

HORSPATH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd August 2011
At 8pm in HORSPATH VILLAGE HALL.

Present: Mr K Brooks, Mr J Dobson, Mr P Dobson, Mr M Harris, Mr C Henderson, Mr D Horsley, Mrs H Palmer, Mr S Turnbull, Mrs S Watson, Mr R Bell (District Councillor), Mrs A Purse (County Councillor), Mrs H Kogel – Clerk.

Apologies Mrs A Julian, Mrs J Carr (District Councillor).

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123/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Apologies were made on behalf of Mrs Julian and Mrs Carr.

124/11 EMERGENCY BUSINESS – There no was no emergency business to be discussed.

125/11 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS. – There were no declarations made.

126/11 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th July 2011 were agreed and signed as correct.

127/11 MATTERS ARISING

Risk Assessments – Mr Harris reported that he has recently carried out an inspection of the bat tunnel with Mr Hamlet as a guided tour of the tunnel for visitors is scheduled next week.

117/11 AOB – Flooding at Oxford Road – Mr Horsley confirmed that all correspondence has now been passed to the local postman – Mr Ray Cogan.

128/11 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS – Letter from Mr Peter Ewart.

Mr Horsley proposed that Mr Ewart be co-opted onto the Parish Council, seconded by Mr Harris. All Councillors voted in favour. Mr Ewart was welcomed to join the meeting and signed a Declaration of Acceptance form.

129/11 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

P11/W1055 8 Sunny Rise, Horspath (Other)
Erect a conservatory to rear of park home. – **Recommend approval.**

PLANNING PERMISSIONS/REFUSALS/APPEALS – None to report.

130/11 COUNTY & DISTRICT REPORTS

Mr Roger Bell (District Councillor) – Mr Bell attended the Examination in Public for the Core Strategy and reported that he cannot see any problems as far as Horspath is concerned.

Localism Bill – Mr David Buckle, Chief Executive of SODC has reported that changes to the Localism Bill are due.

Elections – There has been a lot of controversy about postal votes and polling cards. Following a report a few weeks ago a meeting was held to discuss the situation at which the Chief Executive was criticised. It appears that it was an error made by the printing company and as a result there was a serious shortage of postal votes sent out across the District.

Mr Harris commented that on the day of the election and the following day, the SODC website had crashed. Mr Bell commented that he did not stay to the end of the meeting about the election. Mr Harris stated that SODC website is not very user friendly. Mr Bell confirmed that the website was updated approx 6 months ago but appears to be no better, Mr Horsley stated that a member of staff at SODC

could not easily find any Stagecoach planning applications via the website search function even though the information held goes back to 1950s.

SODC Community Investment Fund – Grants of up to £15,000.00 are available for village projects.

Wheatley Youth Club – Wheatley Parish Council is trying to raise the funds and find an organisation to run the Youth Club. They are hoping that other Parish Councils will make a contribution to the club.

Mrs Carr is going to find out if any youths from Horspath use the club.

Mrs Anne Purse (County Councillor) – Repair works will be carried out on the roads in Wheatley that are in poor condition in August/September.

Wheatley Youth Club – Mrs Purse attended a meeting last week. The issue is about the number of people attending the youth club as numbers are running low. The issue is not about who is attending the club now, but rather about who will attend the new club. Transport will be laid on for youths in neighbouring villages. Wheatley Parish Council will need contributions towards the club and next year after receiving the funding, it will need to be self sufficient.

Local Government Boundary Commission – Mrs Purse reported that the Electoral Review of Oxfordshire will effect this division. There will be fewer MPs as more work will be passed over to local authorities. Local authorities will also be reducing the number of County Councillors and increasing the number of villages covered by each County Councillor's Parish Wards. There will be an effect on all villages.

Councillors agreed that the Clerk should reply stating that the Parish Council does not feel that any extra workload on existing County Councillors is acceptable and is not worth the additional costs involved in the review. Horspath Parish Councillors value our County Councillor attending our monthly meeting.

131/11 CLERK'S UPDATE

Disabled Parking Spaces – Mr Ed Murray has agreed to let all of the Cricket Club members know that the disabled parking spaces are for disabled use only and Mrs Julian has agreed to contact Cycle Speedway.

Stagecoach – A letter has been sent to Martin Sutton regarding the hole in the back fence. Mr Harris also reminded Mr Sutton about the hole in the fence at the meeting to discuss the lease as well as in a letter sent to him.

1 Copcot Place – Has now been allocated.

Letter from Mr Pete Aries – After careful consideration Mr Aries has decided against taking on the role of Burial Ground Manager. It was agreed that Mr Horsley will place an advertisement for the vacancy on the notice board. In the meantime Mr Horsley will ask Rob Gray to maintain the area.

132/11 RISK ASSESSMENTS

Mr Dobson confirmed that he has received feedback from Councillors regarding the Risk Assessments. Further work will be carried out this month and brought back to the next meeting.

133/11 BURIAL GROUND

Mr Harris and Mr Turnbull gave a presentation to the Parish Council on the drainage in the burial ground and explained the current problems as well as the different possible solutions. Following discussions it was agreed that Mr Turnbull will obtain 3 quotes to dig a trench around all 3 sides of the burial ground wall and back fill with shingle as well as dig a minimum of 6 test holes in the ground to monitor the water table. Mr Turnbull will also make contact with Mr Dennis Walker to obtain permission to carry out the works.

134/11 END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS 2010/2011 – EXTERNAL AUDIT

Postponed until the September meeting as External Audit report has not yet been received.

