



**Great Horwood
Parish Council**

Great Horwood Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 11th July 2022 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Great Horwood

Present: Cllr John Gilbey (JWG) Chairman, Cllr David Taylor (DT), Cllr Andy Waller (AD), Sue Brazier (SB) and two members of the public.

1.	To receive apologies for absence Cllr Caroline Cousin, Cllr Robert Davies and Cllr Jackie Goss
2.	To receive declarations of interest None
3.	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th June 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Clerk pointed out that under Item 19 Finance, the April interest for the Business Instant Access account had already been included in the previous minutes for the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9th May 2022. The Clerk amended the minute which was initialled by Cllr Gilbey. The minutes were then approved.
4.	To consider matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting (not otherwise included in the agenda) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed Creation of the Singleborough Bridleway – BC Rights of Way legal team have made the Creation Order. The Singleborough Bridleway will be added to the Definitive Map. The Clerk has informed Mr David Saunders who had previously brought this matter to the attention on the PC. Damage to wooden posts at the Rec – The Clerk has written to the contractor, Mr Ian Walker requesting that he strims not quite so close to the posts. He was happy to leave more space in the future. A new MVAS battery has been ordered and delivered to Mr Mick Wood. The Clerk has contacted Farm Slice regarding trading on The Green now that The Swan has shut. They have responded stating that they were happy with their current pattern of work for the summer but might consider using The Green in the autumn.
5.	Public Participation Period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
6.	Horwode Pece Management Committee Report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Report from the Horwode Pece Management Committee is attached to and forms part of these minutes. <p>Queen's Green Canopy plaque to commemorate tree planting at Horwode Pece – Cllr Cousin had circulated the proposed wording to the Horwode Pece Management Committee and GHSRT. All responses received have been favourable. Cllr Taylor, as Trustee, stated that he agreed with the wording. Cllr Cousin had offered to order the plaque as she has been directly involved. (Action Cllr Cousin)</p> <p>The Clerk had sent an up-to-date spreadsheet to Mr John Nicholls listing recent expenditure and the current available funding for various projects including additional rubber chippings.</p>
7.	Footpaths Report To receive the Footpath Report Mr Alan Biggins has walked all paths with Mr David Mayne and done what was needed. There was a problem concerning one footpath, where a farmer had planted wheat and not cut a path. This had happened last year too, but he said the path was hardly ever used from Sunnyhill to Cross Roads Farm. It led onto the A421 and was more of a potential danger than an amenity. Mr Biggins said that he would find out who the farmer was in due course. Councillors felt that it was important that the footpath remained open. Cllr Taylor offered to contact Mr John Grainge who it was thought might be an adjacent landowner. (Action Cllr Taylor)
8.	Roads Report a). To receive a report on local roads and any problems with signage. There had recently been a number of white paint marks made in Little Horwood Road. Since there is plane and patch road

