

HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th December 2018
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

211/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – There were no apologies to be made. Mr Peter Dobson welcomed Mr Tim Bearder, the new County Councillor for the Wheatley Division.

212/18 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – None.

213/18 EMERGENCY BUSINESS – None.

214/18 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th November 2018 were agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

215/18 MATTERS ARISING – There were no matters arising that are not already on the agenda.

216/18 CORRESPONDENCE (z) Mr Max Eason explained to Councillors that the Cricket League has raised two issues with the current scoreboard, one being that the scorers have to sit outside the canopy area which raises objections from opposing teams, and secondly that the bulk of supporters who come to watch the cricket can't see the scoreboard without going out onto the pitch. The Cricket Club would like a new scoreboard to be a semi-permanent fixture, similar to the Scout Hut in the far corner situated on the left hand side of the nets. Mr Eason suggested that this could be constructed on wheels if required. Mr Harris asked if the scores will be transmitted electronically. Mr Eason stated that they will try, but if it's not possible, it will be by electric cable. Mr Harris stated that if the structure will be in place for more than 28 days, planning permission will be required, but if the scoreboard is on wheels then planning permission would not be required and it would give the Cricket Club more flexibility. Mrs Oakley asked Mr Eason what option the Cricket Club would prefer, Mr Eason stated that they would prefer a permanent structure but a mobile solution will be acceptable.

Councillors voted unanimously in favour of a mobile scoreboard.

217/18 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| P18/S3060/ FUL | 49 Gidley Way, Horspath Demolition of existing house, erection of two new 4 bedroom two and a half storey dwellings with private gardens, provision of 4 no. off street parking spaces. Provision of enclosed bin stores, revision to approved application (revision to planning permission P17/S1848/FUL). - Councillors voted unanimously that they have no objections to this planning application but do request that any comments received from neighbours are taken into consideration. | (Full Application) |
| P18/S3761/ HH | 73 Gidley Way, Horspath To insert a new driveway into a raised garden and construct a retaining wall. To drop the kerb. - Councillors voted unanimously that they have no objections to this planning application. | (Householder) |

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). - **Councillors voted unanimously to object to this planning application on the grounds that it is an over-development of the site.**

PLANNING PERMISSIONS/REFUSALS/APPEALS.

P18/S3341/ Horspath Pre-School Nursery, c/o Horspath Primary School. (Full Application)
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. – **Granted.**

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 31st July 2018).
- **Refused.**

218/18 CLERK'S UPDATE.

Bollards, Village Green – An order has been confirmed for the 40 x bollards.

Sycamore Trees at Oxford Road – The Clerk has instructed Mr Prior to carry out the works.

Footpath from the Hub to the Cricket Pitch – The Clerk has instructed Mr Prior to carry out the works.

Repairs to Play Area – The Clerk has instructed Oxford City Council Direct Services to go ahead and carry out the repairs.

Christmas Tree – Mr Pettigrove will be delivering the tree on Saturday 8th December. Mr Peter Dobson asked for volunteers to help put the tree up at 10am. Mr Peter Dobson will inform the usual volunteers.

Salt Delivery – Mr Peter Dobson has taken delivery of 72 bags of salt. It is currently being stored at Mr Walkers farm. If anyone has any suggestions on what to do with the salt, please contact Mr Peter Dobson.

Salt Bins – The Clerk has requested that OCC fills all of the salt bins in the village. Mr Paul Wilson, from OCC has put in an urgent request to the contractor for the bins to be re-filled.

Carol Singing Event – The Clerk has informed Charles Gurden of the £100.00 donation to the event.

Repairs to Village Hall Fence – A quote has been received from Mr Prior for £100.00 to carry out the repairs. Councillors agreed that the Clerk notify Mr Prior to go ahead.

HSPT Meeting – The Clerk will inform Councillors of the date of the meeting in December.

219/18 PRECEPT 2019/20.

The Clerk circulated a draft copy of the Precept 2019/20 to all Councillors. The final amount for the Precept will need to be confirmed at the January meeting. Mr Harris stated that a provision will need to be made for legal costs for both the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway and for the SODC Local Plan in which a housing development called "Northfields" in Horspath is being considered. Mr Peter Dobson stated that this cost will need to be a Parish Council cost, but a grant application can be made to HSPT. Mr Harris stated that most of the budget for the Conservation Wildlife Area has already been spent on emergency arboricultural work to remove fallen trees, so there are plans to re-plank the bridge at a later date.

