

DUE TO THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE FOR THE CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY, HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL CANCELLED THE APRIL MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND HELD THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING REMOTELY.

**HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th April 2020
At 8.00pm.**

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

Apologies

Absent:

Public:

46/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. – There were no apologies to be made.

47/20 DECLARATION OF INTEREST. – None.

48/20 EMERGENCY BUSINESS. – None.

49/20 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd March 2020 were agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

50/20 MATTERS ARISING. – None.

51/20 DELEGATION OF POWERS TO A SMALL EMERGENCY COMMITTEE DURING THE CORONAVIRUS.

In line with OALC's recommendations, and under the Local Government Act 1972, section 101, to ensure that the Council can continue to function during the next few weeks/months, Horspath Parish Council needs to delegate decision making to an emergency committee to do anything expedient and necessary to ensure the continuous business of the Council and to deal with mandatory undertakings in order to prevent the authority from incurring liability during the period that the delegation is applicable.

Councillors agreed unanimously to delegate decision making to an emergency committee, made up of, Mr Peter Dobson (Chairman), Mr Richard Burgess (Vice Chairman) and Mrs Hayley Kogel (Clerk).

52/20 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

P20/S0453/ 69-71 Gidley Way, Horspath (Full Application)
FUL Demolition of an existing house and outbuildings and the erection of five flats and two semi-detached houses. - **Horspath Parish Council objects to this application on the grounds of vehicle access. The increased number of vehicles/traffic movements in that area will be detrimental to the village.**

P20/S0855/ Broadfields, 27 Cuddesdon Road, Horspath (Householder)
HH Convert a garden building and add an extension. - **Horspath Parish Council has no objections to this planning application.**

P20/S0612/ 19 Oxford Road, Horspath *For information only*****
PDH Single storey extension.

The applicant is seeking determination from the District Council as to whether their prior approval is required for an extension which could be built under the new permitted development rights.

PLANNING PERMISSIONS/REFUSALS/APPEALS. – None.

53/20 CLERK'S UPDATE.

Power Supply on Village Green – SSE has now confirmed that the power supply is now on an annual contract.

Litter Bin – Butts Road – SODC's Technical Officer has requested a new bin or for the existing bin to be mounted. It is estimated that this will be done in the next four weeks.

Speed Indicator Device – The device is now in working order.

Road Traffic Surveys – The Clerk is waiting for Mark Prestwood, Transport Monitoring, OCC to make the arrangements for the surveys to be carried out, however, this will be postponed for the time being.

Oxford Bus Company – Councillors agreed that the invoice for the PMU service in March is to be paid.

Reply to Justine Miller – It was agreed that the draft reply produced by Mr Ewart will be deferred. Mr Ewart will obtain more information.

Email from Mr Peter Aries – Mr Aries asked if HPC would consider not charging the Chequers Inn for use of the car park during the Coronavirus pandemic. – Following discussions, Councillors agreed that this will be deferred until the May 2020 meeting to see if a request from the Landlord is received.

Bus Shelter – Mr Peter Dobson stated that there is a "gift shop" operating in the bus shelter where residents are leaving items for other residents to take for their own use. Mrs Oakley stated that it started as a location for residents to do a book swap which was considered to be a good idea, but there is concern that people will start leaving unwanted items there. Mr Peter Dobson stated that he is concerned with the medical side of people leaving items in the bus shelter. Mrs Oakley stated that Mr Aries is spraying all items with disinfectant. It was agreed that the area will be monitored for the time being.

Barclays Bank – Mr Peter Dobson confirmed that the new signatories have been confirmed for the Parish Council's bank accounts. The Clerk will inform Mrs Palmer that her signature has now been removed.

Mr Rob Gray – Grass Cutting in the village. – Following discussions, Councillors agreed that subject to receiving a Risk Assessment for meeting Social Distancing guidelines, Mr Gray can continue to cut the grass in the village.

54/20 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie (District Councillor) – Mrs Gillespie reported that SODC offices have been sanitised and are offered up to accommodate any potential local need in these uncertain times.