	<p>surfacing planned for Little Horwood Road during 25th July – 8th August, it was assumed that the white paint marks referred to these works. The Clerk will write to the Local Area Technician, Matt Whincup, for clarification. (Action Clerk)</p> <p>b). To receive a report on the MVAS</p> <p>Mr Mick Wood informed the Clerk that after much deliberation he had decided to step down from this responsibility. On behalf of the Parish Council, Cllr Gilbey expressed his thanks to Mr and Mrs Wood for their hard work and dedication over the past 7 years. Mr Wood was happy to continue for the next three months until another volunteer was found. Cllr Taylor said he might have someone in mind. Although absent from the PC meeting, Cllr Davies had expressed an interest in investigating traffic calming in the village rather than getting involved with the MVAS. The Clerk has sent him the TfB Traffic Calming Guide July 2020 for his perusal.</p>
9.	<p>Planning Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The planning report was noted and ratified. <p>Cllr Gilbey noted in particular the following:</p> <p>21/02961/APP – Land off Nash Road – approval has been granted so work can continue on the whole site.</p> <p>22/02114/APP – Great Horwood Service Station – application received for four dwellings</p> <p>22/01937/AGN – Eastfield Farm – Bucks Planning had taken only a month to refuse the creation of a soil bund to form part of a drainage scheme for agricultural building.</p>
10.	<p>Issues arising from the Planning Report</p> <p>None</p>
11.	<p>Other Planning Matters</p> <p>As reported at the last meeting, the application for the funds to install the Play Equipment (LEAP) on the High Street Homes (HSH) site had been approved by Buckinghamshire Council (BC) and HSH had been asked if their quote was still valid and whether they would install the LEAP on behalf of the PC.</p> <p>They had responded by saying that if they are to install the LEAP then they would want the PC to take over responsibility for the Open Space Land (OSL) maintenance immediately rather than after the 12 months settling in period.</p> <p>The PC has responded by quoting the S106 agreement where this was not necessary and would not be acceptable to the PC. So far no confirmation had been received from HSH that they are willing to install the LEAP on behalf of the PC.</p> <p>If HSH do not cooperate then the PC will wait until the OSL has been finalised and approved by BC and then will seek quotes from members of the Association of Play Industries as advised by BC.</p>
12	<p>Winslow and Villages Community Board</p> <p>The Clerk had received information on the Small Grants Scheme which provides grants of up to £1000 to community and voluntary groups/organisations. Since one of the ideas supported was coaching, the Clerk had sent the information to the Football Club and the Cricket Club. The date of the next Community Board meeting is 28th July.</p>
13	<p>To receive a report from any meetings attended</p> <p>Cllr Cousin attended Bucks Council seminar on reviewing Neighbourhood Planning Policies on 29th June.</p> <p>Cllrs Gilbey and Cousin attended the NBPPC on 30th June where concerns were raised about BC ignoring the wishes of Town and Parish Councils in deciding on the community facilities to be supported by S106 funding available from developers contributions. Buckingham Town Council had today issued a Press Release highlighting the problem – see attached.</p> <p>Another item of concern was the application by the landowners that Little Horwood Airfield 46Ha be included as Brown Field site in the call for sites issued as part of the development of the new Buckinghamshire Plan.</p> <p>A third point of concern was the possible lands for the improvement/widening/duelling of the A421. Depending on what will be proposed it could affect the land currently used by the Cricket Club which is owned by the Great Horwood Recreation Ground Trust of which the PC is the sole trustee and/or the Poors Allotment (Castlefields) Trust land which is currently rented partly to a local farmer and partly to the Great Horwood Football Club.</p>
14	<p>Parish Maintenance</p> <p>a). Greenway name plate - The Clerk had received an email from BC Street Names Plates informing the PC that the Greenway name plate had been replaced. The Clerk went to check this matter and discovered that the name plate had not been replaced at all. The Clerk has written to BC concerning their error who are now dealing with the works as a priority. The Clerk will chase again if necessary. (Action Clerk)</p> <p>b). Gigaclear's failure to publish a schedule of planned excavations in the village – Cllr Gilbey was concerned that Gigaclear had not kept their promise in keeping the village informed of the dates of upcoming works. The recent works in Little Horwood Road had proved very difficult for residents as the barriers had shut one of the carriageways with no traffic control. Cllr Gilbey</p>

