

HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Horspath Village Hall
on 1st August 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present: Mrs B Oakley (Chairman), Mr R Burgess, Mrs P Cook, Mr L Coolman, Mr I Harris, Mr B Igoe, Mr P O'Brien, Mr E Parker, Mrs C Riley, Mrs H Kogel (Clerk).

Apologies

Absent: Mr T Bearder (County Councillor). Mr S James-Lawrie (District Councillor).

Public: 9

159/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

There were no apologies to be made. Mr Bearder and Mr James-Lawrie were absent from the meeting. Mrs Oakley welcomed back Mrs Riley.

160/23 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS. – None.

161/23 EMERGENCY BUSINESS. – None.

162/23 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4th July 2023 were agreed and signed as correct by the Chairman.

163/23 MATTERS ARISING. – None.

164/23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

- P23/S1980/ HH** **The Old Piggeries, Sandy Lane, Horspath** **(Householder)**
Erection of outbuilding (retrospective). – **Councillors have no objections and recommend approval.**
- P22/S3242/ FUL** **77 Gidley Way, Horspath** **(Full Application)**
Partial conversion of existing garage into facility as kitchen area for catering business 'Cranston Pickles Ltd'. (As amplified by odour assessment received 5/7/23).
- **Horspath Parish Council maintain the previous objection to this planning application submitted on 7/10/22, on the grounds that the noise and the smell coming from the property will be uncomfortable on the neighbouring properties. Councillors do not agree with the odour assessment, and it does not meet the criteria requested by the Environmental Protection Officer. Councillors have requested a copy of the report from the Environmental Protection Officer when it is available.**
- P23/S2195/ FUL** **Brookside Court, Cuddesdon Road, Horspath** **(Full Application)**
Extension to existing office, provision of plant room, and solar panels with associated works. - **Horspath Parish Council object to this planning application on the grounds that the building does not have planning permission and is currently under an enforcement order. Solar panels cannot be installed on a building that does not have planning permission.**
- P23/S2278 DIS** **Twelve Acres, Sandy Lane, Horspath** **(Full Application)**
Discharge of condition 5 (contamination risk assessment) of P22/S4149/FUL (Conversion of existing storage barn into a 2 bedroomed dwelling). – **Councillors have no objections and recommend approval.**

P23/S2231/ 80 Gidley Way, Horspath
LDP Demolition of two garden sheds and rebuild.

(Lawful Development)

PLANNING PERMISSIONS/REFUSALS/APPEALS. – None.

165/23 CLERK'S UPDATE.

Burial Ground Sign – The two signs have now been put up. The two defibrillator location signs have been put up on the village noticeboards. Councillors approved the invoice for the signs at a cost of £102.00.

Play Area Inspections – The inspections will be carried out in July/August.

Data Protection Update – The Clerk has a meeting with Breakthrough Communications next week.

Horspath Fair – Will take place on Monday 18th September 2023.

Burial Ground Procedures – Councillors agreed that as a register of burials is already in place, there is no requirement for the Clerk to purchase a new register.

FOI Request – Following on from the recent FOI request, the person is now requesting that an internal review is carried out on the information submitted. The Clerk confirmed that all information for the request has been provided. It was agreed that a review will be carried out after the Clerk has consulted with Breakthrough Communications. Mrs Oakley confirmed that during recent sorting of HPC documents held in the Drs room, no correspondence relating to the FOI was found or disposed of. The Clerk stated that the information requested dates back 12+ years so there is no guarantee that HPC still holds this information.

Trees on Village Green – The tree surgeon will inspect the trees again and confirm that the quotation is still valid.

Property on Oxford Road – A letter has been sent to the homeowner to request that the trees that are overhanging the footpath are cut back.

Chequers Inn car Park – A letter has been sent about the quality of the repairs carried out on the wall which has now been damaged again. The Landlord has stated that CCTV footage of the vehicle hitting the wall has been sent to the Police who are currently investigating.

Request to re-open an existing grave – Councillors gave permission for a grave to be re-opened to add ashes and remove the existing headstone for additional inscription.

166/23 SALARY INCREASE/BACKPAY & HOLIDAY PAY FOR THE CLERK.

