

HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Horspath Village Hall
on 7th January 2025 at 7.30pm.

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

Apologies Mr B Igoe, Mr G Walker. Mr S James-Lawrie (District Councillor).

Absent: Mr Tim Bearder (County Councillor).

Public: 7

01/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

It was resolved to accept apologies from Mr Igoe, Mr Walker and Mr James-Lawrie.

02/25 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS. – None.

03/25 EMERGENCY BUSINESS. – None.

04/25 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd December 2024 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

05/25 MATTERS ARISING. – None.

06/25 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

- P24/S3774/ 27 Gidley Way, Horspath (Householder)**
HH Single storey rear extension. Extension to existing loft space. Internal reconfigurations and changes to fenestration. - **Councillors have no objections to this application and recommend approval.**
- P24/S3806/ 32 Spring Lane, Horspath (Householder)**
HH Removal of existing car port, canopy and conservatory, erection of two storey rear and side extension, addition of dormer to existing pitched roof. - **Councillors have no objections to this application and recommend approval.**
- P24/S3959/ 18 Manor Drive, Horspath (Householder)**
HH Demolition of existing rear extension, garage and left side wall, along with chimney. Proposed front side extension. Proposed side extension with integral garage. Proposed rear side extension. Removal of roof and a proposed roof with increased ridge height. – **Councillors have no objections to this application and recommend approval.**

PLANNING PERMISSIONS/REFUSALS/APPEALS.

APP/Q3115/ Glebe Retreat, 129 Cuddesdon Road, Horspath

C/24/3356548 Alleged breach: On the land, without planning permission, the erection of an outbuilding used as a pool house forward of the principal elevation of the dwelling known as Glebe Retreat (not Permitted Development). The outbuilding is shown for indicative purposes only within the area coloured blue on the attached plan (SE24/263).

APP/Q3115/ Land at Overview Stables, Sandy Lane, Horspath

C/23/3320617 Breach – Without planning permission, the change of use of land from equestrian to residential use involving the construction of a dwelling house.

APP/Q3115/ C/23/3320658 - **Revised Appeals dismissed.**

07/25 CLERK UPDATE.

Play Area Inspections – A quotation has been requested for the repairs.

Thames Water Portable Toilet – The Clerk will contact Thames Water again.

Christmas Tree Collection Point. – Collection from the Village Green on Monday 20th January 2025.

Bus Shelter Maintenance. – Mr Aries is no longer doing the bus shelter maintenance, this will be carried out by the handyman.

Email Addresses – New email addresses are in the process of being set up.

Moles – Village Green – Two quotations have been requested.

Tree Stumps on Village Green – Councillors agreed to accept the quotation of £260.00 to remove the stumps.

Request for a funeral on a Saturday – Councillors agreed to this request.

CIL Grant Application – The Clerk circulated the information provided by Mr James-Lawrie on the allocation of the grants awarded.

08/25 PRECEPT 2025/2026. - Councillors approved the Precept to be set at £60,000.00 for 2025/26.

09/25 UPGRADE OF VILLAGE HALL - Update.

Mr O'Brien is in talks with an Ecology Surveyor to discuss if a full survey is required. Mr O'Brien suggested that a separate closed meeting is held to discuss moving the project forward. Councillors agreed that the meeting will take place on Wednesday 15th January 2025.

10/25 NEW BUS SHELTER.

Mrs Oakley has received two quotations for a new bus shelter and is waiting for quotations to install a concrete base on the Village Green behind the layby. Mrs Oakley will contact SODC to find out if planning permission is required. It was agreed that the cost of the bus shelter and installation costs will be paid for with CIL funds.

11/25 VILLAGE MOWERS.

Mr Coolman and Mr Walker have visited showrooms and obtained two quotations for the new mower and a quotation for a refurbished model, and is waiting for one more quotation. Councillors agreed to wait for the third quotation before making a decision. Mr Burgess suggested that a quotation should also be sought for a tracker to be fitted. Mr Coolman stated that the existing mower and deck could be sold.

12/25 CYCLE SPEEDWAY – Draft Lease for signing now received.

Mr Clarke stated that his solicitor is now back from annual leave and will be dealing with the lease.

