



**Great Horwood
Parish Council**

Great Horwood Parish Council

Minutes of an ordinary meeting held on 8th March 2010 at
7.30pm in the Village Hall, Great Horwood.

Present: Cllr Rod Moulding (Vice-chairman), Cllr Michael Brocklehurst, Cllr Ian Lamberton, Cllr Moya Berrill, Karen Francis (Clerk)
8 members of the public

1. To receive apologies for absence
Apologies received from Cllr Gilbey due to holidays.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th February 2010
These were approved with a slight modification to the heading on item 9. This now reads "To consider whether to endorse the Whaddon Chase Community Green Infrastructure Plan".
3. To receive declarations of interest
None received.
4. To consider matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting
 - No further news has been received regarding the cars at the top of Spring Lane.
 - No further news has been received on the Cricket Club application for an extension to the lease.
 - The Clerk contacted Bucks County Council regarding the flooding on the Singleborough Road. No response has been received and the Clerk will contact them again.
 - There is no report this month from the Parish Plan Steering Committee but Bucks Community Action will be holding an awards evening for villages which have produced a parish plan. Liz Nicholls will be attending this evening where Great Horwood is in line to receive a tree and a commemorative plaque in recognition for the work done on the Parish Plan.
 - The Bucks Community Action reorganisation has been approved.
 - The project on the maintenance of the War Memorial is continuing although there was nothing to report in this meeting.
 - The Clerk contacted John the Barber regarding the number of days he spends at The Green. This has now been confirmed as Thursdays only and a request for any changes to this arrangement will need to be made to the Parish Council.
 - The green waste bin on the High Street has now been moved to the alleyway at the bottom of Spring Lane.
5. Public Participation Period
Mr David Saunders explained the constitution for the Great Horwood and Singleborough Youth Group is due to be adopted at a meeting on Wednesday.

Mrs Sue Vincent raised the issue of the extra day John the Barber is on The Green. The current situation was explained and confirmation that going forward he would only be there for one day per week.

Mr Duncan Trigg asked about the progress on the tree on The Green. It was explained that as per the minutes of the January Parish Council meeting, the tree would be planted in September. Mr Trigg highlighted a number of possible problems such as the arrival of the Fair or the spread of the roots. Cllr Moulding explained that these issues had been discussed and would be managed once the tree had been planted.

Mrs Jeannie Marshall asked whether the Parish Council could do anything relating to the roaming dogs within Spring Lane. Cllr Brocklehurst explained that the police need witness statements rather than hearsay evidence which is all the Parish Council would be able to provide. Therefore the Parish Council are unable to do anything but would urge residents to speak to the police if these dogs are causing problems.

6. Funding Suggestions for the Village Hall

Jeannie Marshall and Monica Jones spoke to the Parish Council about the future of the Village Hall. Due to the departure of the Pre School the Village Hall is now available for more diverse uses. On Thursday 11th March there is an open day at the Village Hall to explain to residents the future plans and it is hoped that people can provide feedback and encouragement.

The Village Hall Committee members are hoping to introduce more activities to the village by encouraging new groups to use the Village Hall. This would have a double benefit of providing more clubs and organisations in the village while raising money via the letting of the hall. The current hope is to have two or three new groups and in the Village Hall there are already posters with ideas for these groups.

Other suggestions raised by the Council and the public included a website, better lighting, commercial ventures and possible advertising on Mix 96. Jeannie and Monica said they would take these ideas away for consideration.

Currently the Committee are also in the process of negotiating grants to replace the stage curtains, toilet floors and the shed roof.

Additionally the Parish Council thanked Jeannie and her helpers for painting the inside of the Village Hall which now looks much fresher.

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. Few of these raised any major issues and therefore Cllr Moulding proposed that the comments made to AVDC were ratified. Cllr Brocklehurst seconded this and it was approved unanimously.

There are some small points on the applications being considered at present. The application at Springfield Farm on the Nash Road is of concern as it appears the plans are out of date so there will be further investigation. Concern was also raised relating to the number of buildings and static caravans on small agricultural holdings especially along Pilch Lane and Mr Jeremy West is to look into this further.

- 7.2. Cllr Brocklehurst updated the Council on the recent developments at Horwode Pece.
- Entrance bars have been installed to stop children riding bikes or running straight out into the road.
 - A combination lock has been put on the gate and all members of the Recreation Committee have the code.
 - Planning permission for a 6 metre high climbing net has been granted. Three tenders have been received and Playground Facilities have been selected as the supplier. A letter is to be sent to Playground Facilities accepting the quote (other than for a few items in dispute) and it is hoped work will start on the site by the end of the month.

Cllr Brocklehurst went on to explain the deposit which is to be paid to Playground Facilities is made up of three amounts. A grant already held by the Parish Council is part of it, the Trust holds another small part and the final amount of just over £1300 is to come from Community Spaces. However, this is unlikely to be paid until the start of the following week and it was asked whether the Parish Council would fund this amount until the grant was received in order to minimise the delay on starting the next stage of the project.

Cllr Brocklehurst proposed that the Clerk issues a letter of invitation to Playground Facilities along with a single cheque. This was seconded by Cllr Berrill and carried unanimously.

Finally Cllr Brocklehurst stated the Committee were hoping to have a 'Grand Day' in early summer, similar to the Opening Day last year.

8. To consider endorsement of the Whaddon Chase Community Green Infrastructure Plan

In prior meetings the Parish Council felt that this plan couldn't be endorsed as there were a number of aspirations which weren't inline with what this Council wanted. Consequently four Councillors met with representatives from Bucks County Council to discuss the plan. Since then, the plan has been amended, improved and toned down and therefore Cllr Moulding suggested it is now time to endorse the plan and proposed the following motion.

