

HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Horspath Village Hall
on 7th June 2022 at 8.00pm.

Present: Mrs B Oakley (Chair), Mr D Burgess, Mrs P Cook, Mr J Dobson, Mr P Dobson, Mr P Ewart, Mrs J Horne, Mrs C Riley, Mr M Timbs, Mrs L Yendole, Mrs H Kogel (Clerk). Mrs E Gillespie (District Councillor).

Apologies Mrs J Dobson.

Absent: 1
Public: 8

100/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. – Mr Bearder were absent from the meeting.

101/21 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS. – None.

102/22 EMERGENCY BUSINESS. – None.

103/22 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd May 2022, were amended on **Item 92/22 – Fencing around the Pound/Green** to read: *Mr Timbs stated that his preference would be wooden fencing.* Mrs Oakley stated that it was agreed that we would obtain two quotations, one for fencing and one for bollards similar to the ones outside the village shop. The Minutes were then approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

104/22 MATTERS ARISING.

91/22 UPDATE FROM VILLAGE BEAUTIFICATION SUB-COMMITTEE. – Mrs Yendole asked if the three benches have been purchased. Mrs Oakley stated that she has purchased one bench initially to check the quality before purchasing the others. Mr Patel does not want a bench to be sited outside of the shop as he is concerned that people will gather there. Mrs Horne stated that this is the same situation with the bench on the village green, as there are houses nearby. Mrs Yendole stated that HPC should have spoken with neighbours before installing the bench. Mrs Oakley stated that she is not the only member on the Beautification committee, we all agreed on its location. Mr James Dobson stated that a bench would normally be in close proximity to the shop but we need to consider anti-social behavior. Mr Peter Dobson stated that he doesn't think anti-social behavior will be a problem, but members of the Beautification committee should speak with residents in the area to get their views. Mr Timbs stated that he doesn't see a need for an additional bench. Councillors agreed to review again in September to see if there is a need for an additional bench.

105/22 PLANNING APPLICATIONS. – None.

PLANNING PERMISSIONS/REFUSALS/APPEALS.

P22/S1757/ 6 Fords Close, Horspath (Householder)
HH Raising of roof over single storey rear outshot and creation of new first floor bedroom and conversion of existing first floor bedroom to bathroom. – **Councillors agreed to recommend approval.**

P22/S1174/ 3 College Way, Horspath (Householder)
HH Extension at the side and rear. (As amended by plans received 27/5/22). - **Councillors agreed unanimously to object to this planning application on the grounds that the proposed extension is too big for the plot, there is lack of privacy to the neighbours and**

the plans that have been provided are incorrect. Horspath Parish Council fully supports the objections made by the neighbour at 5 College Way.

PLANNING PERMISSIONS/REFUSALS/APPEALS.

P21/S1987/ 2 The Green Horspath (Full Application)

FUL As amplified by information received on 11/2/22.

P22/S0979/ Birch House, 117 Old Road, Wheatley

HH Two storey rear extension to create enlarged family living room at ground floor and enlarged master bedroom with en-suite bathroom at first floor. – **Granted.**

P22/S0703/ 49 Gidley Way, Horspath

LDP Certificate of lawful use for the proposed construction of a garden room.

****Certificate of lawful development** - Approved.**

106/22 CLERK'S UPDATE.

Rospa Inspections – It was agreed that the Clerk will arrange for the inspections to be carried out. The Clerk will contact ODC to see if they are able to carry out the repairs in the future.

Speed Surveys – A meeting is taking place on 8th June 2022 with OCC representative.

BHIB – HPC will receive a refund of £173.19 from the renewal cost due to a calculation error.

Manor Drive – The fencing has been reported and photographs sent to the Enforcement Team at SODC.

Dog Bin Collection Service – Will now be collected on a Thursday.

BHIB – It was agreed that the Clerk will arrange the renewal of the Farmers Plan Motor Policy Renewal £182.56.

Fencing at Manor Drive – The Clerk has reported it to the Enforcement Team at SODC.

Payments to Sylo – As the Responsible Financial Officer the Clerk raised concern about the high level of costs being incurred from Sylo HR. As HPC's Financial Officer it is impossible to manager HPC's finances if she is not aware of what money is being spent, and also what money has been committed to for this financial year. The Clerk stated that she has only been made aware of these costs through receiving the invoices for payment. The Clerk also expressed concern about the high level of costs as there is no allocation in the Precept for this financial year for these costs. The Clerk recommended that fully itemised invoices are requested for the invoices for "HR services", "Ad hoc support" as she is aware of two occasions where Sylo HR have not followed through on actions agreed and it is important to be sure that we are only paying for services received. The Clerk also stated that Sylo HR are now in their third month with HPC and as the only employee, she has not yet seen any employment documents that are part of these costs. Mr Peter Dobson stated that at the HR meeting on 31st May 2022 he asked Councillors to consider the implications if these invoices are not paid, and based on this information, if HPC does not continue with Sylo HR we do have to pay the agreed invoices. Mr Peter Dobson proposed that the invoices are paid, and then a decision made about the future of Sylo HR. Mr Peter Dobson stated that some of the invoices shown on the Agenda are coming up to three months old and this should have been addressed, and to object to these invoices after three months could lead to serious implications. Mr Peter Dobson requested a recorded vote. Mrs Oakley stated that the contract with Sylo HR was signed by the HR Sub-Committee strictly against Standing Orders, it was not ratified by full council. Councillors were led to believe that there would be a cost of £1350.00 due every six months, we were not aware of a retainer cost and the additional costs incurred. Mrs Oakley stated that HPC is not responsible as this contract was signed by a member of the HR sub-committee and not HPC. Mr James Dobson stated that this information is incorrect, as a contract can be sealed by two or more members if it is against an agreed resolution. This was signed against resolution 10/22 with the agreement of the HR sub-committee who all agreed the signing of the contract. With an online document it can only be signed by one person. The contract was signed against the resolution that was agreed unanimously in January for a scope of work to be delivered. Mrs Oakley stated that in January

