



## Great Horwood Parish Council

# Great Horwood Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on  
9<sup>th</sup> December 2013 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Great Horwood.

Present: Cllr John Gilbey (Chairman), Cllr John Scholtens, Cllr Valerie Porritt, Cllr Marc Bennett-Coles, Cllr Angela Mayne, Cllr Russell Margerrison, Karen Francis (Clerk)  
5 members of the public

1. To receive apologies for absence  
Cllr Lamberton couldn't attend due to other commitments.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2013  
No amendments were made.
3. To receive declarations of interest  
No declarations of interest were received.
4. To consider matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting
  - Cllr Scholtens spoke with John the Barber who has stated he doesn't want to use electricity as the providers need to be in so that it can be turned on and off. He also stated that winter isn't so much of a problem as residents tend to have their windows closed. He also has informed the Parish Council that he only uses the generator when it is needed rather than it running all the time. Councillors agreed to monitor the issue and see if any further complaints arise.
  - The projector screen has been purchased and is now stored in the Village Hall.
  - Western Power are supposed to be removing the conifer over the bus stop in Little Horwood Road before Christmas.
  - A new laptop has been purchased and the old laptop will now be used to collect and analyse data from the MVAS. A new battery for the old laptop is currently on order.
5. Public Participation Period
  - David Saunders asked the Parish Council to confirm the cost of the projector screen was coming out of the Neighbourhood Plan account. This was confirmed.
  - Gill Wood thanked the Parish Council for their efforts over the past year.
  - Mick Wood stated he didn't like that the remains from clearing two drains on The Green had been spread down Church Lane.
  - Dean White and David Whinyates spoke to the Parish Council about planning application 13/03136/COUAP. They stated that while they and many other residents in Singleborough didn't object to the application they had concerns which related to 1) noise, 2) Traffic and safety and 3) the overall impact on Singleborough. The Parish Council have not yet seen sight of the application but this had been printed out and was now being circulated. Cllr Scholtens agreed to add it into the Planning Book.
6. Planning Issues
  - 6.1. Councillors were provided with an updated Planning Report which was ratified at the meeting. Four new decisions have been made and two new applications had been received. The planning report is attached to and forms part of these minutes.  
  
Cllr Gilbey also spoke about application 13/02570/ALB which has been referred to the Development Control Committee. As nobody from the Parish Council is able to speak at the DCC which means that the Parish Council's views will be disregarded Cllr Gilbey has spoken with the applicant to explain the position. He suggested that since we had received such short notice of the hearing at the Development Control Committee we could ask for a postponement until the next meeting of the DCC. The applicant said he would consult his legal representatives and would contact the Parish Council if this was felt to be a sensible course of action.
  - 6.2. The application to register the Recreation Ground has finally been completed. However the Land Registry now want to know when the Parish Council was created so they can complete the conditions to the documentation. Cllr Gilbey suggested that the Greta Horwood Parish Council would have been created as a result of the Local Government Act of 1894 when most District and Parish Councils were created.
7. Report from the Recreation Committee  
The report was read out at the meeting.
  - Inspections show the Rec is in relatively good condition.
  - New equipment has been installed although the quality of the materials are a cause for concern and Kompan are to return on 19<sup>th</sup> December to discuss the issues.

8. Footpaths Report

Robert Deuchar kindly provided the following report.

*All the Parish's footpaths and its one bridleway have been inspected and pruned within the last two weeks.*

9. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Gilbey circulated a project plan which will be discussed in the next NPT meeting. As the next meeting is not until February he agreed to circulate an update once the meeting has taken place.

Cllr Margerrison suggested the plan was adjusted to fit in with the Parish Council meetings. Cllr Gilbey will take this proposal to the next meeting.

10. Update on the MVAS

The MVAS has been installed on two sites within the village. After further consultation with residents two more sites have been agreed – one on the Nash Road near Bugle House and the other in Little Horwood Road. A decision on whether to proceed with the final proposed site on a lamppost in Nash Road was postponed.

Cllrs were all asked to assist in moving the MVAS as the pole is heavy and requires two people to lift it. All Cllrs at the meeting offered their services.

11. Report from the LAF Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2013

Cllr Gilbey attended this meeting which was held to review and agree the new priorities. These were:

- Building community to add value to lives
- Support for community businesses
- Support for older people
- Public, community and sustainable transport
- Young people
- Footpaths and environment
- Traffic calming

12. Report from the NAG AGM held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2013

Cllr Porritt has been attending these meetings for two years. At the AGM the current mayor of Winslow, David Barry, agreed to continue as Chairman. Each meeting similar items are on the agenda as these are issues which affect all villages. These are:

- Speeding
- Vehicle Crime
- Anti Social Behaviour
- Countryside Crime

TVP also attend the meeting every month.