	suggested that the Clerk contact Dominic Hones, Senior Community Engagement Manager who led the presentation to residents prior to the Parish Council meeting on 14 th March, expressing the Council's disappointment with the disruption caused. (Action Clerk)																																																				
15.	The Green Upgrade Project The Clerk had not received a response to her request that PA Spittles itemise their quote, so the PC can better compare both quotations for the upgrade. After a discussion Cllr Taylor offered to draw up another plan without railings and the addition of planting and benches. He will endeavour to bring to the September PC meeting for further discussion/amendment before publishing in Focus for a wider village consultation. (Action Cllr Taylor)																																																				
16	Worthy Causes The Clerk had advertised the Worthy Causes grants in July's Parish Pump and will do so again in September and October. She will send an application form to all the likely village organisations. The deadline for applications is 31 st October. (Action Clerk)																																																				
17	Parish Councillor vacancy Cllr Gilbey informed the Council that Cllr Gavin Laird had resigned. The Clerk will contact Fiona Blackett, Senior Electoral Services Officer to check whether a Notice of Vacancy will need to be posted by the PC and published by BC, ahead of advertising to co-opt a new Councillor. (Action Clerk)																																																				
18	Active Travel Winslow – Great Horwood Cllr Gilbey mentioned that the application for the airfield to be included as a Brown Field site in the new Local Plan for Buckinghamshire may mean that the PC may not get any co-operation from the landowners over the route of the cycleway. There is nothing further to report.																																																				
19.	Modified Winslow Neighbourhood Plan The Clerk had circulated the document to Councillors. The PC did not wish to make any further comment. The Clerk will write to Winslow Town Council. (Action Clerk)																																																				
20.	To receive and note correspondence a). Complaint of overgrown bushes on the footpath and pavements in Spring Lane. A member of the public had complained that overgrown bushes were obstructing the pavement outside 9 Spring Lane. The Clerk understood that the property was the responsibility of the Housing Trust. She has written to Fairhive Homes requesting that they trim the foliage so the area is more accessible. The Clerk will chase this matter if necessary (Action Clerk) The Clerk has written to the householder responsible for the tree overhanging the footpath from the High Street to Spring Lane. The resident will trim the branches. The Clerk will chase if necessary. (Action Clerk) b). Request for the installation of a handrail at the steps at 1 – 7 Spring Lane. Mr Matt Whincup, BC Local Area Technician, informed the Clerk that the steps were not assets maintained by BC, but private steps leading to properties under the ownership of Fairhive Homes. He suggested the residents contact Fairhive Homes who should be able to provide a handrail. The Clerk has written to the resident. c). Request for an additional dog waste bin near the entrance to the Cricket Club – Mrs Lynda Sirett had written to the Clerk with this request as there had been an increase in residents walking their dogs near the Cricket Club. Cllr Gilbey asked the Clerk to investigate costings and noted that with the completion of Lodge Park Homes in the near future, there was potential for even more activity along this stretch of road. (Action Clerk)																																																				
21.	Finance a). To review the bank reconciliation, note invoices which have been paid and to note funds received. <table><tr><th>Payments</th><th>Payee</th><th>Type</th><th>Payment £</th></tr><tr><td>GH 22.018</td><td>Cllr Cousin</td><td>FPO</td><td>104.08</td></tr><tr><td>GH 22.019</td><td>Walker Grounds Care</td><td>FPO</td><td>585.50</td></tr><tr><td>GH 22.020</td><td>Jenny Groom</td><td>FPO</td><td>100.00</td></tr><tr><td>GH 22.021</td><td>E.on</td><td>FPO</td><td>105.38</td></tr><tr><td>GH 22.022</td><td>Anthony's Heating and Plumbing Ltd</td><td>FPO</td><td>360.00</td></tr><tr><td>GH 22.023</td><td>Jane Holland</td><td>FPO</td><td>48.70</td></tr><tr><td>GH 22.024</td><td>Npower Commercial Gas Ltd</td><td>DD</td><td>232.46</td></tr><tr><td>GH 22.025</td><td>Clerk's salary</td><td>SO</td><td>715.00</td></tr><tr><td>GH 22.026</td><td>Barclaycard</td><td>DD</td><td>143.43</td></tr><tr><td>GH 22.027</td><td>HMRC 120PE01842813</td><td>FPO</td><td>51.00</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Receipts</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>GHR 22.013</td><td>HMRC 120PE01842813</td><td></td><td>51.00</td></tr></table>	Payments	Payee	Type	Payment £	GH 22.018	Cllr Cousin	FPO	104.08	GH 22.019	Walker Grounds Care	FPO	585.50	GH 22.020	Jenny Groom	FPO	100.00	GH 22.021	E.on	FPO	105.38	GH 22.022	Anthony's Heating and Plumbing Ltd	FPO	360.00	GH 22.023	Jane Holland	FPO	48.70	GH 22.024	Npower Commercial Gas Ltd	DD	232.46	GH 22.025	Clerk's salary	SO	715.00	GH 22.026	Barclaycard	DD	143.43	GH 22.027	HMRC 120PE01842813	FPO	51.00	Receipts				GHR 22.013	HMRC 120PE01842813		51.00
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Horwode Pece**Payments**