220/18 ARMISTICE DAY SERVICE.

Mr Peter Dobson circulated a copy of emails received from residents in the village with regards to the new war memorial. Mr Peter Dobson reported that the Armistice Day Service and the Dedication of the new war memorial, was well attended by approximately 325 residents. The Rev. Dr Emma Pennington officiated at the service which was exceptionally moving. With the sun shining through the trees and reflecting on the new war memorial, it seemed to be the ideal setting especially with the British Legion banner flying in the breeze and the presence of flags and banners. Mr Peter Dobson stated that we were honoured to have Mr John West and Mr John Shepherd able to attend and lay a wreath on behalf of our veterans, and we wish them good health and happiness for the future. It was pleasing to see so many wreaths laid from village organisations and other people. The Hub looked outstanding with the tables laid and sensitively decorated, and providing tea, coffee and cakes supported with sandwiches and commemorative cake funded by the Parish Council. Mr Peter Dobson thanked members of the Parish Council and residents for their help and support, especially the sub-committee chaired by Mr James Dobson for all their hard work to ensure the new War Memorial was installed and dedicated in time for the 100-year celebrations.

The total cost of the war memorial, including installation was £11,234.00. A grant of £4,500.00 from HSPT was awarded earlier in the year, which leaves a remaining balance of £6,734.00. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should apply to HSPT for a grant to cover the remaining cost. Mr Peter Dobson reported that there was an additional cost of £838.00 to cover the band, orders of service, the sound system and refreshments. Councillors agreed that this cost will be covered by the Parish Council.

Mr Peter Dobson stated that he had been made aware of a problem with the sound system only after the event, which had he been informed, could have been corrected at the time.

Mrs Gillespie stated that the attention to detail for the event was amazing, and that it was very well attended.

Mr Horsley stated that he didn't hear one negative comment apart from about the sound system, and the war memorial looked stunning and the event went well. Mr Peter Dobson stated that he is very pleased with it and passed thanks to everyone involved with the project.

221/18 PROPOSALS FOR COMMUNICATING TO SODC THE STRENGTH OF HORSPATH RESIDENTS' OBJECTIONS TO THE "NORTHFIELD" HOUSING ESTATE PROPOSED ON THE GREEN BELT LAND IN HORSPATH, AND FOR RETAINING APPROPRIATE SPECIALIST LEGAL ADVICE:

1. Instruct Blake Morgan LLP to instruct Ms. Saira Kabir Sheikh QC of the Francis Taylor Building Chambers to produce a Legal Opinion for Horspath Parish Council on the options for a legal challenge.
2. Send a letter to SODC challenging SODC's claim that there has already been adequate public consultation on the "Northfield" housing estate development.
3. Advise all households in Horspath of the nature of the problem by means of a Newsletter, and provide suggestions about how they can convey their own opinions to SODC about the proposed "Northfield" development by means of letters and e-mails.

Mr. Harris advised the Council that on the basis of the replies received from SODC by the Parish Clerk dated 16th October and 6th November, which specifically declined to give Horspath Parish Council the requested assurances to the contrary, it must be assumed that the District Council is open to including the strategic housing site proposed by Brasenose College in Horspath, and referred to by SODC as "Northfield", in the new revised South Oxfordshire Local Plan. SODC contended in the letter from Mr Duffield dated 6th November that SODC has consulted Horspath residents about this already, but Horspath Parish Council is now confident that no adequate public consultation has ever taken place on this, and so the Parish Council now needs some specialized legal advice from an experienced Planning QC in order to reliably advise Horspath residents of our legal position, and to recommend a way forward. He therefore

