

HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th January 2010
At 8pm in HORSPATH VILLAGE HALL.

Present: Mr M Harris, (deputising for the Clerk, to take the Minutes), Mr D Horsley, Mr S Turnbull, Mrs S Woodcock.

Apologies Mr P Dobson, Ms S Gray, Mr C Henderson, Mrs A Julian, Mrs H Palmer, Mrs H Kogel (Clerk) Mrs J Carr (District Councillor), Mr A Hodgson (District Councillor), Mrs A Purse (County Councillor).

Public: 0

01/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Apologies were made on behalf of Mr Dobson, Ms Gray, Mr Henderson, Mrs Julian, Mrs Palmer, Mrs Kogel (Clerk), Mrs Carr, Mr Hodgson, Mrs Purse and Ms Anna Kennedy ORCC.

02/10 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st December 2009 were amended as follows:-

227/09 Reports/Updates - South East Plan –. The precise wording of the revised document has yet to be published, but it will *set out* the revised regional policies which must be followed in Oxford City Council's Core Strategy for its Local Development Framework, for which the Examination in Public is currently adjourned, but will be resumed when this regional policy is clarified.

227.09 Reports/Updates - HVHMC –Mr Harris stated that the Village Hall is a registered charity managed by the HVHMC, and is quite separate *from* the Parish Council.

232/09 Horspath Methodist Church - Mr Harris asked how the Methodist *Church* regards a ban on liquor and gambling, Mr Horsley stated that they are strongly against both.

238/09 AOB - Mr Harris will circulate details of the Broadband *speeds* available in Horspath as well as details on the speed tests.

The Minutes were then agreed and signed as correct.

03/10 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising. The Chair agreed with those present that in view of the effect of the bad weather producing such a low attendance at this meeting, those present should take only those decisions at this meeting which were essential for the functioning of the Council, and that any business which could be deferred from the Agenda should be dealt with at the next Council meeting. The Minutes below reflect this abbreviated Agenda, with only those items listed on which any new information was available or progress could be made.

04/10 PLANNING APPLICATIONS – There were no planning applications to be considered.

PLANNING PERMISSIONS/REFUSALS/APPEALS.

P09/W1043 24 Manor Drive, Horspath (Other)

Demolish existing garage and erect new garage and single storey side extension. – **Granted.**

P09/W1075 Unit 3, 4 Gidley Way, Horspath (Other)

Change of use from class B8 (storage) to B2 (motorcycle MOT centre). – **Granted.**

05/10 COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS – No reports available.

06/10 CLERK'S UPDATE – No updates available.

07/10 REPORTS/UPDATES.

Wildlife Conservation Area – Cost for Tree Felling - Councillors reviewed three cost quotations from professional arboriculturalists, which were all very close to one another on cost, and decided to ask Robinson's Trees to carry out the work on the basis that this local firm had shown some awareness of the risks involved in the work required. Mr. Harris was asked, and agreed, to negotiate access to the site, and any other matters arising with Mr. Robinson. (This work was subsequently completed on 20.1.2010) Councillors had been circulated earlier of the good news that 79 bats were recorded hibernating in the tunnel in December, including a new species not recorded previously in Horspath – the Barbastelle – increasing the number of different species using the tunnel to four.

South East Plan – Mr. Harris agreed to attend the Procedural Meeting to be held on 9th February with Inspector Pratt, the new Planning Inspector in charge of the Examination in Public into the Oxford City Core Strategy. The question of particular interest to Horspath residents will be to discover whether or not the Inspector and City Council agree to delete all mention in this Core Strategy of the South Oxfordshire Strategic Development Area (urban extension) and the proposed selective review of the nearby Green Belt. Horspath Parish Council has already informed the Inspector that it does not consider that this Examination in Public can proceed until these matters are determined by appropriate deletions and revisions to the final South East Plan.

HVSA – No meeting of the HVSA had taken place in December, so there was nothing to report.

HVHMC – No meeting of the HVHMC had taken place in December, so there was nothing to report.

08/10 HORSPATH SENIOR RESIDENTS CLUB – Donation Request.

Councillors were minded to respond to this request in the same way that it had helped other organisations whose functions required the use of the Village Hall. A decision was deferred to the next meeting pending more information on the club's requirements.

09/10 ORCC – AFFORDABLE HOUSING – Anna Kennedy – Deferred until the next meeting.