135/11 CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. OCC – The First Local Authority to Launch the Armed Forces Community Covenant. – **Noted.**
- b. Christ Church Cathedral – Invitation to the Annual Frideswide Civic Service. – (Passed to Mr Horsley).
- c. ERHA – Newsletter Summer 2011.*
- d. Charity Commission – News Summer 2011. – (Circulated via email).
- e. Oxfordshire Charity & Volunteer Awards Launch – Nominations are now open. - (Circulated via email).
- f. Oxfordshire Community & Voluntary Action – Engaging with New Health Structures event on 8.9.11. - (Circulated via email).
- g. Open Spaces Society – Consultation Paper on the Registration of New Towns and Village Greens. - (Circulated via email).
- h. OALC – Members Update. - (Circulated via email).
- i. John Howell MP – July/August Newsletter. - (Circulated via email).
- j. SODC – Changes to our Garden Waste Service. - (Circulated via email).
- k. SODC – News from South Oxfordshire District Council. - (Circulated via email).
- l. SODC – Comments on New Car Park Order. - (Circulated via email).
- m. ORCC – Village Hall Management Committees – Help Wanted. - (Circulated via email).
- n. SODC – Standards Committee Members Wanted. - (Circulated via email).
- o. ORCC – Bulletin July 2011. - (Circulated via email).
- p. SODC – News from South Oxfordshire District Council. - (Circulated via email).
- q. Thames Valley Police – July 2011 Update. - (Circulated via email).
- r. Oxfordshire Community & Voluntary Action – Robin Networking Event 27.7.11. - (Circulated via email).
- s. SODC – Young Achievers Award Scheme 2011. - (Circulated via email).
- t. SODC – Addendum of Changes to the South Oxfordshire Submission Core Strategy. - (Circulated via email).
- u. SODC – Town & Parish Councils. - (Circulated via email).
- v. SODC – News from South Oxfordshire District Council. - (Circulated via email).
- w. OCVA – Training & Events Update. - (Circulated via email).
- x. SODC – News from South Oxfordshire District Council. - (Circulated via email).
- y. The Local Government Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Oxfordshire – Draft Recommendation. – **It was agreed that the Clerk will reply stating that the Parish Council does not feel that the extra workload on the existing County Councillors is acceptable and is not worth the additional costs involved in this review.**
- z. SODC – News from South Oxfordshire District Council. – (Circulated via email).

** original held by the Clerk, copy available on request.*

displayed on Village Hall & village noticeboards.

136/11 PAYMENTS.

Chq	To Whom Paid	Details	VAT	Total £
2094	Mr P Aries	Bus Shelter Maint June/July 2011		120.00
2095	SODC	Emptying Dog Bins	11.66	69.97
		TOTAL	11.66	189.97

137/11 RECEIPTS.

Date	From Who Received	Details	Total £
6.6.11	Barclays Bank	Interest on Business Saver Acct 7.3.11-5.6.11	4.93
6.6.11	Barclays Bank	Interest on Business Saver Acct 7.3.11-	1.55

		5.6.11	
		TOTAL	6.48

Horspath Stone Pit Charity

Date	From Who Received	Details	Total £
14.7.11	Stagecoach	Quarterly Rent	325.00
		TOTAL	325.00

137/11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

- a. Mr Horsley reported that there have been numerous emails regarding the Post Office in Horspath. The only short term solution available is for the Post Office to operate 3 times a week from the Village Hall. Mr Horsley has written to Martin Wellings of the Methodist Church who may well be interested. It was agreed to pass this over to Mrs Julian to arrange for the Doctor's rooms to be made available for use by the Post Office.
- b. Mr Brooks asked about the flooding at Oxford Road. Mr Horsley stated that all correspondence has been passed to Mr Ray Cogan. Mrs Purse will take the matter up with OCC and report back at the next meeting.
- c. Mr James Dobson introduced himself to new Councillor – Mr Peter Ewart.
- d. Mr Harris reported that guided visits in the bat tunnel will be held on Sunday at 2.15pm, everyone is welcome, please let Mr Harris know if you wish to attend.
- e. Mrs Watson reported that there is a lot of noise coming from a property in Butlers Close. Mr Horsley suggested that this be reported to SODC Environmental Dept.
Mrs Watson also commented that there is an issue in the village with cars parked on pavements. The Clerk will supply Mrs Watson with "Parking on Pavement" stickers. Mr Dobson stated that parking on pavements is not an offence unless the car is obstructing the complete pavement. Mrs Purse commented that it is an offence to drive on the pavement but the Police have to see the offence. If a motorist is obstructing the pavement the Police can only ask them to move. If using stickers, any damage caused to cars will be the responsibility of the Parish Council.
- f. Mr Ewart commented that he is looking forward to helping on the Parish Council.

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- g. Mr Tasker commented that cars are parking on pavements in Blenheim Road and pedestrians can't pass by because of the overgrown brambles.
Mr Tasker stated that he has cut the trees back on his driveway to increase the visibility when leaving his driveway but cyclists should not be on pavement after the cycle track has ended. Mr Horsley stated that there is nothing more that the Parish Council can do. Mrs Purse agreed to ask OCC Highways to put a sign up stating "Please do not ride past this point".
Mr Tasker reported that his neighbour has recently had his hub caps and car badge stolen from his car. Mr Horsley advised Mr Tasker that this should be reported to the Police or let the parents of the youths involved know. Mr James Dobson commented that the Police are running a campaign on Anti Social behaviour in the school holidays.

138/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Parish Council Planning Meeting – Tuesday 16th August 2011 (To be confirmed)
Horspath Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 6th September 2011.

139/11 STAGECOACH & HORSPATH STONE PIT CHARITY - Nothing to report.