The Clerk circulated the details for both the salary increase, salary increase back pay and holiday pay to all Councillors. Councillors unanimously approved all payments.

167/23 UPDATE FROM VILLAGE BEAUTIFICATION TEAM - Mrs Oakley. – No update available.

168/23 BURIAL GROUND.

Mrs Oakley reported that Mr Hamlet has carried out the repairs to the burial ground wall which has been caused by the horses. Mrs Oakley stated that the weeds and brambles behind the gravestones need clearing again. The Clerk will contact the contractor who carried out the work last time but if he is unavailable quotations will be sought.

169/23 HEDGE CUTTING.

It was agreed that the Clerk will contact Edward Hawes to arrange for the hedge cutting to be carried out.

170/23 BUS SHELTER SEATING.

Mrs Oakley stated that the books in the bus shelter are taking up the seating space so additional seating is required. Mr Burgess suggested that a shelf is fitted in the bus shelter to store the books. Mrs Oakley

suggested that a seat installed on the outside of the bus shelter facing the bridge. Mr Harris agreed to install the additional seating. Mr Coolman agreed to help.

171/23 FOOTPATH BETWEEN MANOR DRIVE AND THE CHURCHYARD.

Councillors agreed to obtain quotes to tarmac the footpath up to the gate. Mrs Oakley stated that HPC could use CIL money to cover the cost.

172/23 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING.

Mrs Oakley stated that this item was not discussed at length and all options should be considered. HPC has been advised that there would not be any funding from OCC, so HPC would have to cover all costs. The Clerk will contact Mr Jon Beale, OCC to find out exactly what the estimate of £60-£80k would include. Councillors agreed that a feasibility study is required to recommend what type of crossing is required. Garsington have recently installed a crossing, and it was agreed that the Clerk will contact Garsington Parish Council to obtain information. Wheatley Parish Clerk has advised the Clerk to contact ODS for information on the recently installed crossing at Wheatley. The Clerk will also contact Cllr Tim Bearder for an update from the Active Cycle Group.

173/23 WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREA. – Tree works & approval of approximately £100 for service of HPC's hedge trimmer.

Mrs Oakley stated that volunteers are required to help with the repairs in the Conservation area. A notice will be displayed on the website, FB and newsletter asking for volunteers. Councillors approved the request from Mr Harris to spend £100.00 on a service to HPC's strimmer.

174/23 CYCLE SPEEDWAY.

Mrs Oakley stated that she has not received a copy of the utility bills for Cycle Speedway and until these are available the lease will not be signed off. The Clerk stated that Mr Clarke confirmed yesterday that the draft lease is acceptable to them. The Clerk has now requested that Blake Morgan Solicitors proceed with the lease.

175/23 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS. – No reports available.

176/23 CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. Cllr Bearder. – Newsletter July 2023. – (Circulated via email).
- b. SODC. – Get ready to make a splash at Riverside. - (Circulated via email).
- c. SODC. – Councillor community grants funding now open for local charities. – (Circulated via email).
- d. SODC. – Summer activities. – (Circulated via email).
- e. NALC – Chief Executive's Bulletin. – 6/7/23, 13/7/23, 20/7/23, 27/7/23. – (Circulated via email).
- f. Community First Oxfordshire. – Councillor Priority Funding. – (Circulated via email).
- g. Community First Oxfordshire. – Conference 2023. – (Circulated via email).
- h. NALC. – Newsletter 5/7/23, 12/7/23, 19/7/23, 26/7/23. - (Circulated via email).
- i. RSN. – Rural Digest July 2023. – (Circulated via email).
- j. NALC. – Events 4/7/23, 11/7/23, 18/7/23, 25/7/23 (Circulated via email).
- k. RSN. - The Rural Bulletin. – 4/7/23, 11/7/23, 18/7/23, 25/7/23. – (Circulated via email).
- l. SODC. – Waste Survey 2023. – (Circulated via email).
- m. Open Spaces Society. – Vote in our 2023 AGM. – (circulated via email).
- n. OCC. – Immediate Road Closure Alert – Shotover Hill, Hill House, Old Road. – (Circulated via email).
- o. OCC. – Highway Maintenance Open Day 15/7/23. ****Cancelled**** – (Circulated via email).