HPC agreed that the HR sub-committee would contact 9 different HR companies. No further information was provided to HPC with regards to the costs. Mr James Dobson stated that in January 2022 HPC agreed that the HR sub-committee would have full delegated powers for a number of items, in particular to engage professional advice to discharge HPC's duties as an employer, and that was agreed by a resolution in January. Mr Ewart stated that he is shocked that SODC has allowed this situation to exist. We have people employed without a contract of employment or without induction, and there is more of it to come. Mr Peter Dobson stated that we need to be very careful about the situation that we are in with regards to lack of process and lack of procedures. Mr James Dobson stated that in March, Mrs Oakley asked the HR sub-committee to hurry up in dealing with this situation. Mrs Oakley asked if Sylo HR have actually done anything. Mr James Dobson stated that yes things have been done. Mrs Oakley stated that she doesn't think that anything has been done since the grievance was submitted on 10th February 2022, although meetings have taken place, but there has been no resolution. Mr Peter Dobson stated that Mrs Oakley was present at the HR sub-committee meeting when Mr James Dobson read out a chronological order of what has taken place. There is an enormous amount of work that has been done, and the situation has been made more difficult due to circumstances that should not be discussed in an open meeting, and to stop now will be a major disaster and very poor support for HPC, its employees and its residents. Mrs Cook stated that the Clerk is saying that Sylo HR have submitted invoices but not provided the service that has been invoiced for. Mrs Oakley stated that Sylo HR has held three meetings with the Clerk, the first consultant was going to get it sorted, so was the second, and the third was going to get it sorted and provide a full transcript of the meeting, none of which has been done. Mrs Cook stated that we shouldn't pay the invoices if they haven't carried out the work. Mr James Dobson stated that it is up to the HR sub-committee who appointed them, who agreed the scope of service and have agreed a payment schedule. Mrs Cook stated that if they haven't carried out the work the invoices shouldn't be paid. Mr Peter Dobson stated that under the circumstances this is not the correct forum for this to be discussed. The Clerk may not have full knowledge of what has been done. Mr Peter Dobson stated that we should be protecting our staff. Mr Timbs stated that residents present may not be aware of, but we are talking about a contract with an HR company to help with a long standing issues where HPC doesn't have any employment contracts in place and it is causing a considerable issue, so the HR sub-committee has appointed at quite an expense, Sylo HR consultant. It is a lot of money, but it is a long time where this issue has been brewing and has now reached a head and we need certain legal systems. Mrs Oakley stated that this information is not correct, the HR consultant was originally appointed to help deal with a grievance. The Clerk stated that the reason for her comment about the invoices was that she was excluded from the HR meeting on 31st May, so felt it necessary as the Financial Officer to raise my concerns to HPC about these costs. To correct what Mr Timbs has just said to members of the public, this is not just to deal with an employment contract, it involves other issues which has incurred additional costs. The Clerk stated that all of the basic employment documents that HPC need in place, are available free of charge on OALC's website, and as stated at the Finance meetings we could of downloaded the documents, we could have had a session working together to amend the documents to suit both myself and HPC, sign them and put them in place. Mr James Dobson stated that this is possible but we have had an action for 12 months to resolve this but it hasn't moved forward, so by bringing in Sylo we have moved this forward and now have a greater understanding. Mr Peter Dobson stated that there was a consensus of opinion from Councillors at the time that we should be outsourcing this. Mrs Oakley stated that we were not made aware of the costs involved. Mr Peter Dobson stated that when Sylo started to investigate this, it became more difficult to investigate and that is what the additional costs are. Sylo have now gone down to lower levels to try and sort this out. Mr Peter Dobson stated that it was said at the HR meeting on 31st May that the costs are front ended, it was agreed that the contract will be for 3 years and Councillors knew that information. Mrs Oakley stated that Councillors were not aware that the contract was for 3 years. The Clerk stated that just today she has received all of the details about Sylo from Mr James Dobson, which includes the payment schedule, which is the first time that she has been made aware of the