proposed that the Parish Council should approve an expenditure of £4,500.00 to authorize Blake Morgan LLP to instruct Ms. Saira Kabir Sheikh QC, Leading Counsel in the Francis Taylor Building Chambers in London, which specializes in Planning law, to prepare a formal Legal Opinion for Horspath Parish Council. He also recommended that the Clerk should now reply to Mr. Duffield's letter dated 6th November to make it clear that Horspath Parish Council does not agree with him that adequate public consultation has already taken place about "Northfield", and that because of the inference in his letter that this "Northfield" strategic housing site in Horspath may be included in the emerging Local Plan, Horspath Parish Council has taken the most appropriate logical step to protect the interests of Horspath residents by instructing Leading Counsel to prepare the ground for making a legal challenge to SODC's procedures in formulating the emerging Local Plan, in the event that "Northfield" is included in the final publication version of this Plan. Mr. Harris stated that it would be unwise to immediately publish a Parish Council December Newsletter explaining the significance of this situation for residents of Horspath, and recommending them to send letters and e-mails to express their own responses to SODC about it, until the draft revised Local Plan has become public knowledge and further legal advice had been received on it, so the forthcoming December Parish Council Newsletter will not be sent to the printers until the Council has this additional information. However, he suggested that as the draft Local Plan will soon progress through its committee stages in SODC, to be voted on for approval by the full SODC Council on 20th December, a letter explaining Horspath Parish Council's concerns about "Northfield" should be sent by the Clerk to all members of SODC so that they are aware of our residents' concerns before they vote to approve the Local Plan. He felt that with increased pressure from Oxford City Council for SODC to find homes for people in South Oxfordshire who it claims it cannot accommodate in Oxford, there will be other attempts to build on the Green Belt around Horspath, and the Parish Council may need further legal and Planning advice from the its lawyers and Planning advisers in the future.

Councillors voted unanimously in favour of paying £4,500.00 for Mr Harris to go ahead and seek specialized legal advice, reply to the recent letter from Mr Duffield, SODC, and to publish a Newsletter when all information is available.

Mrs Gillespie stated that if "Northfields" is put forward for consideration, it is still possible that SODC might not eventually include it in the Local Plan as they have made a procedural mistake by not following Regulation 18, whereas other possible sites may have had the correct public consultation. Mrs Gillespie also stated that when the Local Plan comes out, nothing further can be changed, it will go straight to the Inspector under Regulation 19.

Mr Harris agreed to email Blake Morgan LLP to instruct Ms. Saira Kabir Sheikh QC.

222/18 UPDATE ON THE OXFORD-CAMBRIDGE EXPRESSWAY.

Mr Harris and Mr Ewart attended the recent fact-finding meeting and exhibition in Sandford about the Expressway. Mr Harris introduced Mr Ewart to Mr Matt Stafford, Highways England's Project Director, to discuss the road building on the chosen route. Over the next eleven months, Highways England will be looking at a range of specific routes. Mr Ewart stated that the recommendations from Highways England will include the multi modal transport links. They are interested in safeguarding the environment. Mr Harris has passed on the Phase 1 Habitat Survey and other information to Highways England. Mr Harris stated that Horspath Parish Council is a member of EAG along with 37 other villages, and together they are hopeful to have the support of our local MP.

223/18 DECEMBER HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER.

As discussed in Item 221/18, the Newsletter will be delayed until further information is available on the Local Plan. Mr Harris will also include other items in the Newsletter, such as, traffic calming on Oxford Road informing residents that the Parish Council is committed to improving the traffic calming scheme in Oxford Road, and volunteers are required to form a sub-committee to take this project forward. Mr Harris

stated that OCC has offered to assist with the design for the traffic calming. Mr Peter Dobson stated that there is £20,000.00 put aside in the Precept for this project.

224/18 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

County Councillor – Mr Tim Bearder introduced himself as the new County Councillor for our area, and informed Councillors that he will be attending his first OCC meeting on 11th December 2018. Mr Bearder invited Councillors and members of the public to contact him if there are any issues that he can assist with. Mr Horsley asked Mr Bearder if he is aware of HSPT. Mr Bearder has spoken with Mr James Dobson about HSPT. Mr Horsley also advised Mr Bearder to visit the village website for more information.

District Councillor - Mrs Gillespie congratulated the Parish Council on the installation of the new war memorial.

Mrs Gillespie reported that she is a member of EAG Committee and has attended lots of meetings with regards to the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway. Mrs Gillespie stated that John Howell MP is convinced that when the Expressway route is chosen, it will be down the A34.

