

General Policies adopted by Horspath Parish Council:

1. While acting in the best interests of the village community as a whole, Horspath Parish Council will respect the interests of all kinds of Horspath residents and will treat them fairly, impartially, and without any kind of prejudice.
2. Within the scope of its work as a Parish Council, Horspath Parish Council will use its best endeavours to maintain Horspath as a safe and attractive place for this village community to live and work in.
3. Horspath Parish Council will communicate and consult with Horspath residents about any important matter which will affect the quality of life of Horspath residents and the rural character of the village.
4. In its capacity as the Trustee of the Horspath Stone Pit Charity, Horspath Parish Council will be responsible for administering this charity for the general benefit of the people of Horspath.

Since 2008 Horspath Parish Council has followed these two groups of policies listed below, which are based upon the highest priorities expressed by Horspath residents in their responses to the 2008 Horspath Household Survey. This professional survey was administered by SODC in 2008 and responses were received from 84% of all the households in Horspath, which was one of the highest response rates ever recorded for any household survey in Oxfordshire, so these policies clearly address the priority common concerns reported by a very large majority of Horspath residents in 2008:

General development policies:

1. Horspath should remain as a village separated from Oxford by a strip of Green Belt fields. (94.0 % of all survey responses “strongly supported” this.)
2. Horspath Parish Council should defend the Green Belt against building development. (92.5% of all survey responses “strongly supported” this.)
3. Horspath should stay within the Local Government area of South Oxfordshire District Council rather than in the area of Oxford City Council. (88.8% of all survey responses “strongly supported” this.)

Policies to protect Horspath’s rural environment:

1. Horspath Parish Council will act to protect and maintain the views from Horspath of the open countryside of the Oxford Green Belt. i.e. of the hills, fields, hedges, woods and sports fields that surround Horspath. (94.4 % of all survey responses considered this “very important”.)
2. Horspath Parish Council will have regard to the interest shown by residents in being able to see a variety of wildlife in the village – wild flowers, birds, wild animals etc. (90.9% of all survey responses considered this to be “very important”.)
3. Horspath Parish Council will have regard to residents’ concern that Horspath should remain a relatively quiet and noise-free village. (94.2% of all survey responses considered this to be “very important”.)

Revised – 2nd June 2026