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| d | **Great Horwood Parish Council** |
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| **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 15 April 2019** **at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Great Horwood** |

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| **Present:** | Cllr John Gilbey (JWG) Acting Chair | Cllr John Chilver (JC) (BCC) |
|  | Cllr Caroline Cousin (CC) | Cllr Beville Stanier (BS) (AVDC) |
|  | Cllr Nigel Heywood (NH) | Mandy Cliffe (MC) Clerk |
|  | Cllr David Taylor (DT) | James McCafferty (JM) Clerk |
|  | Cllr Angela Mayne (AM) | 50+ Members of the public |

1. **Apologies for absence**

Richard Veitch (Croudace Homes), PCSO Andy Piotrowski, Malcolm and Judy Harvey.

1. **Approval of the Minutes of the 2018 APM held on 30th April 2018**

The Minutes were approved.

1. **Acting Chairman’s Report – Cllr John Gilbey**

Cllr John Gilbey provided the following report:

1. He introduced himself and the other Parish Councillors and explained why he is Acting Chairman. He congratulated Cllr Angela Mayne on her 8 years of service to the Parish Council, noted Cllr Nigel Heywood's appointment in September 2016, Cllr Caroline Cousin's and Cllr Jackie Goss' in November 2018 and Cllr David Taylor in April 2019.
2. He thanked those Councillors who had served during the last four years. Mary Saunders who resigned before the October 2018 meeting, John Huskinson and Gavin Laird who resigned during summer 2018 and Jane Holland who resigned in February 2019.
3. He introduced and thanked Mandy Cliffe and welcomed James McCafferty as the new Parish Clerk. He explained that there are no Parish Council elections this year due to the establishment of the new Unitary Authority for Buckinghamshire in 2020.
4. He introduced the guest speakers.
5. He reported on the activities of the Parish Council in the past year:
* 42 Planning Applications received and responded to.
* The PC had signed up for another year of the Devolution Contract with Buckinghamshire CC - the PC's contractor cuts the verges within the 30/40mph zones up to 14 times a year. The verges in the de-restricted area are the responsibility of the County Council and the PC is not permitted to cut them.
1. He reported that the PC had provided the following financial support during 2018/19:
* Broadband in the Village Hall
* £250 to St James PCC for grass cutting in the burial grounds
* £500 to Focus - £250 extra for the last 4 years to provide coloured centre pages
* Contribution to Horwode Pece over the last 2 years of over £12,000.
* Grants for Worthy Causes - Winslow and District Community Bus, Great Horwood C of E Primary School, the Cubs/Scouts in the village, St James PCC
* £35,220 grant from AVDC New Homes Bonus for a new roof on the Village Hall and a new fully accessible new front entrance
1. He reported on two forthcoming funding initiatives:
* The PC is currently seeking funding from the AVDC Microgrant Fund for new tables and chairs for the Village Hall and for the upgrading of the play area on Horwood Pece.
* Over £100,000 (approx. £104,000) will be received from Section 106 payments from the Croudace Homes development and this will be split between the internal refurbishment of the Village Hall and for the provision of a mini play park on the site to the North of Little Horwood Road.
1. He also thanked:
* Mick and Gill Wood for the management of the MVAS traffic monitor and for the extra MVAS site installed in the 40mph zone in Nash Road.
* Robert Deuchar for all his efforts on the footpaths and the bridleway in the parish.
* David Mayne for his work on designing and specifying the new fully accessible entrance to the village hall.
* And to the WI for the evening's refreshments.
1. He noted that The Litter Pick had not gone as well as hoped, although the scouts and cubs had made a significant contribution.
2. He reported on the success of **The Battle's Over** commemorations, noting a great effort from many villagers, brilliantly organised by Mandy Cliffe. As a result, donations totalling £340 were made to the four forces' associations and to the Royal British Legion. He made special mention of all the members of the scouts/cubs//brownies and rainbows who turned out for the Sunday parades, and also thanked the Great Horwood Silver band and James McCafferty for providing music on the Saturday afternoon in the Village Hall.
3. He noted that the PC had finally completed the signing of a 30 year lease with the Cricket Club. This had been a long and expensive process involving large legal fees for registering the land in the ownership of the Great Horwood Recreation Ground charity for which the Parish Council is the sole trustee. It had also involved getting a professional valuation for the sale or lease value of the property as required by Charity Commission rules and then having the lease drawn up and amended on a number of occasions by solicitors. He noted that the Cricket Club was now in a position to independently seek grants to enable it to renovate and improve the clubhouse and other facilities.
4. Revised policies were agreed for the PC's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, and the PC had responded effectively to General Data Protection Regulations, and had implemented a Privacy Policy.
5. The referendum on the Great Horwood Neighbourhood Plan had taken place on Thursday 5 March 2015. Great Horwood has an electorate of 815 persons entitled to vote in local elections. In the referendum 491 ballot papers were counted, representing 60.2% of the electorate. Of these, 447 were votes for YES, and 44 were votes for NO. There were no spoilt or invalid ballot papers. Thus 91.0% of the votes cast were YES votes in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan.
6. The Great Horwood Neighbourhood Plan was then made by AVDC, and it became part of the development plan for the district against which planning applications are assessed. The PC is now seeing the first signs of the plan coming to fruition with the site known as Land South of Little Horwood Road being developed by Croudace Homes, and Outline Planning Consent having been granted for the site known as Land North of Little Horwood Road.
7. He noted that, four years having passed and the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) nearing completion, it was necessary for the PC to review our Neighbourhood Plan.
8. He reported from the WADLAF meeting of 28th March that the liaison team was working closely with AVDC Planning Enforcement in relation to the Nash travellers' site. The site is currently in breach of a High Court injunction in respect of the number of caravans on the site (currently in excess of 23 caravans) and the dumping of rubbish and hard core on the field to the east of the site. A case has been prepared with the intention to reduce the site to one static home and two tourers per plot and to require the field at the rear of the site to be returned to its natural state.
9. He concluded by reading an email received from PC Ian Carter from the Winslow Police Office in relation to crime concerns raised by the Cricket Club and other local residents, which noted that between 1st - 31st March the police had received the following reports from Great Horwood: a non-dwelling burglary in which metal was taken from a garden; a theft from a motor vehicle in Weston Road (three people have been arrested and are under investigation); and vehicle interference in Spring Lane, though nothing had been taken. PC Carter noted that only one theft was reported from the Football Club, though he was aware of others.

