

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

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

Apologies

Absent: Mr James-Lawrie (District Councillor), Mr Tim Bearder (County Councillor).

Public: 8

119/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

There were no apologies to be made. Mr James -Lawrie and Mr Bearder were absent from the meeting.

120/26 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS. - None.

121/26 EMERGENCY BUSINESS.

Mrs Oakley reported the fly-tipping at the top of Cuddesdon Road to Fix-My-Street, which has now been collected. Councillors agreed that a "No Fly-tipping" sign to be ordered and installed.

Mrs Oakley stated that the pavement under the bridge needs cutting back. Councillors approved for Mr Surman to carry out the works.

122/26 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd June 2026 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Workshop held on Wednesday 3rd June 2026 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Meeting held on Tuesday 30th June 2026 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

123/26 MATTERS ARISING.

109/26 – Correspondence – RR - Eugene Blackmore. – Some Local History.* - Mrs Cook confirmed that she has typed a copy of the local history so that the original can be archived. Mrs Oakley passed thanks to Mrs Cook.

124/26 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

P26/S1726/ 8 Butts Road, Horspath (Householder)
HH Demolition of existing garage outbuilding and associated garden stairs and erection of the new garage building and stairs. – **Councillors have no objections and recommend approval.**

P26/S1267/ Land off Sandy Lane, Horspath
LDE **Notification of Certificate of Lawfulness of existing use or development.**
The use of land and buildings for the storage, processing, distribution and scale of timber together with the storage of equipment. – **Noted.**

PLANNING PERMISSIONS/REFUSALS/APPEALS. – None.

125/26 CLERK UPDATE.

Play Area Inspection – It was agreed to defer a meeting with ODS until the planned inspection has been carried out in July.

New Play Area Inspection – Report from Creative Play circulated. Mrs Oakley confirmed that the vandalised equipment has been repaired, and she will remove the mould that has been reported.

Property on the Green – No further correspondence has been received. Mrs Oakley confirmed that the bricks are still in place. Councillors agreed that the Clerk write to the residents to remind them that we are still waiting for a response to our last letter and request again that the report from their insurance company is forwarded on to the Clerk.

SODC Tree Officer – The Clerk circulated the decision notice from SODC. Councillors agreed that the Clerk contact HPC's insurance for further guidance.

HVHMC financial Transactions – A further payment of £672.19 has been received from HVHMC to cover two payments that have gone through HPC bank account. Mr Parker confirmed that all payments will now go through HVHMC.

John Beale, OCC – Councillors agreed for the Clerk to arrange for three speed surveys to be carried out in term time, on Oxford Road outside the Village Hall, on Cuddesdon Road by the allotments and on Gidley Way by the bus stop at Gateley or by the entrance of Berkeley Homes.

Councillors agreed that the wording on the welcome to Horspath sign should be decided by OCC as that is their cost.

Councillors agreed to monitor the parking from the new burial meadow into the village.

Parking at Gateley – Mr Igoe stated that there are 3 vans that are permanently parked at Gateley.

Councillors agreed that the Clerk report the parking to SODC as it is causing considerable problems with parking and request a designated parking area for residents of Gateley only.

Lime Tree – Village Green – An application to carry out maintenance on the tree has been submitted to SODC.

Parish Councillor Vacancy – A notice has been displayed advertising the vacancy. SODC will confirm the result on 29th July 2026.

126/26 REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL CONTROL.

Councillors reviewed and agreed the effectiveness of internal control 2025/26.

Councillors also agreed to appoint Internal Auditor – Eugenia Skelly for 2026/27.

127/26 COLCUTT CLOSE.

Councillors approved for Mr Surman to cut back the overgrowth on both sides of Colcutt Close.

128/26 BURIAL GROUND MAINTENANCE.

A quotation has been received from A J Landscapes to cut back the overgrowth and hedge in the burial ground and dispose of all waste - £330.00. – Councillors accepted the quotation.

A quotation has been received from A J Landscapes to cut back the brambles at the Pound and dispose of all waste - £375.00. – Councillors accepted the quotation. The Clerk will instruct A J Landscapes to go ahead.

129/26 NEW MOWER – Training.

Mrs Oakley has received a request for a resident of the village to have training on the new mower.

Councillors rejected this request and do not give permission for anyone to receive training on the new mower.

130/26 UPGRADE OF VILLAGE HALL.

Mr O'Brien stated the applications for the village hall and the bus shelter have been registered with SODC and now have reference numbers. The architect stated that SODC is still not working properly.

131/26 NEW BUS SHELTER. - Mr O'Brien stated that SODC has now registered the planning application.

132/26 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS. –

Report from Cllr James-Lawrie – (District Councillor) – No report available.

Cllr Bearder – (County Councillor) – No report available.

