



**Great Horwood
Parish Council**

Great Horwood Parish Council

Minutes of an ordinary meeting held on 14th June 2010 at
7.30pm in the Village Hall, Great Horwood.

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

1. To receive apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Cllr Berrill due to holidays and Cllr Lamberton.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th May 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
 - Cllr Brocklehurst has now been informed of the next meeting of Aylesbury Vale North Sports Council and is planning to attend on July 8th.
 - Bucks Playing Field Association have not responded to either emails or phone messages so the Clerk will continue to establish contact to determine when their meetings are held.
 - The Contractor who is supposed to be erecting the fences has been contacted and some bags of concrete have been left at the site. However no further work has been carried out.
 - Cllr Gilbey has also paid a different contractor to remove some concrete blocks left in one of the plots.
 - There is no update on whether the tyres which were reported to AVDC have been removed. This will be investigated and AVDC will be chased if the tyres are still in the ditch.
 - The Adult Social Care event held on 2nd June seems to have been successful but Cllr Gilbey has not received any formal feedback.
5. Public Participation Period
Mrs Jeannie Marshall provided details of a £2,500 grant the Village Hall Committee were seeking from WREN in order to assist replacing the flooring in the toilets, replacing the stage curtains and runway and repairing the shed roof to improve storage facilities. In order for the WREN to consider the grant application it was explained that a third party funder was needed for 10% of the grant request and the Parish Council was asked to be that third party funder.

It was proposed that although the Parish Council couldn't agree in this meeting to provide the funding, that they would support the application for the Village Hall and that a resolution would be passed to this effect which would then assist the Village Hall Committee in their application.

Mr Mick Wood raised the issue of whether large piles of stones that had been dug out of the various plots on the Willow Road allotments could be removed. Cllr. Gilbey said that there was budget available for additional work on the allotments and he would see what could be arranged. Mrs Gill Wood also stated that the holes that had been dug for the unfinished fencing were now presenting a tripping hazard and Cllr Gilbey promised to contact Cllr Berrill, who in turn would contact the original contractor in order to get the fencing work finally finished.
6. To receive and consider reports from Committees of Council
 - 6.1. Cllr Moulding updated the Council on the report from the Planning Committee with current open applications. Only one new application has been received since the last meeting. Consequently Cllr Moulding proposed that the comments made to AVDC were ratified. Cllr Brocklehurst seconded this and it was approved unanimously.

Cllr Moulding also updated the Council with Planning activity since the last meeting. The application at 22 Greenway has been approved, there has been no new development on the Nash Road Gypsy Encampment application and a reply has not yet been received from John Bercow. An objection has been lodged against the Salden Chase application.

- 6.2. Cllr Brocklehurst updated the Council on the recent developments at Horwode Pece.
- All but one item of equipment has been completed under the phase 2 development.
 - The completion certificate and the balance of funds are being pursued.
 - A new grant application for maintenance equipment is being made.
 - There is nothing to report from the regular weekly inspections.
 - EON have put their live cable through the underground pipe and built their substation in the Old Mill. There may be earthing problems due to the proximity of the metal fence but this is a dispute between EON and AVDC as AVDC requested a two metre high chain link fence was erected.
 - Picnic on the Pece was held on 6th June which was a success. Fortunately the weather held and all those who attended enjoyed themselves.
 - The Brownies have planted sunflowers in front of the remaining EON pole.

7. Resolution to co-opt Mr Russell Margerrison to the Council

Cllr Gilbey proposed the following resolution:

The Council hereby co-opts Mr Russell Margerrison to be a member of the Council for the remainder of its term.

Cllr Gilbey explained the remainder of the term was to May 2011.

Cllr Samways seconded the resolution and it was passed unanimously. The Clerk will now arrange for the necessary paperwork to be completed so that Mr Margerrison can attend the next meeting.

8. Resolution to re-appoint Mr Jeremy West to the Planning Committee

Cllr Gilbey proposed the following resolution:

The Council hereby re-confirms Mr Jeremy West's re-appointment to the Planning Committee as a non-voting member.

Cllr Samways seconded the resolution and it was passed unanimously.