Mrs Gillespie stated that there have been various discussions with Officers at SODC with regards to the Local Plan, and she is very upset over it, and will not be voting in favour of it. The Local Plan is going to be as it was before, but with Green Belt strategic housing sites included. The NPPF states that SODC has to consider other alternative sites. There were 14 possible sites, 7 of which have been discarded as SODC has not carried out proper consultations. Mrs Gillespie stated that there is no need for SODC to be considering any more houses on Grenoble Road. Mrs Gillespie stated that Mr Harris is doing the right thing with regards to the “Northfields” site and advised the Parish Council to put in a lot of objections. Mrs Gillespie stated that the Chalgrove Airfield site is still included in the draft Local Plan. Mrs Gillespie will continue to do everything she can to support the Parish Council in this matter.

225/18 GDPR - Mr James Dobson stated that there is nothing further to report.

226/18 CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. OPFA – Autumn Newsletter 2018. – (circulated via email).
- b. SDC – Sports Clubs and Local Groups to benefit from new volunteering grant scheme. – (Circulated via email).
- c. NALC – Newsletter 14/11/18, 21/11/18. – (Circulated via email).
- d. RSN - The Rural Bulletin 6/11/18, 13/11/18, 20/11/18, 27/11/18. – (Circulated via email).
- e. High Sheriff of Oxfordshire – High Sheriff Awards 2018/19. – (Circulated via email).
- f. NALC – Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- g. SODC – Town & Parish Reports November 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- h. NALC – Spring Conference to shine a light on youth services. – (Circulated via email).
- i. OALC – Book now for training in January 2019. – (Circulated via email).
- j. SODC – Free swimming for a month for residents with Diabetes in Southern Oxfordshire. – (Circulated via email).
- k. RSN – Rural Funding Digest, November 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- l. Mr Terry Pollard – No Expressway Alliance Email. – (Circulated via email).
- m. SODC – Energy Recovery Tour. – (Circulated via email).
- n. Wheatley Parish Council – December/January 2019 Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- o. NALC – Chief Executive’s Bulletin. – (Circulated via email).
- p. SODC – Fly-tipper given a curfew for dumping waste illegally. – (Circulated via email).
- q. SODC – Fly-tipper arrested and taken to court over offence. – (Circulated via email).
- r. Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service – Cooking Fires. – (Circulated via email).
- s. SODC – Free parking days in the run up to Christmas. – (Circulated via email).

- t. OCC – Next dates for OCC Town & Parish Liaison Events. – (Circulated via email).
- u. Highways England Events – Your invitation to Oxford to Cambridge Expressway Stakeholder Engagement Event. – (Circulated via email).
- v. OCC - Shared Lives – Shared Lives Drop-in Editorial Enquiry. – (Circulated via email).
- w. TVP – Police & Crime Bulletin November 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- x. SODC – South & Vale Business Awards Nominations Open. – (Circulated via email).
- y. Open Spaces Society – The Threat of deregistration.*
- z. Horspath Cricket Club – New Scoreboard. – (Circulated via email).
- aa. SODC – South News November 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- bb. CPRE – News November 2018. – (Circulated via email).
- cc. Reading Borough Council (Reading Commercial Services) – Working with the public sector. – (Circulated via email).
- dd. Mr Nick King – Email regarding Cycling into Oxford. – (Circulated via email). – **Mr Harris stated that he is in communication with Mr King, who is concerned about the dangers of cycling through Horspath. Mr Harris stated that the Parish Council needs to ensure that the traffic calming scheme on Oxford Road is also cycle friendly. Mr Harris stated that it is OCC’s responsibility to ensure that traffic calming measures are safe, and Mr King has proved that the traffic calming in Horspath is not safe. Mr Bearder stated that Mr King has pointed out another location in the Cuddesdon area, which was quickly sorted out by OCC. Mr King also mentioned the area by the gates to the new Sports Park, and so Mr Harris has emailed the person in charge of the project to see what they are going to do about it, but no reply has been received to date.**
- ee. Mr David Wright – Email on behalf of Royal British Legion to thank all of the people involved with the war memorial. – (Circulated via email).
- ff. NALC – Chief Executive’s Bulletin. – (Circulated via email).
- gg. Horspath Cycle Speedway Club. – Email confirming they have laid a wreath at the war memorial. – (Circulated via email).
- hh. NALC - 'How can all tiers of local government work together to deliver effective services? – (Circulated via email).
- ii. Mr Paul Surman – Email regarding the war memorial. – (Circulated via email).
- jj. Scope – Email regarding the possibility of textile recycling banks in Horspath. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors agreed that no recycling banks are required in Horspath.**
- kk. High Jaeger – Email regarding the war memorial. – (Circulated via email).
- ll. Mr Keith Brooks. – Email regarding the war memorial. – (Circulated via email).
- mm. Mrs Valerie Ives – Email regarding the war memorial. – (Circulated via email).
- nn. OCC – Dreaming of a green Christmas. - (Circulated via email).