costs. Mr James Dobson stated that there was an agreed scope of service that we have had to deliver, we have done that. It was raised at a number of meetings that this activity was going ahead, we have run a transparent tender process to identify the best value company who can do the work most efficiently. We have identified a company that delivers a significant saving against the next closest competitor, it is a lot of money but we have identified the cheapest organisation to deliver the best service. Mrs Oakley asked if Sylo are conversant with Parish Councils. Mr James Dobson stated Sylo have the experience with Parish Councils and specific questions were asked such as, do they have experience of working with local authorities, Parish & Town Councils and also small organisations, and the successful bidder answered the questions very strongly. Mr James Dobson stated that with regards to the costs, he can understand some of the concerns raised by the Clerk, but if there were concerns he would welcome any advice from the RFO. Mr James Dobson stated that he doesn't believe that they have done anything wrong, it is against an agreed resolution, and the Clerk sent out the contracts and received them back, and if it was thought that a step had been missed he would of welcomed the advice at the time. The Clerk stated that she was not involved in the selection process, she just passed on the information to the HR companies that was supplied by Mr James Dobson. The Clerk stated that she is just raising a query as RFO that she is aware of two meetings that took place where Sylo HR did not follow through the actions, and Mr James Dobson is aware of that, which led to the need for a third meeting. If Sylo are experienced with working with Parish Councils, why has it taken three different consultants to deal with this issue? The Clerk stated that she assumes that there will be three different costs for three different meetings, all for the same action. Mr James Dobson stated that he doesn't see it that way, each meetings would have had a different purpose. The Clerk stated that two of the meetings with separate consultants were exactly the same to deal with the same issue, and both consultants had the same action to follow through. The Clerk stated that she was made aware just last week that the second consultant did not carry out the action and it will now be done as a result of the third meeting. Mr James Dobson stated that there has been a misunderstanding as certain actions that you think were agreed at the meetings, it would be inappropriate for the consultants to do, they would have to report back to the HR sub-committee to do that. The Clerk stated that she has an email from one of the HR consultants stating that another consultant will deal with the process. Mr James Dobson stated that it is normal to have fact finding meetings ahead of the meeting. Mr Peter Dobson stated that the HR sub-committee has been doing continuous work with Sylo HR on this issue since March 2022. The Clerk stated that after all this time it is still not sorted. Mr Peter Dobson stated that HR issues can take a long time as it has to be right, and the object is to protect individuals, and he believes that what Sylo HR are doing is correct, there has been certain concerns but all HR issues need to be investigated. Mrs Oakley stated that it has now been four months. Mr Peter Dobson stated that it took from November to February 2022 for the grievance to be submitted. The Clerk stated that she had to wait for the HR committee as there was nowhere to go with it. Mr Peter Dobson stated that there is a process and this has been discussed. The Clerk stated that there is not process in place, and she was advised internally that an HR sub-committee was going to be set up. Mrs Cook asked how many more meeting are Sylo HR going to need before the issue is sorted, and how much is this going to cost. Mr James Dobson stated that this is not down to Sylo HR as there are a number of parties involved in this, and different parties can call meetings. Mr Peter Dobson stated that people will be aware that HR is not a simple process and that needs to be recognised. Mr Ewart stated that he has found this whole process very stressful. The Clerk stated that she just wanted to highlight the costs involved and request a breakdown of the invoices, and this will be minuted. Mr Peter Dobson also requested that his comments are minuted. Mrs Horne stated that you have to follow a process with HR issues and she is relying on the HR sub-committee to do the right thing and what is best and it does take a lot of time to get HR issues sorted. Mrs Oakley stated it should be sorted in a timely manner. Mrs Horne stated that Councillors were not aware of the issues until the last meeting, and now we are aware she can see why the process is taking longer. Mr Timbs proposed that we pay the invoices as requested, seconded by Mrs Horne, In favour – 6, Against – 3, Abstained – 1.

Mr Ewart stated that HPC has a real problem as there are certain things that haven't been done that guarantee substantial fines. Mrs Oakley stated that this is about the costs incurred by Sylo HR. Mrs Horne stated that is very difficult for the Clerk to see this information as she is the employee. Mrs Oakley stated that the Clerk is also the RFO, so if there are any questions raised by the auditor, they will have to be referred back to the HR sub-committee.

Grass Cutting – The Clerk stated that she has received invoices from Mr Rob Gray for grass cutting the Village Green, the burial ground and play area. It was agreed that the Clerk arrange payment. Mr Gray has sent a note to say since the mower was serviced there hasn't been any further leaks.

Damage to Village Green – The insurance company has agreed to pay out on the claim. Mr Burgess stated that the amount on the claim was for the first lot of damage which has now been repaired. We are waiting for a quote for the second incident. Mr Burgess stated that he has forwarded the information on to the Clerk.

107/22 OXFORDSHIRE CODE OF CONDUCT.

The Clerk circulated the Oxfordshire Code of Conduct recommended by SODC for approval to all Councillors. Mr Peter Dobson asked why we are required to accept the Code of Conduct, it is a template, we are not required to accept it and people might require an input into it. The Clerk stated that at the annual meeting, SODC & VWHDC adopted the Code with immediate effect, and they are formally commending the Code and ask your Council to adopt the Code of Conduct at the earliest possible opportunity to ensure that all Oxfordshire Councillors are covered by the same Code. Mr Peter Dobson stated that he assumes that the terms of reference of the Code of Conduct can be reviewed at any time. The Clerk stated that she is unsure of this. The Clerk has circulated the dates of training sessions provided by SODC.