9. Approval of Annual Accounts

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had sent out a copy of the Annual Accounts and the Annual Return requesting that any queries were raised before this meeting. No queries were raised so a formal resolution was made to approve the accounts. This was proposed by Cllr Gilbey, seconded by Cllr Moulding and carried unanimously.

A second formal resolution was made to approve the Annual Return. This was proposed by Cllr Moulding, seconded by Cllr Brocklehurst and carried unanimously.

A card was also signed for Mr Jim Pullen who has audited the accounts both this year and previous years thanking him for his assistance.

10. Update on Strategies affecting Housing Development Plans in AVDC

A letter has been sent by Eric Pickles to leaders of Planning Authorities in the UK which gave details about the abolition of regional strategies. This will make a significant difference as to what happens in our locality as the plans that are currently being used for planning decisions will be disregarded and each application will be decided on a case by case basis.

11. To agree any delegated budget applications for submission to BCC

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had sent out information on the four possible applications which could be made for a part of the delegated budget. These were:

- A replacement bus shelter
- New salt bins
- Vehicle Activated Signs
- Village Gates

Cllr Gilbey explained that in the past Great Horwood have been very successful in receiving money from the delegated budget and that the pathway on the Nash Road and the soon to be installed dropped kerbs have been funded from this source.

After some discussion it was decided that Vehicle Activated Signs were likely to be too costly and that the Village Gates are not feasible due to the anticipated location of the gates. Therefore it was agreed that two applications would be submitted. The first would be for two salt bins, one in Spring Lane and the other in Weston Road and the second would be for a replacement bus shelter and the Parish Council would take the cost of dismantling the existing shelter. The Clerk will now make these applications.

12. New Model Standing Orders

Cllr Gilbey has obtained a copy of the new model standing orders as published by BALC. These were passed on to Cllr Moulding who wrote the original standing orders and was able to check for any changes. The Parish Council do not need to change the standing orders unless there have been changes to any legal requirement.

Cllr Gilbey highlighted two changes. The first was the rule on three clear days for the notice of a meeting. Previously the three clear days have included Sundays and Bank Holidays but going forward these are to be excluded.

The second was that all Councillors should observe the Code of Conduct and that training shall be carried out within six months.

It was also established that there is likely to be a new mandatory code of conduct during 2010 so it was agreed that the current Standing Orders would be updated when this was published and they would be looked at in the Autumn.

13. Report on the Buckingham South NAG meeting held on 26th May 2010

Cllr Gilbey attended this meeting and highlighted two areas of note.

The first was that there have been more speeding enforcements within the area and the police continue to be fairly active in monitoring speeds.

The second was that a new scheme has been introduced called Community Payback. This can be given to offenders as part of a community sentence. If there is anything that could be done within the village using this scheme, the local Probation Officer is the point of contact.

14. Report on the AVDC Local Councils Planning Liaison Group held on 20th May

Cllrs Moulding and Gilbey attended this meeting and Cllr Moulding has provided a detailed report which is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

15. Parish Plan: Report of Steering Committee

Cllr Moulding reported on the Parish Plan. The steering committee has embarked on a full-scale revision of the Plan as the original version was published some years ago. New members of the steering committee have been recruited and at a recent meeting the Committee began the tasks of scoping out the revision.

The steering committee is conscious that the promised work on a Village Design Statement has not happened. It is unlikely to be a good idea to run this alongside the Parish Plan revision and therefore it is more likely it will follow the Parish Plan.

16. Receipts

- AV Joint Sports Council Grant £1,500.00
- John the Barber £14.00

17. Items paid since previous meeting

- Great Horwood Football Club £275.00
- AON Insurance £1,283.61
- AON Insurance £650.02

18. To agree items for payment

- John Gilbey (Willow Road Allotments) £40.00
- EON Energy Services £108.39
- Winslow & District Community Bus £250.00

