



**Great Horwood
Parish Council**

Great Horwood Parish Council

Minutes of an ordinary meeting held on 12th April 2010 at
7.30pm in the Village Hall, Great Horwood.

Present: Cllr John Gilbey (Chairman), Cllr Rod Moulding (Vice-chairman), Cllr Michael Brocklehurst, Cllr Ian Lamberton, Cllr Moya Berrill, Cllr James Samways, Karen Francis (Clerk)
12 members of the public

1. To receive apologies for absence
All Councillors being present, there were none.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th February 2010
These were approved without modification
3. To receive declarations of interest
None received.
4. To consider matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting
 - The BCA Community Led Planning Recognition Awards ceremony was held on Thursday 25th March. This was arranged to present a commemorative plaque and tree to towns and villages within Buckinghamshire who have completed a community led Parish Plan. This event was attended by Cllr Gilbey and Mrs Liz Nicholls. The tree presented was a Mountain Ash. Cllr Gilbey circulated an email to members of the Parish Plan Steering Committee and the Parish Council asking for suggestions as to where the tree could be planted and the tree has now been planted on the corner of The Green.
 - The final version of the Whaddon Chase Community Green Infrastructure Plan has now been received and will be circulated to all Councillors shortly and placed on the Parish Council website.
 - There has been no report received from the LAF held on 3rd March 2010.
 - The next AVALC meeting is to be held in Great Horwood Village Hall on 20th April and everyone is welcome. The topic of the evening will be Making the Most of Local Transport.
 - Five plots have now been allocated at the Willow Road allotments. There have been two issues raised with the site. The first is the fence is not completed and the second is the discovery of concrete blocks. The Contractor has been contacted to come and rectify these problems but he is currently unwell so there are no timescales for completion.

5. Public Participation Period
Mr Mick Wood detailed the size of the concrete blocks found at the Willow Road allotments. He also asked for an additional plot on behalf of Julia Carey which was agreed by the Parish Council.

Mrs Gill Wood highlighted a problem of dumped tyres along the Little Horwood Road. The Clerk will contact AVDC to arrange removal.

Mr Jeremy Hayes raised the issue of the development on the site opposite Causter Farm. It was agreed that this would be discussed in item 8.

Mrs Gill Wood stated she thought the new tree had been planted where the dodgems are placed when the fair visits. This will need to be checked when the fair arrives.

6. Presentation by Great Horwood Football Club regarding future plans.
Steve Bennett, Chairman of GHFC, spoke to the Council to explain the future plans of the football club. In 2004 the club expanded to take on some juniors and consequently more land was taken on for use by the club. There are currently 109 junior members and 50 senior members with approximately 50% of these members residing in the village. The area is now very well used and therefore more money needs to be spent on the facilities of the club. The car park has been hard

surfaced and this year the toilet facilities are to be improved. The funding is to come from AVDC although AVDC have requested the Parish Council are approached for funding.

Additional developments include improving a pitch on the new ground and enhancing the entrance area. In the more medium term the club are looking to purchase a replacement tractor.

Cllr Gilbey raised a problem with the original funding application to AVDC which asked the question as to whether the Parish Council had been consulted. The response from GHFC was positive but this was incorrect. Steve Bennett acknowledged this and apologised for the oversight.

Cllr Gilbey thanked Steve for his time.

7. To receive and consider reports from Committees of Council

- 7.1. Cllr Moulding updated the Council on the report from the Planning Committee with current open applications. Only one of these raised an issue and this was to be discussed in item 8. Consequently Cllr Moulding proposed that the comments made to AVDC were ratified. Cllr Gilbey seconded this and it was approved unanimously.

A small point was raised on the application at Springfield Farm. There have been minor alterations to the plans but there will be no extra consultation.

Cllr Moulding also explained that the AVDC planning portal had been improved.

- 7.2. Cllr Brocklehurst updated the Council on the recent developments at Horwode Pece.
- No material items have been raised in the weekly reports.
 - The orders for the outstanding equipment have been completed.
 - Playground Facilities are due to start work on phase 2 of The Rec this week. It is expected work will take approximately 4 weeks.
 - Picnic on the Pece is to be held on Sunday 6th June. This will be a village event to celebrate the installation of the new equipment and to promote usage of Horwode Pece.
 - A working party is to be held on 8th May to tidy up and prune.
 - Overhead lines running to the mill have now been isolated although those running along the far side of The Rec are still live. The cables will be put into the cable tunnel as soon as the mill owner decides what size cables need to be run to the mill.

8. Site in Nash Road, Great Horwood

This issue relates to a site which has been bought by Romani Gypsies and was developed very swiftly over the Easter weekend. Although the site is close to the village of Nash it is actually in the Parish of Great Horwood. Cllr Gilbey had been contacted on Good Friday regarding this site and duly contacted David Rowlands (to which no response has yet been received) and Sir Beville Stanier (who raised the issue at a Cabinet Briefing last week).

As the people on the site own the land AVDC see this as a planning issue and not as trespass. A planning application was received by AVDC on 1st April and this application has now been received by the Clerk and is being circulated. Comments from the Parish Council (and anyone else) are due by May 5th. It should be noted that AVDC treats retrospective applications as if there has been no development.