Mr Peter Dobson proposed that HPC adopt the Oxfordshire Code of Conduct, seconded by Mr Burgess, In Favour – Unanimous.

108/22 FENCING AROUND THE POUND/VILLAGE GREEN.

Mr Burgess stated that he hasn't managed to obtain any quotes to replace the fence, and the old fence is still in place. Mrs Cook asked why we need to replace the fence. Mr Burgess stated that he has received a verbal quote for £180.00 to remove the old fence. Mr Peter Dobson suggested that a written quote is provided. Mrs Oakley stated that the fence is there to stop people from parking on the grass. Mrs Oakley suggested that the old fence is removed and that we monitor the parking in the area to see if there is a need to replace the fencing in the future. Mr Peter Dobson proposed that the old fence is removed due to it being in a dangerous condition, seconded by Mr Burgess, In Favour – Unanimous.

109/22 20mph SPEED LIMITS.

Mrs Oakley reported that she will be attending a meeting tomorrow with Mr Burgess, Mr Hamlet and Jon Beale, OCC to discuss traffic calming, the chicane on Oxford Road and 20mph speed limits, and suggested that this item is deferred until the July meeting when more information is available. Mr Bearder suggested that HPC start the process and put in a request for 20mph speed limits and then when they come to look at the village you can liaise with the Officers to identify the areas for 20mph. If you leave it, you will be in the tail end of the scheme as more and more people apply. Mrs Oakley asked Councillors if we should apply for the 20mph scheme, or should we wait until we have spoken with Jon Beale, OCC. Mr Peter Dobson stated that it depends on the confidence in the control of the speed limit in the area, and we should ask the residents for their opinion. Mr James Dobson stated that he would like to see a consultation carried out but he does understand Mr Bearder's comments about being at the tail end of the scheme. Mr Bearder stated that any village in Oxfordshire can apply for a 20mph speed limit, so you need to decide if the village wants

the scheme. Mr Peter Dobson stated that we should wait until after the meeting tomorrow with OCC and seek their views on how successful it would be in Horspath and then consult with the residents. Mrs Horne stated that 20mph speed limits in the village is a good idea and it will not do any harm. Mrs Yendole suggested that Spring Lane, Cuddesdon Road, Butts Road, Church Road would all benefit. Mrs Riley stated that 20mph would not work. Mr Bearder stated that 20mph is a legally enforceable scheme. Mrs Oakley asked Mr Bearder if he has any data on the number of people caught in the villages with 20mph speed limits. Mr Bearder can obtain this information from the Police, but he does have are speed surveys that show a marked reduction in speed. Mrs Gillespie stated that the scheme has been successful in Clifton Hamden. Mr James Dobson stated that he would be in favour of carrying out a consultation exercise to identify the parts of the village that it would benefit. Mr Bearder stated that he did a winter survey and can provide anonymised data for Horspath that shows if people are in favour of the scheme. Mrs Oakley stated that this will be deferred until after the meeting tomorrow. Mr Timbs proposed that we put a consultation out to the village so that next month residents can be invited to the July meeting to discuss. Mr Timbs suggested that it is advertised on the website and Facebook. Mrs Horne stated that HPC has received an email from a resident who lives on Cuddesdon Road requesting a footpath, and if that is something that goes ahead it will need a 20mph speed limit.

110/22 UPDATE FROM VILLAGE BEAUTIFICATION SUB-COMMITTEE.

Mrs Oakley reported that the bench by the war memorial has now been installed, and general feedback is that people like the bench and where it has been sited. Mrs Oakley suggested purchasing two more benches, one for the wildlife conservation area and one for the burial ground but we will defer these until September/October. Mrs Oakley received an advance from HPC of £200.00 to purchase the flowers and compost for the planters at a cost of £108.56. Mrs Oakley requested permission to use some of the remainder of this money to pay for the strimmer which she brought for strimming areas in the village. Mr Peter Dobson proposed that £60.00 of the advance can be used to purchase the strimmer, seconded by Mr Burgess, In Favour – Unanimous. Mr Timbs asked if Mrs Oakley is insured to carry out strimming in the village. Mrs Oakley confirmed that volunteers are covered by HPC's insurance. Mrs Oakley has also planted wild flowers at the top of Littleworth Hill and along Cuddesdon Road.

111/22 BURIAL GROUND.