- Great Horwood Silver Band £250.00

19. To receive and note correspondence

- A letter has been received from AVDC detailing an increase in charges for servicing the dog bins.
- A letter has been received from AVDC regarding further Winter Maintenance feedback. It was requested this was circulated to the Parish Council.
- A letter has been received from AVALC detailing the next Information Meeting is to take place in Pitstone on Tuesday 20th July. This will also be circulated to the Parish Council.
- Bucks County Council have advised a public consultation will be carried out over the summer on a new 15 year transport plan. An article has been provided for inclusion in Focus.
- Bucks County Council are currently reviewing the management and financial structures of Buckinghamshire's Country Parks and Green Spaces. Great Horwood does not have a County Council Park within the Parish so the letter is for information only.
- A letter from a resident regarding a pile of manure in Church Lane allotments. This has been passed to Cllr Samways to deal with.
- A letter from Great Horwood Football Club thanking the Parish Council for the generous donation towards the cost of refurbishing the toilet facilities at the Club.
- A letter for a Standards Committee Training Session inviting Councillors to attend a joint training and information session that will cover the code of conduct, the power of well-being and an update on the High Speed Rail proposals. Cllr Gilbey has taken the letter.
- The next Local Area Forum will be held in Mursley on Wednesday 16th June.

20. Items for the next meeting/Any other business

It was agreed to propose a resolution for the support of the Village Hall grant application. Cllr Moulding proposed the following.

The Parish Council wishes to offer support to the Village Hall Management Committee in its funding bid and is prepared to act as a third party funder to a maximum amount of £300.00.

This was seconded by Cllr Brocklehurst and approved unanimously.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 12th July 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed _____

Draft

Date _____

1. Cllr Gilbey and I represented Great Horwood.
2. John Byrne, Head of Planning Services, chaired the meeting and was accompanied by Andy Barton, Forward Plans Manager and Jim Cannell, Development Control Manager. About 12 parish and town councils were represented.
3. John Byrne introduced the new Local Distinctiveness leaflet. This is a brief guide to vernacular architecture designed to help evaluate planning applications, not as a prescriptive document.
4. John Byrne outlined the new charges being introduced for pre-application advice relating to new independent dwellings, together with the related formal arrangements.
5. Andy Barton outlined to current state of play on the Local Development Framework Core Strategy. As at 20 May 2010 the Council had of course not received the Secretary of State's letter announcing the abandonment of Regional Spatial Strategies, so this item was mere speculation and may remain so until the Inspector's report is received. Whether the report will then be binding, as originally announced, remains to be seen.
6. Andy Barton announced that work would begin shortly on the Development Policies Development Plan Document (DP DPD). This policy document will be part of the LDF. Among other matters, it will deal with non-strategic housing allocations and appears in the first place to assume that the designation of Great Horwood as a 4th Tier settlement is fixed in spite of our representations to the contrary at the LDF Core Strategy hearing. It includes a variety of planned Parish and stakeholder discussions and consultations later this year in which we should vigorously participate, including confidential meetings with the Parish Council. There will also be public consultation. Adoption is not planned before Autumn 2012.
7. Jim Cannell spoke on the Community Infrastructure Levy and on new rules for Section 106 Planning Agreements. It is clear that we need to acquire more knowledge of this field, although the likelihood of a local application of a relevant size prior to adoption of the DP DPD may be seen as small. The key question is "Could planning permission be refused if an S106 did not exist?", meaning that it would be unwise to rely on the need for a S106 agreement. Jim Cannell noted that pooled contributions will not be possible after 2014; this would render financing of East West Rail, for example, by means of a Milton Keynes-style "roof tax" problematic. We should still take care to create a S106 "shopping list", which might be best expressed through the revised Parish Plan.
8. In response to our request, John Byrne dealt briefly with gypsy sites and incursions such as that at Nash Road. It seems clear that, even if planning officers had been on call throughout the Easter weekend there might not have been much they could have done since they have limited powers. The same issue exists elsewhere in Bucks and a County-wide scheme for monitoring a prevention was suggested. Again, at this date the Secretary of State's letter had not been received. Watch this space.
9. Jim Cannell briefly outlined how applicants can make legal challenges to the decisions of Planning Inspectors, as has been done at Shipton by Gladman (the developers behind Winslow Green).

Rod Moulding
Chairman, Planning Committee
14 June 2010