There has been a change in the coalition ruling group. David Turner is no longer on the Cabinet and Leigh Rawlins, who was Cabinet member for Planning has been moved to the Finance role. There is a new Cabinet Member for Planning; Anne Marie Simpson. Mrs Gillespie suggested that Horspath Parish Council write a letter of congratulations to her. Mrs Gillespie stated that she believes that she is going to be a real asset, as she is young, energetic, and bright and has integrity. However, her understanding of the Green Belt is understandably raw. Mrs Gillespie has asked her to come and look round our village and to also view the impact the developments proposed in the Local Plan 2034 would have on one of England's most precious cities, and she will be doing this as soon as she is able. Mrs Gillespie reported that Robin Bennett is the Deputy Leader.

Mrs Gillespie stated that, as she predicted, there was no statement in the Budget with regards to the Oxford/Cambridge Expressway and discussions are still on-going. However, with the COVID-19 situation and likely ensuing financial position of our country, nothing is secure. Mrs Gillespie reported that she has been involved in the impressive Community Groups, set up in my various villages and she has divided her

SODC grant for that purpose amongst them. Mrs Gillespie added that she would like to say “what an amazing asset Beverley is to Horspath and hope she - and you all - know that I am here to help with this dire situation in whatever way I am able”.

Mr Tim Bearder (County Councillor) – Mr Bearder sent the following report by email.

“Every parish in the Wheatley Division has risen to the challenge of supporting vulnerable members of the community by quickly establishing local Coronavirus groups. It’s been extremely impressive. Further advice and information for these groups can be found on <https://www.oxfordshireallin.org/> Sadly, having asked me to supply the information - which I duly did, the council is now requesting local groups to enter their own information directly onto the site to make it GDPR compliant The county has gone into a command and control structure with the officers running the operation in close cooperation with the leader of the county. I have been doing my best to support this by keeping the questions to officers to a minimum. Our group leader has a weekly briefing to raise concerns.

What we are finding that it is charities and the voluntary sector that are the ones really feeling the pinch at the moment. The Children Centre in Wheatley is still paying £900/ month rent to use the centre which they have had to close. Be Free Young Carers supports 8 to 24 year-olds in the community caring for their parents and other dependents and it is suffering badly. Fundraising activities have fallen off a cliff, staff are self-isolating or ill and the need has rocketed. Again we are looking at ways we can support these vulnerable charities. The first thing is to be aware of those in need. Please, if you know of organisations, charities or individuals that need assistance, please do let me know and I’ll see how I can help”. Mr Bearder reported that there is going to be a consultation on the bus services. The Government is providing money to Councils to establish community bus services, and Mr Bearder has requested that Horspath and Wheatley are considered.

55/20 CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. OALC – Parish Councils and Corona Virus COVID 19. – (Circulated via email).
- b. OPNA – The Future of Neighbourhood Planning – A Seminar. – (Circulated via email).
- c. RSN. - The Rural Bulletin. – 3/3/20, 10/3/20, 17/3/20, 24/3/20, 31/3/20. – (Circulated via email).
- d. Oxford City Council – Invitation - Parish Councils Climate Emergency Workshop 28/3/20. – (Circulated via email). – Workshop now cancelled.
- e. John Howell MP – Neighbourhood Planning – Grant Availability. – (Circulated via email).
- f. NALC – Chief Executive’s Bulletin 6/3/20, 13/2/20, 20/3/20, 27/3/20. - (Circulated via email).
- g. SODC – Your comments are invited on the Cuddesdon and Denton Neighbourhood Plan. – (Circulated via email).
- h. Oxford City Council – Withdrawal from CIL draft charging schedule exam. – (Circulated via email).
- i. SODC – Tetsworth memorial Hall is awarded grant towards energy efficient improvements. – (Circulated via email).
- j. OALC – Training cancelled. – (circulated via email).
- k. Cllr. Tim Bearder – Update: Coronavirus (COVID 19) 15.3.20. – (Circulated via email).
- l. Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure. – (Circulated by Mrs Palmer via email).
- m. Oxford City Council – Invitation - Parish Councils Climate Emergency Workshop 28/3/20 – Workshop now cancelled.. – (Circulated via email).
- n. OALC – Corona Virus Update, Tuesday 17th March 2020. – (Circulated via email).
- o. Oxford Direct Services Ltd – Our response to COVID-19. – (Circulated via email).
- p. NALC – Coronavirus – Information for Parish & Town Councils. – (Circulated via email).
- q. John Howell MP. – COVID-19. – (Circulated via email).