Mrs Oakley stated that Mr John Underdown has provided three quotations for work in the Burial Ground, with no costs shown. Mrs Oakley's stated that people who have family members in the burial ground should be consulted before any work is carried out. Mr Peter Dobson stated that the Burial Ground is in need of improvement, but it was purchased to hold a number of graves and if there is going to be a memorial garden, this will reduce the number of burials. Mrs Oakley suggested that HPC should talk to residents first, and then hold a public meeting to discuss the Burial Ground and 20mph speed limits. Mr Peter Dobson stated that he is not against the improvements but we do need to reserve as much space as possible. Mr James Dobson stated that Mr Horsley is the Burial Ground Manager and should be involved in any discussions, and people should be reminded that when the Burial Ground was originally designed there was a defined vision for the area. Mrs Oakley will inform Mr Horsley. Mr James Dobson stated that the information on the appendix for the drainage on the drawings is not correct as a significant amount of money was spent in 2012 on the drainage. Mr Burgess stated that a survey will need to be carried out on the drainage before any work is carried out. Mr James Dobson also stated that a review of the charges for the Burial Ground is over-due.

112/22 HSPC INFRASTRUCTURE FUND APPLICATION.

Mr Timbs stated that there is a potential issue as the vast majority of HSPC funds are allocated to the Infrastructure Fund and HPC has not submitted an application. Mrs Oakley stated that when HSPC was first established it was for the benefit of the residents of Horspath, and she does not believe that the Infrastructure Fund is going to benefit the residents of Horspath, it will only benefit some organisations. Mrs Oakley stated that she did not complete the application form for HPC as she is against grants of up to £75,000 being given to certain organisations in the village, not all organisations were invited to apply for Stage 1 of the Fund. Mr Timbs stated that Mrs Oakley was going to complete the application form for HPC which could have covered the costs of the burial ground, play area and traffic calming on Oxford Road, and with no application it has knocked HPC out of any funding to pay for these projects. Mrs Oakley stated that residents of Horspath are appalled that organisations will get up to £75,000. Mrs Oakley also suggested that there could be a pot of money available to the village to apply for grants without the need for the Infrastructure Fund. Mr Timbs asked if residents are appalled because they haven't been properly informed, and now all HPC projects are in jeopardy because of Mrs Oakley not submitting an application to the Infrastructure Fund. Mrs Oakley stated some of the organisations who have applied for a grant of up to £75,000 have already benefitted by £40,000 - £50,000 from HSPC, and some of which only have between 10-20% of Horspath residents involved.

Mr James Dobson stated that HPC and HSPC need to be kept separate. Mr James Dobson stated that it was agreed that HPC would apply and the timeframe was influenced by HPC and now HPC has locked itself out of the biggest source of funding for 5 years. Mrs Oakley stated that no other Councillor offered to complete the application form. Mr Peter Dobson stated that a number of Councillors on HPC are also involved with organisations that have submitted applications, but he would have offered to help complete the application if he had been asked. Mr James Dobson stated that it was agreed at the HPC meeting in April that Mrs Oakley would complete the application. Mrs Oakley asked how she could apply when she is totally against the Infrastructure Fund. Mr Timbs stated that approx. £250,000 is needed to carry out village projects that we can no longer obtain. What we really need to discuss is the actions of Mrs Oakley not applying. Mr Hamlet ordered Mr Timbs not to make threats to Mrs Oakley. Mr Timbs stated to Mr Hamlet that his comment was in no way a threat. Mr Hamlet ordered Mr Timbs not to make threats to Mrs Oakley. Mrs Riley asked if HPC can still go ahead with projects and apply for grants from HSPC, and do organisations have to have a Manager to manage the projects. Mr Timbs stated that organisations will have to employ a project Manager to over-see the project. Mrs Cook asked if HPC can still apply for grants from HSPC. Mr Timbs stated that this can be done but not up to £75,000.

Mrs Oakley stated that organisations have only applied for the grant of £75,000 because it is available. Mr Burgess stated that 50% of HSPC income has been allocated to the Infrastructure Fund and 50% for other grants, so HPC can apply for £10,000 for a traffic calming scheme. Mr Peter Dobson stated that technically no they can't. Mr Burgess stated that there is a lot of work involved in being Chairman. Mr James Dobson stated that if you take on an action, it is important that it is done. Mr Timbs stated that the lack of understanding of the Infrastructure Fund by some has done the Hub out of £50,000. Mrs Cook stated that if Mr Timbs knew that HPC had not submitted an applications, why couldn't he of completed it or offered to help. Mrs Oakley stated that when the forms were submitted, there were no projects to spend the grant on, but when some organisations saw the opportunity of £75,000 they just applied. Mr James Dobson stated that there were lots of opportunities to spend the money on. Mr Peter Dobson stated that Stage 1 of the Infrastructure Fund is for organisations to identify that they can manage the grant and how, and Stage 2 is for organisations to identify what the grant is for. Mrs Oakley stated that applications are being assessed by the Trustees who set up the Infrastructure Fund before going to all Trustees. Mrs Riley asked whose idea

the Infrastructure was. Mr Peter Dobson stated that it doesn't matter whose idea it was, HSPC agreed and approved what was being done.

113/22 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

Mr Tim Bearder (County Councillor) – Mrs Oakley asked Mr Bearder about Northfields as OCC are delaying the development as they have a small plot of land within the Northfield site and would like the whole of the area to be car free, and Brasenose College do not agree with it being car free. There is concern that Brasenose College will start to sell off parts of the land to developers. Also, if Northfield was car free, the residents of Northfield will be parking their cars all over Horspath. Mr Bearder will chase up and send a written response.