13/25 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

Mr Sam James-Lawrie – (District Councillor) – sent the following report:-

SODC did receive the white paper and the consensus of Oxfordshire councils is we would like to be in the first roll out for a unitary. The two main ideas are a full Oxfordshire and West Berks unitary or a smaller one of South, Vale and West Berkshire, but it is up to the Central Government to decide. Regards to the combined Authority, we are hoping to have one somewhat already in place like the Bucks, Berks and Ox care board or Thames Valley.

14/25 CORRESPONDENCE.

a. NALC – Chief Executive's Bulletin. – 5/12/24, 12/12/24, 19/12/24 – (Circulated via email).

- b. Oxford City Council. – Littlemore Neighbourhood Plan Submission Consultation - Closing date 9/12/24. – (Circulated via email).
- c. Age UK Oxfordshire. – Together we can change the lives of older people who are feeling lonely. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors agreed no donation on this occasion.**
- d. NALC. – Events Newsletter 3/12/24, 10/12/24, 17/12/24, 24/12/24 (Circulated via email).
- e. OALC. – Leading your Council training 9/1/25. – (Circulated via email).
- f. SODC. –Henley gets high definition CCTV upgrade. – (Circulated via email).
- g. OCC Highways. – Damaged steps on Church Road. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors agreed that the steps are essential and used regularly so they do need to be repaired. Mrs Oakley reported 23 blocked drains in the village to OCC Highways in August 2024 but only 11 have been cleared. Mrs Oakley has also reported the sign at the bottom of Gidley Way advising motorists of a low bridge, but this is point it's too late for lorries to turn around. This was reported in August & October and in January 2025 OCC stated that they will investigate.**
- h. RSN. - The Rural Funding Digest December 2024. – (Circulated via email).
- i. Breakthrough Communications. – Flowchart for HPC. – (Circulated via email).
- j. SODC. – Vision for the future of sports pitches and leisure facilities approved. – (Circulated via email).
- k. RSN. - The Rural Bulletin. – 3/12/24, 10/12/24, 17/12/24 – (Circulated via email).
- l. SODC. – Council provides 48 affordable new homes in Thame & Wheatley. – (Circulated via email).
- m. Bioabundance. – Call for evidence. – (Circulated via email).
- n. Open Spaces Society. – Help us fight for the places you love this winter. – (Circulated via email).
- o. SODC. – November South News. – (Circulated via email).
- p. OALC. – November Update for Members. – (Circulated via email).
- q. Oxfordshire Mind. – Donation Request. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors agreed no donation on this occasion.**
- r. Shotover Preservation Society. – Winter newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- s. TVP. – Police & Crime Bulletin November 2024. – (Circulated via email).
- t. SODC – Joint Local Plan 2041: Consultation on Technical Addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. – (Circulated via email).
- u. ONPA. – AGM 25/1/25. – (Circulated via email).
- v. OCC Highways Dept. – Email regarding damaged steps on Church Road. – (Circulated via email). – **As above under Item g.**
- w. Bioabundance. – Just stop oil petition. – (Circulated via email).
- x. Bioabundance. – Environmental Audit Committee calls for evidence. – (Circulated via email).
- y. Clear Councils. – Important notice for customers. – (Circulated via email).
- z. SODC. – Rehearsals begin for Cornerstone's magical pantomime. – (Circulated via email).
- aa. OCC. – Invitation to OCC Climate Engagement webinar 29/1/25. – (Circulated via email).
- bb. SODC. – Statement from Cllr David Rouane, Leader of SODC. – (Circulated via email).
- cc. SODC. – New Performing Arts grant gets approval. – (Circulated via email).
- dd. Bioabundance. – Call for evidence from the Environmental Audit Committee. – (Circulated via email).
- ee. SODC. – Next steps in shaping our districts' future. – (Circulated via email).
- ff. SODC. – Bathtub dumpers ordered to soak up hefty fine. – (Circulated via email).
- gg. SODC. – Owners of retirement development fined for failing to remove unauthorized adverts. – (Circulated via email).
- hh. SODC. – SODC Leader has written to OCC following the Government's publication of the White Paper on English Devolution. – (Circulated via email).
- ii. TVP. – Police & Crime Bulletin December 2024. – (Circulated via email).

