



# Great Horwood Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Great Horwood.

## Great Horwood Parish Council

Present: Cllr Mary Saunders (MS) Chairman, Vice Chairman Cllr John Gilbey (JWG), Cllr Jane Holland (JH), Cllr John Huskinson (JRH) Cllr Angela Mayne (AM), Mandy Cliffe (Clerk) and 6 members of the public including County Cllr John Chilver.

1.	<b><u>To receive apologies for absence</u></b> Cllr John Gunn has submitted his resignation from the Parish Council. Cllr Nigel Heywood and Sir Beville Stanier sent their apologies. Cllr MS advised that, due to the conflict of dates, Mr David Saunders (DS) was representing the Parish Council this evening at an AVDC meeting to discuss the draft VALP.
2.	<b><u>To receive declarations of interest</u></b> Cllr JRH restated his interests in Bucks County Council and Great Horwood Combined CE School..
3.	<b><u>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016</u></b> The Minutes were approved without amendment.
4.	<b><u>To consider matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting not otherwise included on the agenda</u></b> 10. Issues arising from the planning report - A letter was received from AVDC Cllr Tracy Aldworth in response to the GHPC resolutions passed at the October PC meeting. It was circulated to the PC and the North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium (NBPPC). Mr David Saunders (DS) has drafted comments on behalf of GHPC. The Clerk was asked to forward a copy of DS's response to Mr Geoff Culverhouse, Secretary NBPPC. <b>(Action Clerk)</b> 13. Unitary Authority Proposals – Cllr MS gave a reminder about the meeting scheduled for 1 <sup>st</sup> December in the St Laurence Rooms Winslow to hear Bucks County Council (BCC) set out their plans for modernising Local Government.
5.	<b><u>Public participation period</u></b> a. Mr Mick Wood has spent £8.00 on a set of tamper proof bits for the new ground screw nuts. He was asked to provide a receipt so the money could be reclaimed. b. Mrs Gill Wood raised the issue of the hedge at 4 Little Horwood Road which is overhanging the pavement. The Clerk was asked to obtain quotations for getting the hedge trimmed. <b>(Action Clerk)</b> c. Mr Duncan Trigg requested traffic calming measures for the village.
6.	<b><u>Horwode Pece Management Committee Report</u></b> The Management Committee Report is attached to these Minutes. A GHRST budget has been submitted for consideration by GHPC. It was reported that the Fireworks Night event on 5 <sup>th</sup> November had gone well. It was felt that costs had been covered and it might become an annual event.
7.	<b><u>Footpaths Report</u></b> a. Footpath Monitor Mr Robert Deuchar (RD) had nothing to report. b. On behalf of GHPC, Cllr MS thanked RD for collating a list of footpath landowners. This will provide a valuable record for the Parish. c. As a grant for £250 from the Winslow & District Local Area Forum has been agreed for a further gate or kissing gate for the footpath network, the Clerk was asked to contact RD and decide which stile most urgently needs replacing with a preference for improving the North Bucks Way. Cllr MS placed an article in Focus to encourage residents to sponsor a gate. <b>(Action Clerk)</b>
8.	<b><u>Roads Report</u></b> BCC have not notified any major roadworks for the local area and no applicable roadworks have been reported on roadworks.org. Cllr MS raised the issue of the flashing school warning sign that still has not been repaired. BCC has been contacted by the Clerk 3 times, by Mr Jeremy West and by Cllr JRH. A letter of complaint would be sent by the Clerk. <b>(Action Clerk)</b>
9.	<b><u>Planning Report</u></b> Councillors were provided with a Planning Report which was ratified at the meeting with one amendment. Cllr MS noted that application 16/03015/APP (Land South of Ridgehill Farm) had been approved on 9 <sup>th</sup> November. Additionally, GHPC Planning Committee has been asked to comment on 16/A2335/DIS. The Planning Committee has no objection to this amendment.
10.	<b><u>Issues arising from the Planning Report</u></b> Cllr MS advised that AVDC has lodged documents on the planning portal requiring an extension of time before making a decision on applications 14/02414/AOP (Land at Willow Road) and 16/00877/APP (Land off Nash Road). DS has lodged a freedom of information request in order to find out what has happened to the Willow Road application. It was resolved that, if approved, GHPC would ask for 14/02414/AOP to be called in by the Secretary of State as it did not comply with the made Neighbourhood Plan.
11.	<b><u>Parish Plan</u></b> It was decided to wait until more information was available on the draft VALP as circumstances have changed. The 5 year housing supply requirement has been reduced by over 6000 to 26,800. Nearly 14,000 of these are made up of houses built since 2013, outstanding commitments & remaining sites allocated in AVDLP & Neighbourhood Plans.