Mrs Gillespie (District Councillor) – Mrs Gillespie reported that SODC offices are still empty. The new head of Legal Democratic will only be in the office four days a year, whereas two or three days a week would be better. SODC will be moving out of rented offices into Abingdon while the new office is built. Mrs Gillespie stated that proposed solar plant by Northfields and Grenoble Road went through at SODC, with the Chairman using two votes. Mrs Gillespie and CPRE have requested that this planning application is called in as the Officer has given incorrect information. It will be the largest solar plant in England in the green belt with views to Oxford and will affect the quality of houses. Mr James Dobson asked if there is anything that HPC can do. Mrs Gillespie stated that there was a consultation based on a request for 40 years as a temporary position, and they have been given permission for 35 years. Mrs Gillespie stated that if there is an opportunity HPC should request that the application is called in as there is concerns about it and it will affect the quality of housing. Mrs Gillespie stated that the government hasn't imposed any restrictions on arable land, and we need a policy on where solar panels should go.

Mrs Gillespie stated that with regards to the Northfield development, Mr Bearder is no longer the OCC Cabinet Member for Infrastructure. OCC are saying that they do not have the resources.

114/22 CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. SODC. – Ladygrove Health Centre given cash boost to expand. – (Circulated via email).
- b. NALC – Chief Executive's Bulletin. – 29/4/22, 6/5/22, 13/5/22, 20/5/22, 27/5/22, 2/6/22. – (Circulated via email).
- c. SODC. – Waste Facility Tours. – (Circulated via email).
- d. OALC. – Upcoming Training. – (Circulated via email).
- e. SODC. – Council's pay out more than £8 million to help with energy bills. – (Circulated via email).
- f. NALC. – Events 5/5/22, 10/5/22, 17/5/22, 24/5/22. – (Circulated via email).
- g. RSN – Rural Funding Digest May 2022. – (Circulated via email).
- h. SODC. – Litter Bug Detectives Trail. – (Circulated via email).
- i. SODC. – Cornerstone showcases art inspired by nature for Ox'shire Art Weeks. – (Circulated via email).
- j. NALC. – Newsletter 4/5/22, 18/5/22, 1/6/22. – (Circulated via email).
- k. OALC. – NALC survey on direct funding. – (Circulated via email).
- l. RSN. - The Rural Bulletin. – 4/5/22, 10/5/22, 17/5/22, 24/5/22, 31/5/22. – (Circulated via email).
- m. TVP. – Police & Crime Bulletin April 2022. – (Circulated via email).
- n. OALC. – Monthly Update April 2022. – (Circulated via email).
- o. SODC. – Update on the Council Tax rebate. – (Circulated via email).
- p. Bioabundance. – Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme (OFAS). – (Circulated via email).
- q. Bioabundance. – Nature Green Paper – Response by 11/5/22. – (Circulated via email).
- r. Bioabundance. – OCC Climate Crisis Views. – (Circulated via email).
- s. Bioabundance. – Sewerage Consultation. – (Circulated via email).

- t. The Oxfordshire Treescape Project. – Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- u. Cllr Tim Bearder. – Update to the No.46 Bus Service. – (Circulated via email).
- v. OALC. – 3 Things. – (Circulated via email).
- w. Wild Oxfordshire. – Spring Newsletter & Membership. – (Circulated via email).
- x. SODC. – Riverside park gets ready for residents to make a splash this summer. - (Circulated via email).
- y. OALC. – Four events from OALC in the near future. – (Circulated via email).
- z. SODC. – A new way of shopping has launched in Wantage. – (Circulated via email).
- aa. OCC. – Oxfordshire Home Library Service. – (Circulated via email).
- bb. SODC. – Joint Local Plan Issues Consultation. – (Circulated via email).
- cc. Mr John Underdown. – Facebook Post. – (circulated via email).
- dd. OALC. – Fraud in Parish Councils. – (Circulated via email).
- ee. Morland House Surgery. – Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- ff. SODC. – We’d like your views on our Joint Local Plan. – (Circulated via email).
- gg. Playforce. – Previous quotation for Play Area. – (Circulated via email).
- hh. ONPA. – Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill published. – (Circulated via email).
- ii. Mr Bruce Harper, Gidley Way. – Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- jj. Ms Claire Abbott Gidley Way. – Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- kk. Chris Huntingford. – Revamped Bus 46. – (Circulated via email).
- ll. Dave Harrison OCC. – Changes to bus service 46 from 20/6/22. – (Circulated via email).
- mm. Ms Eleri Nisbet. – Email regarding Cuddesdon Road. – (Circulated via email). – **Mrs Oakley will liaise with OCC.**
- nn. Mrs Valerie Hunt. – Trees opposite the war memorial. – (Circulated via email). – **The Clerk will contact two tree surgeons to provide recommendations and a quotation for the work.**
- oo. CPRE. – Call for county-wide renewable energy strategy. – (Circulated via email).
- pp. Bioabundance. – Date of next meeting 9th June 2022. – (Circulated via email).
- qq. SODC. – Council’s mark the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee with a focus on the environment and wellbeing. – (Circulated via email).
- rr. OALC. – Operation London Bridge presentation & briefing. – (Circulated via email).
- ss. SODC. – Oxfordshire Code of Conduct. – (Circulated via email).
- tt. SODC. – Oxfordshire Code of Conduct Training Dates. – (Circulated via email).
- uu. Cllr Tim Bearder. – OCC June Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- vv. RSN – Rural Funding Digest June 2022. – (Circulated via email).
- ww. TVP. – Police & Crime Bulletin May 2022. – (Circulated via email).
- xx. OALC. – May Update for Members. – (Circulated via email).
- yy. OCC. – Fix My Street Super User Volunteers wanted in South Oxfordshire. – (Circulated via email).
- zz. Mr Aries. – Email about the Pound. – (circulated via email).
- aaa. NHS Communications Team. – NHS Jubilee materials. – (Circulated via email).
- bbb. SODC. – First electric vehicle charging points go live in Park and Charge scheme in South Oxfordshire. – (Circulated via email).
- ccc. Open Spaces Society. – May update. – (Circulated via email).
- ddd. OCC. – Invitation for Town & Parish representatives to a briefing on Oxford transport plans. – (Circulated via email).
- eee. Mr Brian Adams. – Email regarding advertising in village newsletter. – (Circulated via email). – **Passed to Mrs Cook who will consider in the future.**
- fff. CPRE. – May Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- ggg. SODC. – South News May 2022. – (Circulated via email).