133/26 CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. Open Spaces Society. – AGM 2/7/26. – (Circulated via email).
- b. NALC. – Events. – 2/6/26, 9/6/26, 16/6/26, 23/6/26- (Circulated via email).
- c. NALC – Chief Executive's Bulletin. – 4/6/26, 11/6/26, 18/6/26, 25/6/26, 2/7/26. – (Circulated via email).
- d. Breakthrough Communications. – June newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- e. RSN. – Weekly News. – 3/6/26, 10/6/26, 17/6/26, 26/6/26, 1/7/26. - (Circulated via email).
- f. Open Spaces Society. – May updates. – (Circulated via email).
- g. Bioabundance. – Empower webinar – 10/6/26. – (Circulated via email).
- h. Playsafety. – Introducing Safer Play – Take control of your playground inspections. – (Circulated via email).
- i. SODC. – New scheme launches to ignite support for artists in Oxfordshire. – (Circulated via email).
- j. SODC. – Next steps for Local Plans. – (Circulated via email).
- k. Bioabundance. – Respond to the BNG consultation before 10th June 2026. – (Circulated via email).
- l. Bioabundance. – South & Vale Local Development Plan. – (Circulated via email).
- m. SODC. – Oxfordshire & West Berkshire Councils collaborating ahead of Local Government announcement. – (Circulated via email).
- n. Bioabundance. – Bycatch has “shocking” toll on British marine life. – (Circulated via email).
- o. Bioabundance. – People's emergency briefing. – (Circulated via email).
- p. Morland House Surgery. – June 2026 newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
- q. SODC. – Street cleansing update June 2026. – (Circulated via email).
- r. SODC. – Bin days staying the same, but collection times may change across South Oxfordshire and the Vale. – (Circulated via email).
- s. SODC. – Councils are encourage by the results of their tenants' satisfaction survey. – (Circulated via email).
- t. SODC. – Joint statement from South Oxfordshire and Vale of White District Councils on Local Devolution. – (Circulated via email).
- u. SODC. – Residents invited to have their say on local Parish arrangements across South Oxfordshire. – (Circulated via email).
- v. Bioabundance. – Seethe inspection in real life. – (Circulated via email).
- w. SODC. – Park Yoga proves a hit with record numbers rolling out their mats. – (Circulated via email).
- x. SODC. – Have your say on our plan to connect food producers to food providers in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse. – (Circulated via email).
- y. CPRE. – The latest campaigns and ways to help. – (Circulated via email).
- z. Bioabundance. – What should one say? Is planning as corrupt as other things in the service of money? – (Circulated via email).
- aa. Bioabundance. – Call for comments on Local Plan by Inspectors. – (Circulated via email).
- bb. Bioabundance. – South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan – Part 2 Hearing

- Statements. - (Circulated via email).
- cc. SODC. – Family favourites and festive fun in Cornerstones biggest autumn/winter season yet. – (Circulated via email).
 - dd. Open Spaces Society. – June Updates. – (Circulated via email).
 - ee. SODC. – June Edition of South News. – (Circulated via email).
 - ff. SODC. – Cabinet to consider support package for South Oxfordshire Pubs. – (Circulated via email).
 - gg. SODC. – Didcot comes together to celebrate culture & community. – (Circulated via email).
 - hh. Matthew Barbour TVP. – My update for you June 2026. – (Circulated via email).
 - ii. OCC. – Grants for climate & community resilience work. – (Circulated via email).
 - jj. OCC. – General review of speed limits on Oxfordshire’s rural A & B class road network – Stakeholder Consultation. – (Circulated via email).
 - kk. OALC. – June 2026 Newsletter. – (Circulated via email).
 - ll. TVP. – June update from the PCC. – (Circulated via email).
 - mm. Breakthrough Communications. – July 2026 Bulletin. – (Circulated via email).
 - nn. SODC. – Performing arts grant to support local arts and community wellbeing. – (Circulated via email).
 - oo. ONPA. – 21st July event. – (Circulated via email).
 - pp. Clear Councils Insurance. – Important notice for our customers. – (Circulated via email).
 - qq. ONH. – Have your say on Local Plans – Free online seminar. – (Circulated via email).
 - rr. OCC. – The latest news for your communities. – (Circulated via email).
 - ss. OCC. – Winter Preparedness 2026/27. – (Circulated via email).
 - tt. Ms Charman & Mr Bailey. - Horspath Tunnel. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors agreed that Littleworth end of the tunnel is not the responsibility of HPC and Mr Harris has been contacted.**
Harris has been contacted
 - uu. OCC. – The latest news for your communities. – (Circulated via email).
 - vv. North Oxford Resident Action. – A call to object to Puy Du Fou by 4/7/26 and email local MP Callum Miller. – (Circulated via email).
 - ww. BBOWT. – Community Network Newsletter sign-up. – (Circulated via email).
 - xx. Ms Colegrove. – Request for a memorial plaque. – (Circulated via email). – **The Clerk has requested that a request with full details is submitted to HPC.**
 - yy. OCC. TTRO (T18360) – Temporary Road Closure, Cuddesdon, Church Road 17-18th August 2026. – (Circulated via email). – **Noted.**
 - zz. OCC. TTRO (T18299) – Temporary Road Closure, Horspath, Gidley Way 1 – 3 September 2026. – (Circulated via email). – **Noted.**
 - aaa. OCC. – Oxfordshire quiet lanes pilot programme now open for expressions of interest. – (Circulated via email). – **Councillors agreed that there is no interest in the programme.**
 - bbb. OCC. – Flood projects – Expression of interests. – (Circulated via email).
 - ccc. Shotover Preservation Society. – Summer newsletter & AGM details. – (Circulated via email).
 - ddd. OCC. TTRO (T18204) – Temporary Road Closure, Garsington, Denton Lane 13th August 2026. – (Circulated via email).
 - eee. Danfo UK Ltd. – Parish Stewards. – **Councillors agreed that there is no interest in a Parish Steward.**
 - fff. Mr Fletcher. – Dog walking business. – **Councillors agreed that there is no action that can be taken by HPC and request that the resident forwards the vehicle registration and the complaint to SODC.**
 - ggg. Mr Hodson. – Speeding motorists. – **Councillors agreed that the Clerk will notify Mr Hodson that speed surveys have been requested.**
** original held by the Clerk, copy available on request.*
displayed on Village Hall & village noticeboards.