13. Village Freighter

The Village Freighter visited Great Horwood on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December. Cllr Porritt spoke to the driver a number of times over the morning to see how many people were using the service. At the end of the session it was established approximately 12 people had used the service. At a cost of £175 per visit this equated to almost £15 per person.

Discussion took place as to whether this service was a good return on the money spent by the Parish Council. Cllr Gilbey asked who was in favour of scrapping the service and four Councillors (out of the six present) voted to scrap it.

14. Flooding on The Green

Since the last meeting two drains have been cleared to try and alleviate the flooding on the corner of The Green. Since the work has taken place there has not been sufficient rainfall to establish whether this has resolved the problem and therefore this will be considered again at the next meeting.

15. Second Draft of Budget for 2014/2015

The amendments from the previous meeting were made. In addition, Cllrs agreed to remove the village skip service and instead put £350 towards resolving the flooding on The Green. It was also stated that Horwode Pece Management Committee need to submit a budget ASAP.

Cllr Gilbey also circulated a document which showed the calculation of the precept and the grant received from AVDC. This demonstrated that the cost of Band D tax per person was £45.01 which is slightly lower than the £45.14 last year.

Councillors were in favour of the budget proposals and voted unanimously to accept the budget. Councillors were pleased to note that the precept has not been increased.

16. Replacement of Singleborough Noticeboard

Cllr Bennett-Coles had asked for the Singleborough Noticeboard to be replaced as the current one was old and in a bad state of repair. He agreed to take measurements and investigate replacement options.

17. Dates for 2014

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated a list of meeting dates for 2014. These were all approved.

18. Receipts
- VAT Repayment £1287.31
  - Allotment Rent £20.00
19. To agree items for payment
- BCC Legal Fees (BACS) £273.60
  - Clerks Expenses (Projector) (BACS) £148.20
  - Clerks Expenses (Laptop) (BACS) £558.43
  - Clerks Expenses (Laptop Battery) £23.31
  - Heady Plants £225.00
20. To receive and note correspondence
- An email from the editor of Focus thanking the Parish Council for their donation.
  - A letter from Medical Detection Dogs thanking the Parish Council for their donation.
  - A letter from Great Horwood Silver Bank thanking the Parish Council for their donation.
  - A letter from AVDC with a review of the changes to the scheme of officer delegated powers.
21. Items for the next meeting
- Flooding on The Green
22. Confirmation of date and time of next meeting  
The next meeting will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.49pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

**Draft**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Planning Committee Report - for meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013**

1. The customary listing of current and recent Planning Applications follows. The Parish Council is invited to ratify the comments made to AVDC on behalf of the Planning Committee since the last meeting.

**CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Date Received	Application Number	Applicant	Site Address	Details of Application	Parish Council Response	AVDC Decision
---------------	--------------------	-----------	--------------	------------------------	-------------------------	---------------

**Determined**

31/08/13	13/02235/ APP	Mr & Mrs Crabtree	54 Little Horwood Road	Single storey front extension	No Objection	Approved
24/09/13	13/02549/ APP	Mr & Mrs Malarkey	16 Townsend Cottages	Single storey front extension	No Objection	Approved
23/10/13	13/02843/ AEL	Western Power	Pilch Lane	Connection of third conductor	No Objection	Approved
31/10/13	13/02943/ AEL	Western Power	Land off Spring Lane	Rebuilding and Reconductoring Overhead Lines	No Objection	Approved

**Pending**

11/10/13	13/02570/ ALB	Mr P Morris	Mulberry Cottage	Rethatching of cottage with a mixed heads and butts cereal straw spar coat in the long straw style and raising of eaves and raising left-hand side chimney	No Objection
28/11/13	1303195/ APP	Mr C Wright	6 Weston Road	Two storey side and rear extension. Single storey side extension.	
05/12/13	13/03182/ APP	Mr D Badham	Candleford, Singleborough Lane	Conversion of garage to annexe and construction of a detached garden outbuilding.	

2. The application at Mulberry Cottage is due to be heard at the Development Control Committee on 12<sup>th</sup> December. The recommendation from AVDC is to refuse the application because "*the proposed change in thatch would cause considerable harm to the authenticity and historic and architectural significance...of the cottage*"