HP 22.04

Playsafety Ltd

134.40

HP 22.05

Walker Grounds Care

300.00

Business Instant Access**Receipts**

July interest

16.10

b). To agree payments that require authorising
The Council duly authorized the following payments:

From Treasurer's account –

Walker Grounds Care – grass cutting - £585.50

SWARCO Traffic Ltd – MVAS battery - £264.00

No invoice has been received from Walker Grounds Care in respect of mowing at Horwode Pece. The Clerk has emailed the contractor.

Cllr Taylor mentioned that the hedge at the top of Nash Road, just past the Cricket Club was in need of a trim. The Clerk will contact Matt Whincup so this can be put on BC's programme of works. **(Action Clerk)**

It had recently come to the attention of the Clerk that SWARCO had not sent automatic contract renewal documents to the PC. SWARCO have now sent the documents and the contract will run from 7th July 2022 for 12 months. Cllr Gilbey signed the contract which the Clerk will return. **(Action Clerk)** Upon receipt an invoice will be issued, authorized below:
SWARCO Traffic Ltd – annual contract renewal - £309.00

22. Items for the next meeting

Finance: to present statement of receipts and payments to date under each head of budget; Worthy Causes; The Green Upgrade Project

23. Confirmation of date and time of the next meeting

Monday 12th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed

Chairman

Date 12th September 2022

Horwode Pece Management Committee - Report to Parish Council July 2022

After the Spring working party, this May/June, the Rec. looks in good condition, the grass has been recently cut and all equipment checked and considered safe.

Issues raised by the recent RoSPA check have been checked and addressed where it related to play equipment safety. RoSPA noted that the flag on the Net-climber was missing and that the flag on the Navigator was loose to rotate; neither of these have been addressed yet as they are not considered safety critical. We will look at these again in the Autumn working party.

The RoSPA reported trip hazard - the concrete base of the shelter was higher than the surrounding ground, by 2.5cm, considered a trip hazard - has now been corrected by infilling with a layer of turf. The Zip-wire has been checked against fretting and wear damage as requested by the RoSPA inspector.

In addition, since the last working party, a broken branch of a tree in the hedge that has fallen across the Rec. has been cut back and removed. Also, the following damaged items will need to be monitored and repaired in the Autumn working party.

- The underlay inside the SuperNova roundabout is torn.
- One of the timbers on the far goal is rotting and will need replacing; all the timbers for both goals should be treated against rot. Some screws need replacing on the near goal.
- The seat and table to the far S.E. corner is in poor condition and should be repaired or replaced.

Over the summer it is planned to top up the rubber chippings, we just need to work out how much will be required.