- jj. Open Spaces Society. – Season’s greetings. – (Circulated via email).
- kk. SODC. – Experienced taxi driver caught offering rides illegally during Henley Regatta. – (Circulated via email).
- ll. CPRE. – Season’s greetings. – (Circulated via email).
- mm. Clean Slate. – Donation request. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors agreed no donation on this occasion.**
- nn. OCC – National Highways & Transport Public Satisfaction Survey 2024-2025 – Public Representatives. – (Circulated via email).
- oo. OALC. – December Update for Members. – (Circulated via email).
- pp. The Planning Inspectorate. – East West Rail Scoping Report Consultation. – (Circulated via email).
- qq. The Howe Trust. – Donation request. – (Circulated via email). – **Mrs Oakley stated that the original request was received by HSPC and as the application did not meet the criteria for the charity the Clerk advised the Howe Trust to apply to HPC for a donation for this cause, but no request has been received, therefore, Councillors agreed no donation on this occasion.**
** original held by the Clerk, copy available on request.*
displayed on Village Hall & village noticeboards.

15/25 PAYMENTS.

Paid by	To Whom Paid	Details	Vat	Total £
BACS	Mr P Aries	Bus shelter maintenance December		60.00
BACS	HMRC	Nest (19.12.24)		84.16
BACS	Shield Maintenance	Emptying Dog Hygiene Bins (8336)	15.47	92.82
BACS	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Home Office December 2024 Refreshments		30.00 31.75
BACS	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Salary 24/11/24 – 24/12/24 & back dated salary increase		1975.72
BACS	Lemoneye	Web hosting fees 31/12/24 – 31/12/25		225.00
BACS	Wheatley Park School	Prize Giving Awards		150.00
BACS	HMRC	Employer Contributions		1220.29
BACS	Mrs N Webb	Village maintenance November 2025		107.50
		TOTAL	15.47	3977.24

Bank balances as of 2.1.25 - £44,171.97

16/25 RECEIPTS.

Date	Received from	Details	Total £
9.12.24	Environment Agency	Rent for borehole	150.00
2.12.24	Barclays Bank	Interest	168.10
		TOTAL	318.10

HORSPATH RECREATION CHARITY.

Date	Received from	Details	Total £
30.12.24	S T Properties	Quarterly rent for Chequers Inn Car Park	712.50
		TOTAL	712.50

17/25 AOB.

- a. Mrs Oakley passed thanks to Jan Bennett & family, Leigh Smith, Dave Waterman, Matt Chanarin and Josh Carr for erecting and decorating the village Christmas tree. The small branch that was planted was for the benefit of the grandchildren. Mr Hookham stated that a resident has suggested planting our own Christmas tree. Mrs Oakley stated that the location would be difficult when the Fair is in the village. However, if a tree was planted, the Fair would have to work around it. Mrs Oakley will speak to Mr Pettigrove.

Public:-

- b. Mrs Walker reported that the storm drains need clearing at Blenheim Road. Mrs Oakley has already reported the drains. Mrs Walker will also report to Fix-My-Street.
- c. Ms Biggs asked for an update on the play area. Mrs Oakley stated HPC has new plans for a new play area and submitted a grant application to SODC’s CIL Grant Fund on 28th June 2024 and in November 2024 SODC advised HPC that the grant application was not successful. Mrs Oakley stated that HPC is now looking for other funding options for the play area. Ms Biggs stated that there are a lot of people in the village that would support this project. Mrs Oakley stated that as the new play area will move locations, it would be beneficial for the refurbishment of the Village Hall to be completed before the new play area is installed. Mrs Oakley is strongly in favour of a new play area for the village. Mr O’Brien stated six months ago he said that HPC is wasting time applying for grants, HPC will have to fund the project. Mrs Gray asked if the other play area will remain. Mrs Oakley stated that the top play area will stay and the new play area will have lots of equipment suitable for all ages.

18/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Parish Council Planning Meeting – Tuesday 21st January 2025 (To be confirmed).
 Horspath Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 4th February 2025 at 7.30pm.

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