1. **Presentation by PCSO Andy Piotrowski**

PCSO Andy Piotrowski was unable to attend the meeting.

1. **Presentation by Tracey Solero (*The Swan Inn*)**

Tracey explained that she and Paolo have been in the hospitality trade since 1997 and have taken a five-year lease on *The Swan*. They are hoping to have the new kitchen installed by the end of April.

1. **Presentation by Richard Veitch, Site Manager Croudace Homes**

Richard Veitch was unwell and could not attend the meeting, but offered to host an Open Afternoon at the Site Office in Little Horwood Road on Thursday 25 April from 2.00 - 4.00 pm, to answer residents' questions and let them view the site plans. JM would advertise this on the Great Horwood Facebook page.

1. **Presentation by Robert Webb, Agent for Development Land North of Little Horwood Road**

Mr Webb explained that he was working with John Grainge to develop the land opposite the Croudace Homes site. There would be 15 homes, including 5 "affordable" homes to be managed by a Housing Association, and a public park/recreation/open space area about 1 acre in size. The PC would take on the management of this open space, and the detailed plans would be agreed between the developer and the PC. It was expected that a developer would be appointed by the summer. £50k of play equipment would be provided by the PC, which would also manage a £23,500 budget for future maintenance. The ownership of the open space would be transferred to the PC after one year. Site layout plans should be ready within about six months. Two questions were raised by residents: the age range for which the play equipment would be intended, and whether electric vehicle charging points would be included for every house (the latter question also applied to the Croudace Homes development).

1. **Presentation by David Grainge (Eastfield Farm)**

David Grainge explained that his parents' farm (Redfield Farm) is a council-owned tenanted farm with no succession rights, so his plan is to establish a beef suckler herd of about 86 head of cattle on about 60 acres on Eastfield Farm on land north of Little Horwood Road. He explained that he would need temporary residential accommodation on the site for about three years while the business established itself. He also explained that Horwood Cherries on Eastfield Farm has about 2,500 trees in season June/July and intends to sell cherries on The Green with an honesty box.

1. **Project Reports from Recipients of Parish Council Grants**
2. Great Horwood School had received a grant for £650 and bought outdoor learning equipment.
3. The Scouts/Guides received a £500 grant and had bought camping equipment to be used for the County Jamboree. They had participated in the village Litter Pick.
4. St James' Church had received a £400 grant and had bought two new attractions for the Church Fete - a Wheel of Fortune and a Balls in the Bucket game.
5. **David Saunders on the Neighbourhood Plan Review**
6. David Saunders outlined the argument for a Review of the 2015 Neighbourhood Plan (NP). He explained that the 2015 Neighbourhood Plan had earmarked three sites in the village for development. Two of those are, or will shortly be, under development. He explained that the third site - on Nash Road - may require a further risk assessment in view of the delay in the processing of the planning application. He also mentioned that other aspects of the Plan, such as the number of affordable houses being provided on these sites will need to be assessed.
7. He noted that, four years on, the NP needed to be fully compatible with the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP).
8. He asked for names to be put forward to assemble a NP Review Committee.
9. He noted that if the Review recommended changes to the Plan there would need to be another examination, but that if the changes were minor then there would be no need for a further referendum.

Before the Open Forum item, the following further contributions were also invited:

1. Cllr Sir Beville Stanier (AVDC) spoke on the preparations for the Buckinghamshire unitary authority, HS2, the East/West Expressway and mentioned his particular role within AVDC as Environment and the Waste & Licensing brief.
2. Cllr John Chilver (BCC) spoke about the “FixMyStreet” website and the Rights of Way online reporting platform. He mentioned that Pilch Lane was to be resurfaced and BCC would be carrying out targeted weedkill spraying. He expected that a final decision on the East/West Rail link would be reached in September 2019. He mentioned his monthly surgery in Winslow Library from 10.00 - 12.00 on the first Saturday of every month. A resident asked whether BCC expected a spike in fly tipping as a result of charges being introduced at waste recycling sites.
3. Helen Grimditch, Editor, spoke about the monthly *Focus* magazine and said that advertising income and the PC's grant of £500 enabled the magazine to be delivered free ten times a year. She also asked for more articles.
4. **Open Forum**
5. A resident enquired about the future plans for the empty properties in Little Horwood Road.
6. Another resident asked why the existing pavement leading to Horwode Pece had not been cleared/maintained by the developer of the Spring Lane site. It was noted that a new pavement was being installed from the new development to link up with the existing pavement.

The meeting closed at 20.55

Signed: ....................................................................................... Date:

**John W. Gilbey, Chairman, Great Horwood Parish Council**