John Nicholls - Chairman

10/07/2022

Planning Committee Report - for meeting on 11th July 2022 (as at 7th July 2022)

Below are current and recent Planning Applications. The Parish Council is invited to ratify the comments made to Buckinghamshire Council 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						
23/07/2021 (Updated application dated 21/12/2021)	21/02961/APP Danika Hird 23/08/2021	Mr J Browning	Land off Nash Road, Great Horwood	Variation of condition 2, 3 and 5 on application 16/00877/APP (Residential development of 14 dwellings with associated garaging and parking and formation of new access) Proposed amendments to approved house types to improve internal layouts and elevational detailing. Condition 2 - Amendments to list of approved drawings referred to in this condition. Drawings to be removed: 15053(0)215, 15053(0)216, 15053(0)220, 15053 (D) 221, 15053(0)230, 15053 (0) 231, 15053(0)235, 15053(0)236, 15053(0)240, 15053(0)241, 15053 (B) 120A, 15053 (B) 121A, 15053 (D) 100 REV A, 12529 / 01B, 02/18/01 landscape plan, 02/18/02 planting detail, 02/18/03 planting detail. Drawings to be added: A21-014-PL001B, A21-014-009A, A21-014-PL010A, A21-014-PL011, A21-014-040C, A21-014-041C, A21-014-050C, A21-014-051C, A21-014-060C, A21-014-061C, A21-014-070C, A21-014-071C, A21-014-080C, A21-014-081C, A21-014-090C, A21-014-091C Condition 3 - Drawing to be replaced with submitted drawing which reflects house type amendments. Drawing No. 12529 / 01B to be replaced with A21-014-PL011 Condition 5 - Drawing numbers to be updated to submitted drawings to reflect changes to the site plan. Drawing No. 02/18/01 landscape plan, 02/18/02 planting detail, 02/18/03 planting detail to be replaced with A21-014-009A Land Off Nash Road Great Horwood Buckinghamshire	Objection	Approved 13/06/2022
23/03/2022	22/00809/APP Faye Hudson 20/04/2022	Mr Dawson	15b Little Horwood Road, Great Horwood MK17 0QE	Householder application for partial first floor extension over existing single storey element, alteration of mansard roof to flat roof and minor fenestration amendments	No objection	Approved 22/06/2022