** original held by the Clerk, copy available on request.*

displayed on Village Hall & village noticeboards.

227/18 PAYMENTS.

| Chq | To Whom Paid | Details | Vat | Total £ |
|------|----------------------|--|-------|---------|
| DD | PWLB | Loan repayment for Burial Ground | | 1966.53 |
| 2610 | Royal British Legion | Purchase of 2 x Wreaths | | 80.00 |
| 2611 | Mrs Hayley Kogel | Salary 24/10/18 – 24/11/18 | | 435.57 |
| 2612 | Mrs H Palmer | Web Hosting Fee | 31.39 | 188.36 |
| 2613 | Mr P Aries | Bus Shelter/Play Area Maintenance Oct/Nov 2018. | | 120.00 |

| | | | | |
|------|------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| | | Christmas Box | | 20.00 |
| 2614 | Mrs Hayley Kogel | Home Office November 2018 | | 30.00 |
| 2615 | 001 Taxis | December Minibus Service | | 192.00 |
| | | TOTAL | £31.39 | £3032.46 |

228/18 RECEIPTS.

| Date | Received from | Details | Total £ |
|----------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 4.10.18 | Co-op Funeral Directors | 1 x Burial | 400.00 |
| 4.10.18 | HSPT | Grant for village minibus service | 720.00 |
| 23.10.18 | Tony James Memorials | 1 x Memorial Tablet | 75.00 |
| 7.11.18 | Highworth Memorials | 1 x Memorial Monument | 125.00 |
| | | TOTAL | £1320.00 |

229/18 AOB

- a. Mr Harris stated that the cost of printing the Newsletter by Parchment, Oxford will be around £300.00. Councillors agreed for Mr Harris to go ahead.
Mr Harris reported that he, Mrs Oakley and Mrs Palmer have received emails regarding the local Bus Service meeting in January 2019, where they are hoping to receive a proposal for a shuttle bus service from/to Asda, via Wheatley, and Horspath to Cowley Centre.
Mr Harris asked if the Clerk had any information on the loan being made to the Friends of Horspath. The Clerk stated that she is waiting for the Charity Commission to approve the change to the HSPT Constitution before the loan can be made.
- b. Mr Ewart stated that last year, both he and Mr Ayres looked at ways that the Pump Station area could be improved and suggested that a grant application could be made to HSPT to look at this project again.
- c. Mr Horsley reported that he has recently been informed by Sarah Gray that a new residential dwelling has been built in Sandy Lane behind another property, without planning permission. Mr Harris will ask Mrs Gray to pass on the information to Mrs Gillespie.

Public:

- d. Mrs Riley asked when the hedge outside of the Village Hall will be cut. Mr Peter Dobson stated that he was advised that it will be done at some point in December. Mrs Riley stated that when the hedge is cut, it will be much safer for motorists. Mr Dobson will chase the contractor to confirm a date.
- e. Mr Lee Clarke reported that people keep parking cars in front of the 5-bar gate in the Village Hall car park. Mr Clarke requested that a sign is installed "Do not block, gate in constant use". Mr Peter Dobson asked if the lock to the gate is still missing. Mr Clarke stated that the lock appeared again the next day. Mr Peter Dobson stated that the lock still needs to be welded to the gate.
- f. Mr Gordon Clarke reported that the gullies are completely blocked on the right hand side of Butts Road, by the Conservation Wildlife Area. Mr Clarke stated that this could have been caused by the builders working at 12 Butts Road. The Clerk will report this to OCC Highways. Mr Lee Clarke reported that the gullies in his road are also blocked.

230/18 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Parish Council Planning Meeting – Tuesday 18th December 2018 (To be confirmed).
Horspath Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 8th January 2019.