"This Council recognises the need to provide a framework for Green Infrastructure provision in the local area to meet the needs of existing and new residents and to help create sustainable communities. The production of this community-level GI Plan for Whaddon Chase complements and gives added detail to the Buckinghamshire GIC-produced Buckinghamshire GI Strategy (April 2009). This GI Plan will be used by the Council in considering development proposals and assisting with the provision of green infrastructure assets."

The motion was seconded by Cllr Brocklehurst and carried unanimously. The Clerk will inform the organisers that the Parish Council have now endorsed the Plan.

9. To consider a response to the Milton Keynes Core Strategy Pre Submission Publication
Cllr Moulding explained there is very little to comment on within this publication but the Planning Committee had agreed a suitable response would be made before the deadline.
10. To consider a request from Great Horwood Football Club for additional funding of £550
A document had been sent out with the agenda explaining the situation. However, in brief, Great Horwood Football Club have applied for funds from AVDC towards the refurbishment of their toilets. The grant has been received with a special condition of funding which states:

'That the Parish Council are approached for a contribution of £550 to enable the project to go ahead and evidence of this is provided to the Grants Officer.'

Cllr Brocklehurst stated it would be have been a courtesy for the Football Club to approach the Parish Council in order to get support.

Cllr Berrill stated she didn't think that the Parish Council would be able to fund the full amount and that it should be discussed at the next meeting. It was suggested that there were three possible options.

- To discuss at the next meeting for the full amount
- To discuss at the next meeting for a lower amount
- To decline the application.

Cllr Moulding proposed that at the next meeting funding up to an amount of £275 was considered. Cllr Brocklehurst seconded this and it was carried unanimously.

11. To consider a response on the Area 12 Speed Limit Review
Prior to the meeting Councillors had been issued with a letter supporting the changes within the Area 12 speed limit review but which also detailed additional points which had not been covered. Cllr Moulding proposed endorsement of the letter, Cllr Brocklehurst seconded it and it was carried unanimously. The Clerk will now send the letter.
12. Report on the meeting (25th Feb) of the Winslow and District LAF Planning Workshop
Cllr Moulding attended this meeting which includes representatives of all the Parishes in the Winslow and District Area. Five sets of topics had been given to each representative which where as follows:
 - Sustainable environment
 - Health and Well Being
 - Safer Communities
 - Cohesive Communities
 - Thriving Economies

Under each heading there were a number of topics which had to be ranked in a priority order which Cllr Moulding did based on the Parish Plan. The final phase then required the top five topics to be picked. The results of this exercise will now be collated and will be published by BCC in due course.
13. Report on the meeting (3rd Mar) of the Winslow and District LAF meeting
No Councillors attended this meeting.
14. Report on the AVALC General Meeting (16th Feb) and to discuss plans for the General Meeting to be held at Great Horwood (20th Apr)
Items covered at the Executive Meeting which Cllr Moulding attended included funding and AVALC relationships with BCC and AVDC. The topic for the General Meeting was Aylesbury Vale town centre.

The next meeting is to be held in Great Horwood on 20th April. Unfortunately AVALC have been unable to secure a speaker on Rights of Way so now possible topics for discussion include looking at voluntary transport, cycle networks, neighbourhood watch schemes, affordable rural housing and leisure & culture. The Chairman of AVALC will make the decision shortly and the Council will be informed.

15. Report on the meeting (17th Feb) of the Buckingham South NAG
No Councillors attended this meeting.
16. Finalisation of the Litter Pick arrangements
This item couldn't be discussed due to the absence of Cllr Samways. The Clerk will contact Cllr Samways and ask him to circulate details by email.
17. Progress at Willow Road allotments
Four plots at Willow Road allotments have now been marked out and three of these have been allocated to three residents. It has been suggested that as one of the plots is smaller and in the shade of a large tree that this area is grassed. The Parish Council have been offered (and accepted) a seat free of charge which would provide a resting place for weary gardeners.

Fence poles have been put in around the site although there is some concern about the siting of these posts. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr Gilbey in order to determine the remit for the fence and then will contact the contractor (Tom Saunders) if necessary.
18. Receipts
 - Allotment Rent £2.00
19. Items paid since previous meeting
 - Tom Saunders – Installation of entrance bars at Horwode Pece and a deposit towards the fencing at the Willow Road allotments £710.50
20. To agree items for payment
 - Cllr Gilbey expenses (purchase of twine and stakes for Willow Road allotments) £21.94
 - Playground Facilities (see item 7.2 above) £14,981.25
21. To receive and note correspondence
 - An email from Dean White regarding the Lord of the Manor donations. It was agreed amongst the Council that there would be no application from the Parish Council.
 - An email regarding feedback on the Winter Maintenance within Buckinghamshire. This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.
 - A letter from AVDC Community Cohesion Strategy. Cllr Moulding agreed to pick this up and the Clerk will remind him at the next meeting.
 - A letter received from Bucks County Council regarding the "We're Working On It" campaign. This is early warning of a prioritisation list required for a "plane and patch" programme. Councillors have been asked to be prepared at the next meeting to compile a list of roads in the area which need repairing.
 - A letter from a village resident thanking the Parish Council for the installation of the dog waste bin at the bottom of Church Lane.
 - A letter relating to Buckinghamshire's Energy from Waste project. Bucks County Council have had to re-open competitive discussions with both suppliers (Covanta and WRG) due to a new issue which was raised during the final due diligence stage.
 - An invitation to a presentation about the speed limit review process to be held on Tuesday 13th April from 6pm. No councillor accepted the invitation.
22. Items for the next meeting
No additional items were raised.

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 12th April 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.06pm

Signed _____ **Draft** _____ Date _____