01/06/2022	22/01937/AGN 15/06/2022	Mr D Grainge	Eastfield Farm, Little Horwood Road, Great Horwood MK17 0NZ	Creation of soil bund to form part of drainage scheme for agricultural building. Why necessary for agriculture: to form part of the drainage for the wider agricultural holding/site. Why designed for agriculture: the bund has been designed to form part of the drainage for the wider agricultural	No objection	Refused 30/06/2022
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05/02/2020	20/00409/APP Alice Culver 05/03/2020	Ms M McCarthy	Land off Little Horwood Road, Nash MK17 0EJ	Variation of condition 2 – change condition to permanent planning permission/consent relating to application 14/00107/APP (allowed on appeal)	Objection	Awaiting decision
01/09/2020	20/02755/APP Michael Davey 29/09/2020	Mr T Reilly c/o Agent Ruston Planning Ltd	Land at Nash Park, Nash Road, Great Horwood, Bucks	Change of use of land to 13 Gypsy/traveller pitches with associated works including 13 no. mobiles homes, 13 no. touring caravans, 13 no. day rooms and 13 no. cesspits	Objection	Awaiting decision
16/10/2020	20/03535/APP Rebecca Jarratt 13/11/2020	Mr G Grant	The Crown Public House, 1 The Green, Great Horwood MK17 0RH	Change of use and alterations of public house to form dwelling and annex accommodation	Objection	Awaiting decision
16/10/2020	20/03536/ALB Rebecca Jarratt 13/11/2020	Mr G Grant	The Crown Public House, 1 The Green, Great Horwood MK17 0RH	Change of use and alterations of public house to form dwelling and annex accommodation	Objection	Awaiting decision
21/01/2021	21/00221/APP Kirsty Elliott 18/02/2020	J Hanson & Son	Home Farm, 4 Winslow Road, Great Horwood MK17 0QN	Erection of 16 new residential dwellings and the refurbishment and extension of the existing farmhouse, with associated access landscape and parking	Objection	Awaiting decision
21/01/2021	21/00222/ALB Kirsty Elliott 18/02/2020	J Hanson & Son	Home Farm, 4 Winslow Road, Great Horwood MK17 0QN	Erection of 16 new residential dwellings and the refurbishment and extension of the existing farmhouse, with associated access landscape and parking	Objection	Awaiting decision
09/08/2021	21/03148/APP Megan Wright 06/09/2021	Mr & Mrs Walker	Fox Hollow Farm, Pilch Lane, Great Horwood MK17 0NX	Retention of log cabin as permanent agricultural workers dwelling	No objection with condition	Awaiting decision
23/09/2021	21/03776/APP 21/10/2021	Messrs Corcoran, Cawley and Nevin	Plots 2,4,6 & 7 Nash Park, Nash Road, Great Horwood MK17 0PD	Change of use of land to use as a residential gypsy and traveller site, including an increase in the number of caravans to a total of 15 of which no more than 8 shall be static caravans/mobile homes occupied for residential purposes, together with retention of existing ancillary building	Objection	Awaiting decision
10/11/2021	21/04272/APP Dayna Simmons 08/12/2021	Mrs & Mrs Charlton	1 The Close, Great Horwood MK17 0QG	Householder application for removal of garden shed. Erection of garden studio, garage and single storey side extension	No objection	Awaiting decision
24/11/2021	21/04547/APP Kerby MacInnis 22/12/2021	Mr & Mrs C Scott	Ashfield, 31 Nash Road, Great Horwood MK17 0RA	Erection of ancillary building (retrospective)	Objection	Awaiting decision
17/02/2022	22/00551/APP Liam Currie 17/03/2022	Mr T McIntosh	The Retreat, Bletchley Road, Great Horwood MK17 0PX	Change of use to storage B8. Extend existing open storage for caravan/campervans and self-storage containers	No objection	Awaiting decision
22/2/2022	22/00580/APP Faye Hudson 22/03/2022	Mr R Jones	9 Greenway, Great Horwood MK17 0QR	Householder application for part single, part two storey rear and single storey front extensions	No objection	Awaiting decision
11/04/2022	22/01115/APP Richard Castro- Parker 09/05/2022	Mr G Jones	Ivy Farm, 12 The Green, Great Horwood MK17 0RH	Householder application for removal of impervious materials (paint, cement, plaster) and replace with breathable materials, repair timber frame, replace 5 no. windows, repair kitchen floor and repair/install land drain	No objection	Awaiting decision
11/04/2022	22/01116/ALB Richard Castro- Parker	Mr G Jones	Ivy Farm, 12 The Green, Great Horwood	Listing building application for removal of impervious materials (paint, cement, plaster) and replace with breathable materials,	No objection	Awaiting decision

	09/05/2022		MK17 ORH	repair timber frame, replace 5 no. windows, repair kitchen floor and repair/install land drain		
19/04/2022	22/01196/APP Richard Castro-Parker 17/05/2022	Mr & Mrs A Barrett	Croft Farm, 33 Nash Road, Great Horwood MK17 ORA	Householder application for loft extension to convert attic over store to guest bedroom and replacement garden building	Loft extension – No objection Replacement garden building – Objection	Awaiting decision
13/05/2022	22/01563/APP Catherine Dickson 10/06/2022	Mr & Mrs J Lewis-Evans	Land adjacent to Cakeford, Little Horwood Road, Great Horwood, Bucks MK17 ONZ	Change of use of existing barns and land from current mixed B1 light industrial and B2 general industrial use to residential use, creating a 4 bedroom barn conversion dwelling, with separate double garage and stores.	Objection	Awaiting decision
20/05/2022	22/01650/APP Catherine Dickson 17/06/2022	Mr J Gunn	4 Little Horwood Rd, Great Horwood MK17 OQE	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of new dwelling with detached garage	Objection	Awaiting decision
07/06/2022	22/01776/APP Catherine Dickson 05/07/2022	Ms S Isseyegh	The Farmhouse, Fair Winter Farm, Singleborough Lane, Singleborough, Great Horwood MK17 ORB	Erection of a replacement dwelling together with associated development	No objection	Awaiting decision
29/06/2022	22/02114/APP 27/06/2022	Mr I Sutton	Great Horwood Service Station, High Street, Great Horwood MK17 OQL	Demolition of existing service station buildings and erection of 4 dwellings		
04/07/2022	22/01773/APP Faye Hudson 01/08/2022	Mr A Clark	Rookery Farm, Bletchley Road, Great Horwood MK17 ORB	Erection of agricultural building		
07/07/2022	22/02248/APP Anna Souter 04/08/2022	Mr & Mrs S Grant	25 Little Horwood Road, Great Horwood, Bucks MK17 OQE	Householder application for replacement single storey rear extension		