- p. Morland House Surgery. – July 2023 Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- q. Oxford City Council – Proposed burial meadow drop in event 19th July 2023. – (Circulated via email).
- r. OALC. – Roles & Responsibilities Training 18/7/23. – (Circulated via email).
- s. SODC. – Lots of fun for everyone this summer. – (Circulated via email).
- t. Open Spaces Society. – Watch live:- The Dartmoor backpack-camping appeal. – (Circulated via email).
- u. SODC. – Rail ticket office closures will put off passengers and effect the vulnerable says Council Leader. – (Circulated via email).
- v. Ms Brogan. – Email regarding the Play Area. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors agreed that there are no plans to upgrade the play area until a decision is made on a new village hall.**
- w. Prem Kandel. – Email regarding parking at the Chequers Inn Car Park. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors agreed that there is no need for further cctv cameras to be installed as it is a violation of public privacy. Mr Burgess stated that the last rent increase for the car park was in 2008.**
- x. OCC. – TTRO (T12468) Emergency temporary road closure – Butts Road, Horspath. – (Circulated via email). – **Noted.**
- y. TVP. – Police & Crime Bulletin July 2023. – (Circulated via email).
- z. Against Breast Cancer. – Charity Walk 10th September 2023. – (Circulated via email)#.
- aa. SODC. – How we’re “Letting it Bee” for love parks week. – (Circulated via email).
- bb. SODC. – Anticipated Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payments: Meeting Reminder. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors agreed to receive the payment.**
- cc. Mrs Ing. – Email regarding pop-up garden. – (Circulated via email). – **Mrs Oakley has spoken with Mr Eason who has confirmed that the Cricket Club have no objections. Councillors agreed that they have no objections to the bench that has been placed at the rear of the property.**
- dd. Reeves Memorials. – Memorial Request. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors approved the request.**
- ee. OALC. – July 2023 Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- ff. Energy Information Exchange. – Westmill Solar community grant scheme now open. – (Circulated via email).
- gg. DTRE. – Email regarding Stagecoach Bus Depot. – (Circulated via email).
- hh. OALC. – Newsletter & Training Survey. – (Circulated via email).
- * original held by the Clerk, copy available on request.*
- # displayed on Village Hall & village noticeboards.*

177/23 PAYMENTS.

Paid by	To Whom Paid	Details	Vat	Total £
BACS	Inty Ltd	Email Address Fee 5.7.23	0.98	5.88
BACS	Shield Maintenance	Emptying Dog Hygiene Bins	12.13	72.79
BACS	Nest 5.7.23	Pension contribution for Mrs Kogel		67.05
BACS	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Home Office July 2023 Stationery		30.00 30.00
	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Salary 24/6/23 – 24/7/23 Salary increase backpay Annual holiday payment		3574.09
BACS	WEL Medical	2 x Defibrillator Batteries	91.19	547.14
BACS	Chris Lewis Fire & Security	Annual Maintenance Support	47.20	283.20
BACS	Mr R Surman	Repair bollards on Village Green and strim the area		125.00

BACS	HMRC	Employer Contributions		672.27
BACS	Mr Lee Coolman	Reimbursement for materials to carry out repairs on bus shelter at Gateley		249.12
BACS	Mr P Aries	Bus shelter and play area maintenance June/July 2023		120.00
BACS	Mrs B Oakley	Purchase of plants		14.49
		TOTAL	151.50	5791.03

Bank balances as of 27.7.23 - £20,859.62

Payments were authorised by Mrs Oakley and Mr Burgess.

PAYMENTS – HORSPATH RECREATION GROUND

Paid by	To Whom Paid	Details	Vat	Total £
BACS	SSE	Electricity supply to village green		148.06
		TOTAL		148.06

The Clerk stated that payments to SSE are based on a standard charge as the contract has ended which has resulted in higher charges. A new contract for electricity has now been agreed which will reduce the monthly costs. The electricity supply is only used for the Fair and for the Christmas lights.

178/23 RECEIPTS.