10/10 PRECEPT 2010/2011

Councillors agreed that, as the details of the proposed budget for 2010/2011 had already been circulated to all Councillors and had been discussed by them at an earlier meeting, the Parish Council Precept for 2010/2011 could be confirmed at £33,000. The Clerk was notified of this decision by telephone from the meeting.

11/10 PLAY AREA UPDATE – No update available.

12/10 BURIAL GROUND DRAINAGE - Mr. Turnbull stated that there was no progress to report.

13/10 HORSPATH METHODIST CHURCH – Letter from Martin Wellings.

Mr. Horsley advised that the Methodist Church has replied that it will not lift its Covenant on the use of the building if it is rented, so the prospect for using it for the community, including renting it out for a wide range of social events where a bar may be required, is very limited. It was agreed that, with this continuing restriction, the project would represent too great a financial risk for the Parish Council to be exposed to. Any other options to keep the Methodist Chapel in community use for Horspath residents will be open for consideration. Mr. Harris was asked to contact Mrs. Eirwen Parker, the Chair of the Horspath Pre-School Nursery, to inform her of the situation, and to see if that organisation might have any interest in using this building.

14/10 Dr Smith – Manor Drive, Horspath – Problem with Conker Trees.

It was agreed that these chestnut trees on the grass verge were not the responsibility of the Parish Council. The Parish Council 'mowing map' should indicate which authority mows the grass around the

trees. The Clerk will be asked to write to Dr. Smith advising him to contact British Telecom if the excessive growth of these trees is affecting any telephone lines, so that BT might deal with any problem.

15/10 UPDATE ON VILLAGE HALL –NEW BOILER & HEATING SYSTEM.

Mr. Turnbull reported that he would be meeting the plumber, Mr. John Pearson, later in the week to discuss on site the details of any plumbing work required to install a new boiler system.

16/10 CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. ORCC – Parish Transport Representatives Handbook. – (Passed to Mrs Woodcock).
- b. Oxfordshire Association for the Blind – Thank you for donation letter.*
- c. Windmill Landscapes – Introductory letter.*
- d. SODC – Green Infrastructure Strategy Consultation. – **Mr Harris to reply on behalf of the Parish Council.**
- e. Horspath Parochial Charities – Donation Request. – **Councillors agreed to donate the same amount as last year.**
- f. English Rural Housing Association – Annual Report.*
- g. Wheatley Parish Council – Newsletter December 2009/January 2010.*
- h. OCC – Local Transport Plan3 (LTP3) Consultation 3: Long List of Schemes Reminder. - **Mr. Harris reported that this appeared to be an online consultation, which he found required the registration of the personal details of anyone who wished to read the documents on which the consultation was invited. He described it as ‘user-unfriendly’ and recommended that the Clerk should attempt to receive a free paper version of this document from the County Council.**
- i. Oxfordshire Business Enterprises – Poster*#
- j. Oxfordshire Waste Partnership – Fly-tipping Information Pack.*#
- k. ORCC – Autumn/Winter Review.*
- l. Centrewire – Brochure.*
- m. ERHA – Winter Bulletin 2009.*
- n. Marie Curie Cancer Care – Support for the Daffodil Appeal. - **Mr. Harris was asked to contact the Webmaster of www.Horspath.org.uk to see if the Council website could provide a link to this appeal.**
- o. OALC – November/December 2009 Update for Members. – (Circulated via email).
* *original held by the Clerk, copy available on request.*
displayed on Village Hall & village noticeboards

17/10 PAYMENTS.

Chq	To Whom Paid	Details	Vat	Total £
1953	Mr D Gray	Managing Burial Ground Oct, Nov, Dec 2009		125.00
1954	Mrs H Kogel	Salary Oct, Nov, Dec 2009		1138.29
		Expenses		90.00
		Postage, Stationary	4.56	56.98
1955	Mrs H Kogel	Photocopying Paper		10.70
		TOTAL	4.56	£1420.97

18/10 RECEIPTS

Date	From Who Received	Details	Total £
20.11.09	Barclays Bank	Interest received from £30,000.00 Bond	201.95
11.12.09	Punch Taverns	Annual Rent for Chequers Car Park	200.00
			£401.95

19/10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Mr. Harris reported that a new security chain and two new security padlocks locks have been purchased and installed on the entrance grill at the Littleworth end of the bat tunnel where criminal vandalism has occurred, which has been reported to PCSO Ken Cooney.

20/10. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Parish Council Planning Meeting – Tuesday 19 January 2010 (To be confirmed)
Horspath Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 2 February 2010.