12.	<p><b><u>To consider S106 payment projects for</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land South of Little Horwood Rd (£105,000)</li> <li>9a Little Horwood Road (£19,248)</li> </ol> <p>It was resolved to ask AVDC (Joe Houston) whether he would be available to speak to the next PC meeting to explain why the money could not be used to refurbish the Village Hall. <b>(Action Clerk)</b> Ideally, GHPC would like the money to be available for the Village Hall and to provide play equipment for the 16/01664/AOP (Land North of Little Horwood Road) application.</p>
13.	<p><b><u>To receive reports from</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NBPPC meeting of 19 October</li> <li>AVALC AGM of 5 November</li> <li>BMKALC meeting of 11 November</li> </ol> <p>Reports from these meetings are attached to these Minutes.</p>
14.	<p><b><u>Devolution of Services update</u></b></p> <p>The 2017/2018 quote for Devolved grass cutting services has been received from Walker Grounds Care. The cost has risen with weed killing charged separately but this has been accounted for in next year's draft budget. Cllr JWG advised that BCC has paused work on further devolution until their plans for modernising Local Government are further advanced.</p>
15.	<p><b><u>To consider what contingency plans could be made to ensure the survival of Focus magazine</u></b></p> <p>Mr Ian Lamberton, representing the Parochial Church Council, said that one or two people had expressed an interest in keeping Focus running. A job share was being considered as a possibility. Cllr MS underlined the importance of the magazine and it was resolved to prepare a local news flier if there was a gap in publication.</p>
16.	<p><b><u>To consider the future of the outreach Post Office</u></b></p> <p>The outreach Postmistress (Paula) retired in October. The Wednesday coffee morning would continue with the hope that the post would be filled as soon as possible. Representations have been made to the Post Office by Mrs Liz Nicholls, Drayton Parslow PC, Whaddon PC and Nash PC and Little Horwood PC have contacted local MP John Bercow for his support in resolving the matter.</p>
17.	<p><b><u>Request for Winter Planting</u></b></p> <p>Robert Heady has undertaken winter planting around the parish.</p>
18.	<p><b><u>To set a date for the 2017 Horwood Feast</u></b></p> <p>The dates for the Horwood Feast have been set at Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August (arrival) and Monday and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> August for operating the fair and clearing up.</p>
19.	<p><b><u>School Crossing Patrol</u></b></p> <p>To receive an update on progress. – The Council noted that there has been no progress in recruiting a school crossing patrol officer. Beer mat fliers and posters have been placed in the Crown Public House. Cllr JRH reported that there is a county wide lack of candidates for school crossing patrol vacancies and virtually no relief officers to cover illness and holidays.</p>
20.	<p><b><u>Cricket Club Lease Renewal</u></b></p> <p>To consider the Cricket Club's response to the draft lease. – The Council noted that there had been no feedback from the Cricket Club who are consulting a solicitor. The lease is due to expire in September 2017.</p>
21.	<p><b><u>Donations to worthy causes</u></b></p> <p>To consider the final applications. -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council considered applications from the following organisations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Scouts to make improvements and renovations to their Scout Hut.</li> <li>the Football Club to improve security for the Club House (following the theft of their sit on mower).</li> <li>Great Horwood Combined CE School to provide benches and tables for their nature area.</li> </ol> </li> <li>It was resolved to award £500 to each of these projects.</li> </ol>
22.	<p><b><u>Bench for the Green</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the purchase of a new Blain memorial bench for The Green. – Cllr MS is exploring other sources of funding for the Blane bench. Cllr JWG was asked to research the supplier of the bus stop bench and Silver Band bench at Horwood Pece. <b>(Action Cllrs MS &amp; JWG)</b></li> <li>The Council was grateful to Mr John Gunn for offering to repair the wood and concrete bench and agreed to reimburse him for the cost of necessary materials in due course.</li> </ol>
23.	<p><b><u>Budget</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The revised draft of the 2017/18 budget prepared by Cllr JRH and the Clerk was considered. It was resolved to increase the Horwood Feast rent to £300. Allotment rents were discussed but it was resolved not to increase them. Further discussion is required.</li> </ol>
24.	<p><b><u>To receive and note correspondence</u></b></p> <p>No Correspondence has been received that has not been circulated.</p>
25.	<p><b><u>Finance</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To approve the purchase of an SD card to use for data storage for the Sentinel Speed Watch equipment. – this was approved, although Cllr JRH may have a spare we can use.</li> <li>The following items were agreed for payment <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eon - £81.07 - DD</li> <li>Clerk's Salary November - £281.84 SO</li> <li>SLCC subscription - £88.00 - FP</li> <li>Focus Donation - £500 – Chq</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	v. St James Church Mowing - £500 - FP vi. Mazars audit fees - £150 – FP vii. MVAS Ground Screw - £284.40 – FP viii. Heady Plants - £185 – FP ix. Clerk's broadband costs (50%) - £92.90 – Chq x. Walker Grounds Care - £560 - FP c. The following funds were received i. Business Instant Access acct interest £0.92p ii. Bucks CC devolution payment £966.72 iii. Allotment rents £15.00
26	<b><u>Items for the next meeting</u></b> Devolution of Services, Parish Plan 2016, Review of Council documents, Budget
27	Confirmation of date and time of next meeting Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Horwode Pece Management Committee - Report to Parish Council October 2016**