Date	Received from	Details	Total £
24.7.23	Mrs Cara Bown	Donation for engraving burial ground bench.	50.00
11.7.23	HMRC	VAT Repayment	3658.23
		TOTAL	3708.23

RECEIPTS – HORSPATH RECREATION GROUND.

Date	Received from	Details	Total £
26.6.23	ST Properties Ltd	Rent for Chequers Inn Car Park	712.50
		TOTAL	712.50

179/23 AOB.

a. Mrs Oakley has received complaints about the hedge along Oxford Road that needs cutting. This has been reported to OCC.

Mrs Oakley informed Councillors that a resident of Horspath has contacted the Oxford Mail regarding the chicane on Oxford Road and a reporter will be coming to the village on Saturday at 10am to report on the chicane. Over the last few years HPC obtained quotations to remove the chicane and replace it with speed pillows but this has been blocked by OCC. Mrs Oakley stated that anyone who will be attending should meet in the village hall car park.

Mrs Oakley asked Councillors for a meeting with the Hub to discuss the situation with the loan that has been requested. Councillors agreed a meeting will take place on Tuesday 15th August 2023 at 7.30pm. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact Blake Morgan solicitors for an update on the outstanding legal issues. Mr O'Brien requested that the sub-station is also included on the Agenda. Mr Parker stated that he has been in touch with planners and he will contact them tomorrow to get an idea of costs involved. Mr O'Brien has the contact details for another solicitor who will be able to advise HPC.

Public:

b. Mr Church, Chairman of Blackbird Leys PC reported that Blackbird Leys is under a regeneration project to build 280 houses. Blackbird Leys PC has employed a consultant to deal with the planning application and

at the last PC meeting they voted for it to be called in by the Government as the City Council is not moving on any comments raised by the Parish Council. There is no infrastructure included in the application for an additional 280 houses, the Doctors surgery is over-loaded, the schools are over-subscribed and the houses they want to build will not benefit people in Blackbird Leys. Mr Church stated that as Blackbird Leys PC has called for the application to be called in by Government, Oxford City Council have now requested to meet with him. Mr Church suggested that local PC's form an alliance to support each other when it comes to issues that need to be dealt with. Mrs Oakley stated that this is something that HPC will consider.

c. Miss Natalie Oakley suggested that formalised shelving is needed for the books in the bus shelter to keep it tidy and to stop people from leaving other unwanted items.

d. Mr Hamlet stated that there was a water leak in Manor Farm Road over a week ago and Thames Water haven't repaired the footpath correctly.

Mr Hamlet attended the meeting with Oxford City Council regarding the proposed new burial ground and it seems that the people running the meeting were not aware of what land was owned by Oxford City Council, what footpaths are there and the flooding in the Oxford Road area. HPC needs to look at the deeds to the Salescian Field to see if HPC owns the roadway running between the trees as Oxford City Council are not aware that there is another road running between the Mutton gate and the farm gate which will give the farmer access to his field at the back.

e. Mr Mutton stated that he has been involved with the removal of the chicane on Oxford Road for several years and around 8 years ago it was agreed unanimously by HPC that the chicane could be removed. OCC have been stopping HPC at every move. Mr Mutton has sent several letters to national newspapers hoping that they would support us, but no reply. Mr Mutton has now contacted the Oxford Mail and passed on all of the details of the dangers of the chicane, and a photographer will come to the village on Saturday morning and then do a report. Mr Mutton and other residents have supported HPC for many years in fighting for the chicane to be removed and replace with speed humps across the road which will also slow the traffic, but OCC has stopped this from happening. The chicane also causes major traffic delays coming into and leaving the village. Mrs Oakley stated that on behalf of HPC she is glad that he contacted the Oxford Mail.

Mr Mutton stated that he was in Wheatley a couple of weeks ago and they had two teams from OCC sweeping the curbs and footpaths. When did that last happen in Horspath? Mr Mutton stated that everyone pays their council tax but we do not get anything in return from OCC. Mrs Oakley stated that she will raise this with Cllr Tim Bearder and Cllr James-Lawrie.

180/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Parish Council Planning Meeting – Tuesday 15th August 2023 (To be confirmed).

Horspath Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 5th September 2023.

Signed.....

Date.....