- r. SODC – COVID-19 Guidance for Town & Parish Councils. – (Circulated via email).
- s. OALC – Advice – Keep the Council functioning. – (Circulated via email).
- t. NALC – Coronavirus – Information for Town & Parish Councils. – (circulated via email).
- u. OALC – Support for local communities. – (Circulated via email).
- v. Team Rubicon – Help your stay active. – (Circulated via email).
- w. TVP – Police & Crime Bulletin March 2020. – (Circulated via email).
- x. Open Spaces Society – COVID-19 Update. – (Circulated via email).
- y. OCC – Didcot and surrounding area infrastructure improvements update – Online consultation. – (Circulated via email).
- z. OGBN – March 2020 Newsletter. – (Circulated via email by Mr Harris).
- aa. ONPA – Oxfordshire Neighbourhood Plans Alliance – Seminar postponed. – (Circulated via email).
- bb. Oxfordshire All In – Support for Parish Council’s COVID-19 Response. – (Circulated via email).
- cc. NALC – Coronavirus – Information for Town & Parish Councils 20/3/20. – (Circulated via email).
- dd. SODC – Support pledged for the most vulnerable as South Oxfordshire & the Vale close their offices. – (Circulated via email).
- ee. OCC – Didcot and surrounding area infrastructure improvements update. – (Circulated via email).
- ff. Cllr Tim Bearder – Rural Mobility Fund & Electric Bus Tow – Your Views. – (Circulated via email).
- gg. OALC – We are being asked about Coronavirus. – (Circulated via email).
- hh. CPRE – South Oxfordshire & Cherwell Local Plans; Count the stars. – (Circulated via email).
- ii. OPT – Awards 2020 - Open for entries. – (Circulated via email).
- jj. NALC – Help NALC in its ground breaking research on Dementia. – (Circulated via email).
- kk. RSN – Rural Funding Digest March 2020. – (Circulated via email).
- ll. Wild Oxfordshire – Local Environment Groups’ Conference. – (Circulated via email).
- mm. OALC – Coronavirus OALC advice for Parish Councils. – (Circulated via email).
- nn. SODC – Deep Cleanse South Oxfordshire – Cancelled. – (circulated via email).
- oo. SODC – Parking charges suspended for all district council car parks in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of the White Horse. – (Circulated via email).
- pp. Home Start Southern Oxfordshire. – Donation request. – **Councillors agreed a donation of £100.00.**
- qq. Open Spaces Society – Spring Newsletter.*
- rr. OCC – Temporary Road Closure – Wheatley A40. – (Circulated via email).
- ss. OPFA – Dealing with the Coronavirus (COVID 19) crisis. – (Circulated via email).
- tt. NALC – Coronavirus – Information for Town & Parish Councils. – (Circulated via email).
- uu. Cllr. Tim Bearder – Councillor Funds. – (Circulated via email).
- vv. SODC – Shielding our most vulnerable. – (Circulated via email).
- ww. NALC – Coronavirus - Information for Town & Parish Councils. – (Circulated via email).
- xx. OCC – Oxfordshire residents warned against Coronavirus scams. – (Circulated via email).
- yy. OALC – Update 27th March 2020. – (Circulated via email).
- zz. Community First Oxfordshire – Coronavirus – Update and Information. – (Circulated via email).
- aaa. Citizens Advice Oxfordshire South & Vale – Coronavirus update. – (Circulated via email).
- bbb. Cllr Tim Bearder – Places to Point People. – (Circulated via email).
- ccc. SODC – Volunteering in Oxfordshire – You can do your bit. – (Circulated via email).
- ddd. OALC – March 2020 Update. – (Circulated via email).
- eee. OPFA – Spring 2020 Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- fff. SODC – Suspend kerbside collections of small electrical items, textiles & batteries. – (Circulated via email).
- ggg. SODC – Update for Town & Parish Councils. – (circulated via email).