Key –

Colours

Orange = applications received in 2020

Light blue = applications received in 2021

Yellow = applications received in 2022

Names are those of the AVDC application case officer

Dates are when the application was received (column 1) and by when comments must be made (column 2).



Buckingham Town Council



Listen to our planning needs, demands Buckingham

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Listen to our planning needs, demands Buckingham

Posted on **11th July 2022** by **communications**

An accusation that Buckinghamshire Council is ignoring the wishes of towns and parishes regarding Section 106 agreements – the financial contributions which developers make to lessen the impact of new housing on a community – was made at Buckingham Town Council's recent Planning Committee meeting.



The charge came after members were told that the town would not be consulted on what mitigations it wants from the new 420-dwelling estate off Osier Way, adding 100 more residents to the 1000 or so in the adjacent St. Rumbold's Fields estate. The Unitary Authority agreed with the developer that it should make payments towards transport, education, open spaces and sports and leisure, but there is nothing towards onsite community facilities, or health provisions for which the Town Council has been pushing. Playgrounds alone do not make a community, especially one separated from the town by the bypass and industrial estate. Councillors are further disappointed that the developer has refused to discuss the Town Council taking on the management of the green spaces and play areas, preferring to pass this to a management company who will charge residents an annual fee.

The Town & Country Planning Act 1990 created s106 agreements 'between a developer and a local planning authority about measures that the developer must take to reduce their impact on the community.' They must take into account the resulting increase in population and the effect it will have on schools, GP services, hospitals and other local infrastructure. The education contribution is destined for Maids Moreton and Buckingham Primary Schools, and The Buckingham School – the first two being the furthest possible distance for young children to walk.

"Despite requesting that we would be involved from the start, the Town Council has been presented with the Osier Way S106 agreement as a fait accompli," says Planning Committee chairman Cllr Mark Cole JP. "When we questioned that, we were informed by a Buckinghamshire Council that 'it is not usual practice for any consultation to be made, although there were discussions with regard to public open space management and sports & leisure projects, which contributed to discussions with the developers.'

When Buckinghamshire became a unitary authority in March 2020, we supported it because it promised greater consultation in planning matters, but the opposite has happened. We are not alone in this – other towns are voicing similar complaints.

More and more planning decisions are being taken by a committee chairman and an officer, despite our repeated requests to speak at committees, and there appears to be a marked reluctance by the local planning authority, which is focused on meeting

housing targets, to insist that developers provide community hubs or contribute towards health facilities.

re will be nowhere for at least 2,000 residents of Osier Way and the adjacent St Rumbold's Way estate – which are on the south-western edge of the town – to meet under cover, and doctors' practices and schools are already fully-subscribed."

"Enough is enough," adds Cllr Cole. "We are calling on Buckinghamshire Council and its six local ward councillors – five of whom are on the North Bucks Area Planning Committee – to start listening. Buckingham knows what its local needs are, but currently we are being ignored.

The result will be dormitory estates with residents isolated from the town and each other, with not even somewhere to meet and chat over a cup of tea."

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