Cllr. Gilbey had invited John Byrne, Head of Planning at AVDC to attend the Parish Council meeting and explain the situation but he is on holiday this week. Jim Cannell, Development Control Manager at AVDC had responded and although he was not available to attend the meeting did offer to meet Members of the Parish Council at another mutually convenient time.

The application (number 10/00680/APP) is for 11 plots each with a mobile home, caravan and dayroom. Plans can be seen on the AVDC website.

The question was asked whether there was an out-of-hours contact number of AVDC to report issues such as this. It was thought that there wasn't a number but the Parish Council would raise the question with AVDC.

9. AVDC Community Cohesion Strategy Consultation

It was agreed this would be added to the agenda for the following meeting.

10. Feedback on Winter Maintenance in Buckinghamshire

Bucks County Council have asked for feedback on their winter maintenance programme. Cllr Gilbey agreed to complete the feedback with assistance from the Clerk.

11. Plane & Patch programme for Parish Roads
Bucks County Council will be carrying out a Plane & Patch programme over the coming year and would like Parish Councils to identify roads that need repairing. It was agreed that all Councillors would give this some thought and would email the Clerk with relevant details.
12. Annual Parish Meeting to be held on April 27th 2010
This is to be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Agenda items so far include the awards from the D Jack Smith, the Parish Plan Steering Committee and presentations from clubs in the village. Cllr Gilbey confirmed there would be a projector and screen available to aid presentations and Cllr Moulding offered assistance on the production of Powerpoint presentations.

The question of refreshments was raised and Cllr Gilbey will speak with Jeannie Marshall.

13. To consider a request from GHFC for additional funding up to an amount of £275
This was carried forward from the last meeting as unbudgeted money cannot be spent without notice. It was agreed not to discuss the application and to go straight to a vote. Cllr Gilbey asked for all in favour to raise their hands and the vote was carried unanimously.

The Clerk will now arrange for the cheque to be paid to the Football Club.

14. Mobile Library
The Clerk explained a letter had been received cancelling the mobile library service in Great Horwood from 1st June due to the lack of visitors.

15. Theatre in the Villages
A new scheme has been announced by AVDC for theatre productions to be performed across the villages. The Clerk explained the scheme but it was agreed it would be more appropriate to pass the information to the Village Hall committee. The Clerk will arrange this.

16. Review of Litter Pick
The litter pick took place on Sunday 28th March and there were 18 volunteers. At the end of the morning 20+ bags of rubbish had been collected along with 8 tyres and 1 lawnmower.

The Parish Council thanked all the volunteers who took part and also thanked Cllr Samways for arranging the litter pick.

17. Review of Parish Council Bank Accounts
The Clerk had previously circulated information relating to the 5 different bank accounts that are managed. It was agreed that the Parish Plan account did not relate to the Parish Council and therefore this was excluded from any discussion.

Two accounts have had no activity for more than 10 years. It was suggested that some investigation took place to find out whether there were charities or trusts associated with these accounts before a decision could be made on what to do with them. The Clerk agreed to investigate.

The issue of excess funds was also raised. Currently the money is earning a tiny amount of interest and there was a suggestion that investing the money would earn more interest (albeit still a small amount). After some discussion it was agreed that the sum of £10,000 could be invested into a fixed term deposit for 3 months and in the meantime, the Clerk would circulate a forecast Cashflow statement for the coming financial year.

18. Receipts
- Allotment Rent £4.00
 - Horwode Pece Grant from Horwode Pece Trust £2,248.93
 - John the Barber £10.00
 - Horwode Pece Grant from Bucks CC £2,000.00
 - Bucks CC grant for Great Horwood Youth Club £1,386.11
 - Horwode Pece Grant from Community Spaces £14,981.25
19. Items paid since previous meeting
- Bucks Playing Field Association £20.00
 - Monica Gilbey (Expenses for Great Horwood Youth Club) £1,386.11 (offset by cheque received from Bucks CC)

20. To agree items for payment

- BALC Subs £122.40
- AVDC (resiting of Waste Bin) £17.63
- AVDC (dog bin emptying) £221.11
- EON UK (street light maintenance) £108.39
- Clerks expenses (broadband and stationery) £50.54
- BALC (Planning Workshop) £15.00

A standing order form was also signed to increase the Clerks remuneration from £175 per month to £262.50 to reflect the increased hours from 1st April 2010.

21. To receive and note correspondence

- The Whaddon Chase Community Green Infrastructure Plan has now been finalised and is ready for circulation.
- A letter from Bucks County Council confirming discussions were to be reopened with both bidders for Buckinghamshire's Energy from Waste facility.
- An email from Bucks County Council reminding the Council that applications for the Transportation Delegated Budget funding 2011/2012 were due at the end of June. This would be included on the agenda for the next meeting.
- A letter from AVDC stating the review of the Great Horwood conservation area will be completed within the next two years.
- A letter from AVDC giving notice that residents across the Vale will shortly receive a leaflet on HS2. This is the Governments preferred route of the high speed rail route to initially link London and Birmingham. Cllr Gilbey also passed around another leaflet with information (albeit sketchy) on the alternative routes preferred by Bucks County Council.

22. Items for the next meeting

HS2
Planning Gain S106 Agreements (Cllr Brocklehurst)

The next meeting of the Council will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting to be held on Monday 10th May 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.18pm

Signed _____ **Draft** _____ Date _____