- hhh. SODC – Litter Picking. – (Circulated via email).
 - iii. SODC – South & Vale District Councils launch online form to help businesses access government grants. – (Circulated via email).
 - jjj. OCC – SSE Resilient Communities Fund 2020. – (Circulated via email).
 - kkk. SODC – Sport England Funding Scheme. – (Circulated via email).
- * original held by the Clerk, copy available on request.
displayed on Village Hall & village noticeboards.*

56/20 PAYMENTS.

Chq	To Whom Paid	Details	Vat	Total £
2739	Mr D Wright	Additional expenses for Armistice Day		28.00
2740	R Hamlet Ltd	To supply & fit new kitchen & boiler room doors in Village Hall	344.00	2064.00
2741		CHEQUE CANCELLED		
2742	R Hamlet Ltd	Un-blocking drains at Village Hall	13.00	78.00
2743	Plumbedwright Ltd	Annual service to boiler in Village Hall	28.00	168.00
2744	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Salary 24/2/20-24/3/20		544.08
2745	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Home Office March 2020 Stationery		30.00 34.35
2746	SODC	Emptying Dog Bins	16.12	96.70
2747	ARB UK	Pruning of Tree on Manor Farm Road	24.00	144.00
2748	Mr P Aries	Bus Shelter & Play Area Maintenance Feb & March 2020		120.00
		TOTAL	425.12	3307.13

57/20 RECEIPTS. – None.

58/20 AOB.

- a. Mr Harris suggested that the Clerk writes to the owners of the Village Shop, to thank them for their support to the village during the Coronavirus, as their shop is the safest place for residents to buy food at the moment. Mr Peter Dobson stated that the email received from Mr Ewart with regards to thanking different people/organisations will be summarised and published in the minutes. Mr Ewart agreed to this.
- b. Mrs Oakley asked for advice for the street volunteers who are assisting vulnerable residents at the moment. If a resident is proving to be awkward or rude to volunteers, are the volunteers entitled to say that they will no longer provide volunteer services to that resident. Mrs Oakley stated that mostly residents are very grateful for any help that they receive. Mr Peter Dobson stated that the decision needs to be left to the individual volunteer. Mr Peter Dobson stated that although this is no excuse, the resident receiving help may be under a lot of stress. However, volunteers should not be put under any pressure and if they are, then the Parish Council will need to address the issue. Mrs Oakley stated that this was a one off incident and that most residents are very grateful for the help that they receive.
Mrs Oakley reported that she has informed Mr Max Eason about the Sport England Funding Scheme.
- c. Mr Ewart referred to the reply to Justine Miller, and stated that information about recycling is needed on the village website, but this information should come from SODC.

- d. Mr James Dobson stated that he agrees with Mr Peter Dobson about the street volunteers. This is a marathon and not a sprint and it is likely to go on for longer than we expect. Mr James Dobson stated that HPC should look to see if any of the volunteers should be considered for the new HSPT awards.
- e. Mr Burgess stated that HPC needs to follow up Elizabeth's letter to the new Cabinet Member for Planning at SODC.
- f. Mrs Hofen passed thanks to Mrs Oakley and her team of volunteers in the village and asked if HPC can hold a big party at the end of the Coronavirus pandemic.
- g. Mrs Gillespie stated that the work being carried out by Mrs Oakley and her team of volunteers is wonderful.
- h. Mr Bearder passed thanks to Mrs Oakley and her team of volunteers for their brilliant work.
- i. Mr Peter Dobson passed thanks to Mrs Oakley and her team of volunteers for all of their hard work, it is very much appreciated by all. Mrs Oakley stated that the volunteer scheme is working very well.

Horspath Parish Council would like to thank the following people for their help and support to residents in the village during the COVID-19 crisis:-

NHS staff and all keyworkers.
 Mr & Mrs Patel, Horspath Village Stores.
 Mrs Oakley and her team of street volunteers.
 Mr Robert Gray.
 All Local Businesses.
 SODC Refuse Collectors.

59/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Parish Council Planning Meeting – Tuesday 21st April 2020. To be confirmed).
 Horspath Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 5th May 2020.

Signed..... Date.....