- hhh. SODC. – South Oxfordshire Councillors award nearly £180,000 in funding to community projects. – (Circulated via email).
- iii. South Central Ambulance Service. – Defibrillators in Horspath. – (Circulated via email).
- jjj. Ms Newbold. – Email regarding newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- kkk. Oxford Harlequins. – Licence at Horspath Sports Ground. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors have no objections.**
- lll. Michelle Legg. – Email regarding football goals. – (Circulated via email). – **To be consider for a HSPC grant.**

Mrs Horne asked who is responsible for the maintenance of Sandy Lane. Mr Burgess stated that the residents of Sandy Lane are responsible for it as it is a private road, and on the Parish map it is an un-adopted road. Mrs Horne stated that a sign has been installed saying no cars, except for access. Mrs Oakley stated that the up-keep of the bridleway is the responsibility of the residents. Following a recent incident at Sandy Lane where the road was being dug up, SODC & OCC advised to report it to the Police. A resident reported that another resident at Sandy Lane digs the lane, changes the flow of the water which flooded his garage. There are over 100 vehicles going up and down the lane at speed and comments are being made from all residents, and an elderly lady was nearly knocked over recently by an Amazon driver doing 50mph. Mr Burgess stated that he will liaise with Jon Beale, OCC tomorrow at the meeting. The resident stated that he is asking for help from HPC as the planning permission is for 5 caravans and there is a large number of tents and caravans on site. All of the wildlife has been lost as it gets run over, and the grass has been cut right back to the soil so people drive on it so the lane is getting wider and wider. Mrs Cook stated that the dust from the lane covers the resident's gardens. Mrs Oakley will report back to the residents after the meeting with OCC.

Mrs Horne asked who is responsible for advertising posters that are received by email as a recent email from FixMyStreet who be useful for residents to see. The Clerk will arrange for relevant posters to be advertised on the noticeboard.

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

displayed on Village Hall & village noticeboards.

115/22 PAYMENTS.

| Paid by | To Whom Paid | Details | Vat | Total £ |
|---------|------------------------|--|--------|---------|
| 27.5.22 | Shield Maintenance Ltd | Emptying Dog Bins | 12.13 | 72.79 |
| 11.4.22 | Mr James Dobson | Materials for repairs at Conservation Area | | 124.96 |
| 11.4.22 | R Hamlet Ltd | Refurbishment of Village Hall Car Park | 536.00 | 3216.00 |
| BACS | Mrs Hayley Kogel | Home Office May 2022 | | 30.00 |
| | | Zoom Monthly Subscription | | 14.39 |
| | | Postage | | 3.45 |
| BACS | Mrs Hayley Kogel | Salary 24/4/22 – 24/5/22 | | TBC |
| 11.5.22 | NEST Pension Scheme | Pension contribution for Mrs H Kogel | | 106.84 |
| 9.5.22 | INTY Ltd | Email Address Fee | | 5.40 |
| 4.5.22 | Mrs Oakley | Planters for village | | 135.00 |
| 4.5.22 | Mrs Oakley | Advance for beautification committee | | 200.00 |
| 4.5.22 | BHIB | Renewal of annual insurance | | 3735.77 |

| | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|--|----------------|------------------|
| | | policy | | |
| 9.5.22 | Codec Facilities | Wooden Bench | | 507.00 |
| 1.6.22 | Inty Ltd | Email Address Fee | | 5.40 |
| 1.6.22 | Sylo Beyond HR | Monthly Retainer Fee | 89.20 | 535.20 |
| 1.5.22 | Sylo Beyond HR | Monthly Retainer Fee | 77.20 | 463.20 |
| 1.4.22 | Sylo Beyond HR | Monthly Retainer Fee | 77.20 | 463.20 |
| 1.4.22 | Sylo Beyond HR | HR Services (1 of 2 invoices) | 225.00 | 1350.00 |
| 14.4.22 | Sylo Beyond HR | HR Services – Ad hoc support (1 of 2 invoices) | 190.00 | 1140.00 |
| 5.5.22 | Sylo Beyond HR | HR Services – Ad hoc activity support | 104.50 | 627.00 |
| 1.6.22 | BHIB Insurance | Renewal of agricultural policy | | 182.56 |
| 27.5.22 | New Leaf Tree Surgery | Reduce height on 2 Sycamore trees | 171.00 | 1026.00 |
| 7.6.20 | Mr P Aries | Bus shelter maintenance Apr/May | | 120.00 |
| | | TOTAL | 1482.23 | 14,064.16 |

HORSPATH RECREATION CHARITY

| Paid by | To Whom Paid | Details | Vat | Total £ |
|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| 4.5.22 | SEB | Village Green electricity supply | | 36.85 |
| 19.5.22 | New Leaf Tree Surgery | Crown lift Lime Tree on Village Green | 32.40 | 194.40 |
| | | TOTAL | | 231.25 |

116/22 RECEIPTS.

| Date | Received from | Details | Total £ |
|-------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| 8.4.22 | SODC | 1 st Instalment of Precept | 25,000.00 |
| 6.5.22 | Coop Funeral Directors | 1 x Burial (Replaces returned cheque) | 500.00 |
| 17.5.22 | OALC | Refund for cancelled training course | 66.00 |
| 6.6.22 | Barclays Bank | Interest | 2.37 |
| | | TOTAL | 25,568.37 |

117/22 AOB.

- a. Mrs Horne asked for an update on the repairs to the steps in the Conservation Area. Mrs Oakley stated that this project will not be going to tender, she is hoping that a group of volunteers will carry out the repairs with the assistance of a qualified tradesman.
Mrs Horne asked if there is an update about the Saturday bus service. Mrs Oakley stated that both Saturday and Sunday services start on 20th June 2022.
- b. Mrs Riley stated that John Madden has recently heard about someone being paid to empty waste bins. Councillors are probably not aware that he has been emptying the bins around the Bowley Field for 5 years and has never been paid. Mr Madden also helped with removing and disposing of the tree guards in the Bowley field.
- c. Mr Ewart reported that he will be attending the second part of the Transport meeting in July. Extending the 46 bus service is much better for everyone.
Mr Ewart stated that he has recently read through the village scrapbook, it is magnificent and must be published. The last page is dated 1950 and it needs to be updated and HPC should remind the village that

we need another one in 2050. Mr Timbs stated that it is unbelievable that HPC did not apply to the Infrastructure Fund and the implications of that decision will mean that projects can't happen.

Public:

- d. A resident who lives off Butts Road asked who is responsible for the maintenance of the road as she would like to see the trees cut back. The resident reported that she has been cutting an area of grass for the last 40 years and it is becoming more difficult with an electric mower. The resident asked if someone could take over the grass cutting. Mrs Oakley stated that OCC are responsible. Mrs Oakley will include this area of grass of her list of strimming in the village as it has been reported to OCC on several occasions and they have not done it.
- e. Mr Brooks stated that the burial ground has been a problem since it was first a burial ground, and it has been spoken about before but nothing done about it. HPC spent money on the drainage but it is still a problem. Mr Brooks stated that the burial ground needs drainage all around the burial ground to stop the water getting in there. Mr Brooks stated that it can't be drained into drains as the water is contaminated, it will require a tank in the ground.
- f. Mr Hamlet stated that all HPC Councillors have been co-opted on to HPC, none have been elected. Mr Peter Dobson stated that this is not correct as he is an elected member. Mr Hamlet stated that all Councillors should do the decent thing and resign so that we can get proper people on HPC.
- g. A resident stated that she stands up for the Chair, Mrs Oakley as she is the only person she knows who works hard for the village, and she appreciated that. Mrs Oakley does so much for the village and it is wrong for people to put her down.
- h. Mr Hamlet stated that this village has not had an election for 20 years. Mr Peter Dobson stated that it is down to the residents to make sure that next May there is enough people to call an election. Mr Hamlet suggested that Councillors should resign so that residents can have an early election.
- i. A resident asked if a noticeboard could be placed on Sandy Lane/Gidley Way so that residents can be kept up to date. Mrs Oakley stated that HPC is in the process of arranging for a noticeboard at Gateley.
- j. Mrs Oakley passed thanks to Gill Gray, Michelle Thompson, Peter Dobson, Bob Hamlet, Jane Hamlet and other volunteers who helped with removing and disposing of the tree guards in the Bowley Field.

118/22 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Parish Council Planning Meeting – Tuesday 21st June 2022 (To be confirmed).
Horspath Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 6th July 2022.

Signed.....

Date.....