Over the last month some minor on-going maintenance has been undertaken, as well as the weekly checks as to the state of the equipment. These weekly checks have shown no major new problems. They note the low level of the woodchip, plus the need to repair the surround. Both items are known to the committee and are on planned work. The minor maintenance work was the fitting of a plastic protective guard on the chain to the zip wire seat. When fitting this, it was noted that the seat was loose, so this has been tightened.

Other than this, there is very little to report. The only outstanding actions are still the topping up of the woodchip and the replacement of a section of the log surround (as reported last month). The plan was to complete this repair at the same time that the woodchip was topped up. This was planned for September, but due to difficulties contacting David Spooner, has not happened. Until we have confirmation from David Spooner that he is available to lay the woodchip, then we cannot order the 80cu metres required. It is not feasible for members of the maintenance committee to lay the woodchip without professional help. The last time we tried to do it ourselves, it took 12 volunteers, including the scouts, two weekends to complete including some work in the evenings between these weekend work parties. Thus, we wait on Dave Spooner to confirm his availability, before I can place this order.

John Nicholls  
Chairman  
7/10/2016

## **Report on the NBPPC meeting of 19 October.**

The meeting was attended by 18 Councillors from 14 parishes in the Vale.

### **Weston Road**

Cllr. Mary Saunders explained that Great Horwood PC had passed a resolution noting its concern about the amount of public money that had been expended in fighting and ultimately winning the Weston Road public inquiry. Cllr. Llew Monger advised that in the light of the Weston Road result that AVDC were proposing to declare their revised policy relating to the weight to be given to Neighbourhood Plans and there was some discussion of what action NBPPC could take. I suggested that it could write to AVDC backing the resolution submitted by GHPC. This was approved by a substantial majority of those present and so was agreed subject to the full wording of the resolution and annexe being circulated to all NBPPC members for their confirmation of support. The letter from NBPPC in support of the Great Horwood resolution was finally sent to the following personnel at AVDC on 4th November: Neil Blake, Carole Paternoster, Andrew Grant and Tracey Aldworth

### **VALP**

There was full agreement on the submission to the consultation on the VALP that had been submitted by NBPPC and it was reported that there had been over 3,500 responses to the consultation.

Other issues discussed were

Major Development Issues

Such as:

South West Milton Keynes Development

Winslow New Settlement

Verney Junction Garden Village

There were also reports from various parishes about events in their areas including:

Winslow

Padbury

Thornborough

Buckingham

And finally some discussion on the current situation with the development plan for Milton Keynes.

A copy of the minutes of the meeting is available on request.

Cllr. John Gilbey

11 November 2016

## **Report on AVALC AGM held on Saturday 5th November in Watermead Village Hall**

The formal part of the meeting took place first and the second part of the meeting was a brief talk by David Lidington MP for Aylesbury and Leader of the House followed by questions from the floor. The meeting was attended by approximately 15 representatives of parishes in the Vale and invited guests.

Cllr Jenny Hunt (Stoke Mandeville) had been chairman for 8 years and had advised that she wished to stand down from this role and so the other members of the executive committee had clubbed together to provide her with a thank you card and some theatre vouchers in recognition of her tremendous effort over the years.

Elections then took place for the officers and committee and the following were appointed.

Cllr. John Riches (Middle Claydon) Chairman

Cllr. Jemmy Hunt (Stoke Mandeville) Vice Chairman

Cllr. John Gilbey (Great Horwood) Treasurer

And other members of the executive committee were appointed from

Buckingham/Maids Moreton, Winslow, Pitstone, Quainton, Aston Clinton, Padbury

and Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell.

There was one outstanding vacancy on the committee.

Appointments were also made for AVALC representatives on the MKBALC executive and the ADVDC New Homes Bonus panel.

David Lidington MP then gave a brief talk on

“The Role of Parish and Town Councils in Local Governance Arrangements –Opportunity or Threat ? “

He gave a clear talk in which he was supportive of the first level of local councils and stressed the need for additional housing. He expressed the view that a single unitary authority for the whole of Buckinghamshire would be the best solution but claimed no power over the various district and county councils despite the fact that they all belonged to the same political party. There were several questions from the floor about the

Government's possible intentions to cap the precepts of first tier authorities and he advised all parishes to send their representations into their local MP although the official consultation period had ended.

