oxford Cambridge Expressway & the Brasenose Development. – (Circulated via email) – Mr Harris has sent a reply to Ms Hofen.
- vv. Mr King – Copy of email to Mr Ian Hudspeth regarding the Gilligan Report applied to Horspath. – (Circulated via email).
- ww. OCC – New OCC and Cherwell District Council Partnership Starts Today.- (Circulated via email).
- xx. SODC – Renewable Energy Workshop 21/11/18 – Book your place now. – (Circulated via email).
- yy. OCC – Wheatley Division – Notice of Election – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018.\*#  
*\* original held by the Clerk, copy available on request.  
 # displayed on Village Hall & village noticeboards.*

#### 207/18 PAYMENTS.

Chq	To Whom Paid	Details	Vat	Total £
2599	001 Taxis	Minibus Service 4 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2018		192.00
2600	SODC	Emptying Dog Hygiene Bins	15.28	91.67
2601	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Salary 24/9/18 – 24/10/18 (including £185.60 tax rebate)		621.17
2602	Oxford Marquees	Hire of Chairs	28.35	170.10
2603	Oxford Silver Band	Performance on Remembrance Day		125.00
2604	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Stationery		134.97
2605	001 Taxis	November Minibus Service		240.00
2606	Lexis Nexis	New Edition of Arnold Baker Book		110.99
2607	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Home Office October 2018		30.00
		Stationery		59.50
		Postage		38.04
2608	M K Norton Builder	Installation of War Memorial	286.80	1720.80
2609	Mr Peter Dobson	Materials for War Memorial	2.32	25.94
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£332.75</b>	<b>£3560.18</b>

#### 208/18 RECEIPTS.

Date	Received from	Details	Total £
3.9.18	Barclays Bank	Interest 4/6/18-2/9/18	11.39
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£11.39</b>

#### HORSPATH RECREATION CHARITY

Date	Received from	Details	Total £
19.9.18	Mr Pettigrove	Horspath Feast Donation	100.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£100.00</b>

## **209/18 AOB**

- a. Mrs Oakley reported on behalf of Mrs Riley that the fence outside of the Village Hall by the waste bins has collapsed and needs repairing. Councillors agreed for the Clerk to obtain a quote for the repairs. Mrs Oakley stated that she would like to see the area by the war memorial kept in a pristine condition and suggested that bulbs are planted in that area. Mrs Oakley also stated that the grass on the footpath needs to be cut back.  
Mrs Oakley stated that the storm drains at Blenheim Road have still not been cleared out yet. The Clerk will report this to OCC again.
- b. Mrs Palmer reported that she has received requests for seating to be installed in the war memorial area. Mr Peter Dobson will look into this.
- c. Mr Ewart stated that HPC should give a special thanks to Mr Dennis Walker and Mr Mick Horton for their help with the installation of the war memorial.

### **Public:**

- d. Mr Lee Clarke asked for permission to cone off half of the village hall car park on Thursday this week to protect cars from a delivery of shale for the Cycle Speedway Club. Councillors agreed to this request for reasonable timings only.
- e. Mr Mutton stated that he thought that a cost of £15,500.00 was a bit steep for the purchase of the war memorial, but he thought the revised cost with the savings was more realistic.  
Mr Mutton suggested that rather than purchase new bollards for the Village Green, why not just dispose of them all as it spoils the look of the Village Green. Mr Horsley stated that without bollards in place, lorries drive on the Village Green and churn up the grass area. Mr Mutton stated that there are very few deliveries that come to the front of the shop, most of them deliver to the back of the shop. Mr Peter Dobson stated that the new bollards will be metal and HPC will continue to monitor the situation.  
Mr Mutton asked for an update with the traffic calming scheme on Oxford Road. Mr Peter Dobson stated that HPC has committed to this project, and it will happen, but there have been other priorities and projects for Councillors to deal with first. Mr Peter Dobson stated that HPC is still short of Parish Councillors and would like volunteers to come forward and help to take the project forward. Mr Mutton asked how long it will be until it is done as there is a complete blind spot as you enter the village as all of the trees have grown over so you can't see on-coming traffic. Mr Mutton volunteered to cut the bushes back but Mr Peter Dobson stated that Mr Walker has confirmed that his contractor will cut back the trees/bushes in December. Mr Mutton stated that HPC should ask OCC Highways to arrange for the gullies to be cleared out. Mr Mutton also suggested that the bushes along Oxford Road should be taken out and the fence extended, which will give a clearer view to motorists entering the village. Mr Peter Dobson stated that this is an option that can be looked at, or alternatively the maintenance of the bushes could be carried out more often than at present. Mr Mutton stated that all that is needed is two speed humps installed across both sides of the road so that the traffic keeps flowing both ways. Mr Mutton stated that the speed humps installed at Cuddesdon Road can be driven straight over. Mr Peter Dobson stated that HPC is looking for volunteers to form a sub-committee for this project. Mr Mutton agreed to volunteer to join the sub-committee.

## **210/18 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.**

Parish Council Planning Meeting – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018 (To be confirmed).  
Horspath Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018.