134/26 PAYMENTS.

Paid by	To Whom Paid	Details	Vat	Total £
BACS	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Home Office June 2026		30.00
		Postage& Stationery		58.58
BACS	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Salary 24/5/26 – 24/6/26		1635.23
BACS	Shield Maintenance	Emptying Dog Hygiene Bins (10393)	20.80	124.80
BACS	HMRC	Employer Contributions		917.28
BACS	Demarcation Design	Submission of planning application		1331.00
BACS	Creative Play	Playground Inspection (New play area)	59.00	354.00
BACS	Clear Council Insurance	Agricultural Insurance policy		762.68
BACS	Thames Water Utilities	Application fee for water meter	59.00	354.00
BACS	Nest	Employee pension contribution 10.6.26		98.28
BACS	Eugenia Skelly	Internal Audit Fee		350.00
BACS	HVHMC	Repayment of hirer fee paid to HPC		390.00
BACS	Outside Help	Email Address fee (29.6.26)	1.10	6.62
BACS	Open Spaces Society	Annual subscription		45.00
		TOTAL	139.90	£6,457.47

Bank balances as of 2.7.26 – £95,846.61

Councillors also approved the invoice for A J Landscapes £120.00 for the maintenance of St Giles Churchyard.

135/26 RECEIPTS.

Date	Received from	Details	Total £
29.6.26	HVHMC	Repayment of HVHMC invoices paid by HPC	672.19
16.6.26	R Shah	Hire fee for village hall	390.00
8.6.26	Barclays Bank	Interest	199.51
		TOTAL	1,261.70

HORSPATH RECREATION CHARITY

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

136/26 AOB.

- a. Mr O'Brien introduced Ms Jacqui Hughes who is attending the meeting today as a member of the public, and who has expressed an interest in becoming a Councillor for HPC. Mr O'Brien forwarded the email from Ms Hughes to the Clerk.
- b. Mrs Franklin reported that the trees from Rose Cottage, Church Road opposite the shop are overhanging onto the footpath. Councillors agreed that the Clerk write to the resident and request that the trees are cut back.
- c. Mrs Cook reported the amount of heavy vehicles going up/down Sandy Lane. The road has been resurfaced but is now loose gravel. Do they need planning permission for the site? It is being used by contractors of SSE. It was agreed that the Clerk will report to OCC as the bridleway is being misused by residents on Sandy Lane. Mr Walker will notify the Clerk of the exact location.
- d. Mrs Oakley passed thanks to Mr Cranston for cutting the grass in the play area on behalf of Horspath Cricket Club.

Mrs Oakley has reported the overgrown grass verge at the top of Cuddesdon Road, which has now been cut. Mrs Oakley stated that the Cricket Club want to move the score board along towards the Scout Hut, and have marked the area in red. This will leave a wide access for wheelchairs etc.

Mrs Oakley and Mrs Kogel recently attended a “Talking Tables” event held by OALC. Mrs Kogel was shortlisted for the longest serving Clerk award – 26 years today, but the award went to the Clerk from Finmere who had been in post for 57 years.

Public:-

- e. Mrs Gray reported that the walls in the burial ground have not been repaired. Councillors agreed that quotations will be sought in the winter months.
Mrs Gray reported that the noticeboard in the burial ground is still leaning and the notices need replacing. Mrs Oakley will arrange for the repairs to be carried out and new notices displayed.
- f. A resident expressed concern about speeding motorists in Gidley Way into Littleworth. The lady reported that she has been abused by motorists when walking along Gidley Way where there are no pavements, and suggested that “Pedestrians Walking” signs be installed the same as Littleworth. Mrs Oakley stated that the same signs are needed in Cuddesdon Road.
- g. A resident stated that the 20mph sign at the entrance of the village is only visible when you get to it as the hedges are covering the sign.

137/26 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Parish Council Planning Meeting – Tuesday 21st July (To be confirmed).

Horspath Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 4th August 2026 at 7.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....