Full minutes of the meeting will be available in due course.

Cllr. John Gilbey  
11 November 2016

### **Report on the MKBALC AGM held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016.**

The meeting was held in the Judges' Lodgings in Aylesbury and was attended by Cllr. Mary Saunders and myself.

The meeting re-elected Paul Harvey as Chair and representatives from the district organisations were appointed to the Executive Committee. The AVALC representatives are Cllr. Jenny Saunders, Cllr John Riches, Cllr Nick Heirons and Cllr John Gilbey.

In discussions on the budget to be set for the next financial year it was noted that grants that had previously been received from Buckinghamshire County Council and Milton Keynes Council had been reduced over recent years. In the case of Bucks CC it had gone from £17500 in the year ended 31 March 2015 to zero in the current year and in the case of MK it had gone from £18000 in 2015 to £5000 in the current year – although the cheque had not yet been received.

About a third of the subscription income received by MKBALC from the parishes and towns goes directly to NALC and for the next financial year NALC is increasing its subscription by 1.9%. After discussion it was approved that as the subscriptions to MKBALC had not been increased for a number of years it would increase the subscription rate for parishes by 1p per elector in addition to the 1.9% being imposed by NALC. This means that the new subscription rate will be 18.1254 pence per elector compared with the present 17.0 pence resulting in increase of 6.62%

Following the formal part of the meeting we enjoyed a very informative and amusing talk from Judge Francis Sheridan – Aylesbury Crown Court.

Cllr. John Gilbey  
14 November 2016

## Planning Committee Report - for meeting on 14th November 2016

Below are current and recent Planning Applications. 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
<b>Determined</b>						
16/06/2016	16/02148/APP	Mr Bruce Steele-Tyson - Optime Surveyors	Land At Cricketers Field Little Horwood Road Nash Bucks	Replacement rest room and store.	No Objection	Refused
30/08/2016	16/03146/APP	Mr Stuart Parker	15c Little Horwood Road, Bucks, MK17 0QE	Change of use from Annexe to create a separate unit of accommodation including alteration to roofline, insertion of dormer and velux windows, replacement of garage doors with window and front door and addition of front porch (amendment to planning approval 12/00356/APP)	No Objection	Approved
16/09/2016	16/03015/APP	Mr F Morris	Land south of Ridgehill Farm, Little Horwood, Nash, Bucks.	Formation of new access (into Ridgehill Farm) and associated works	No Objection	Approved
<b>Pending</b>						
29/08/2014	14/02414/AOP	Talbot Homes	Land at Willow Road	Outline application with access to be considered and all other matters reserved for the erection of up to 34 dwellings including associated infrastructure and work.	Objection	Awaiting Decision
17/03/2016	16/00877/APP	Mr Paul Fello	Land off Nash Road	Residential development of 14 dwellings with associated garaging and parking and formation of new access	No Objection (subject to qualifications in letter)	Awaiting decision
14/06/2016	16/01664/AOP	Brendan O'Neill rCOH Ltd	Land North off Little Horwood Road Great Horwood Bucks	Outline Application with all matters reserved for a residential development of 15 dwellings on 0.5ha of land north of Little Horwood Road along with the allocation of 0.4ha of land as a public park to serve both the new development and the existing local community.	No Objection (subject to qualifications in letter)	Awaiting decision
05/10/2016	16/03527/APP Simon Dunn-Lwin 04/11/2016	Mr & Mrs T Wootton	9A Little Horwood Road Great Horwood Buckinghamshire MK17 0QE	Demolition of 9a Little Horwood Road and construction of five detached dwellings.	Objection	Awaiting decision
06/10/2016	16/03538/AOP Sue Pilcher 04/11/2016	Agent Mr James Yeoman of Savills	Land South of Little Horwood Road	Outline planning permission with access to be considered and all matters reserved for a residential development of up to 30 dwellings with associated amenity green space and sustainable drainage.	No Objection, (qualified by letter)	Awaiting decision
13/10/2016 NEW	16/03620/APP Sonja Crawford 10/11/2016	Mr & Mrs M Bennett -Coles	Abbey Cottage Singleborough Lane Singleborough GH MK17 0RF	Increase in height of two chimney stacks	No Objection	Awaiting decision
13/10/2016 NEW	16/03621/ALB Sonja Crawford 10/11/2016	As above	As above	As above	No Objection	Awaiting decision
28/10/2016 NEW	16/A2335/DIS Diana Locking 25/11/2016	Mr N Hanson	The Old Bakehouse, 11 The Green, Great Horwood, MK17 0RH	Submission of details pursuant to Condition 2 (full details of new window) relating to Listed Building Consent 16/02335/ALB	Passed to Planning Committee for comment	No Objection

