



**Great Horwood
Parish Council**

Great Horwood Parish Council

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

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

1. To receive apologies for absence
Apologies received from Cllr Berrill due to illness.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th January 2010
These were approved with a slight modification to the heading on item 8. This now reads "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
 - PCSO Lucy Andrews has left more warning letters on cars at the top of Spring Lane. It was noted that this still isn't resolving the problem but at least the issue is being given some attention.
 - An update on the Cricket Club application for an extension to the lease was given. Although the surveyor has completed the survey, no report has been received by the Club. This means the opportunity for funding by March has now been missed but there are more funding opportunities for the following financial year so the timescale is not a concern.
 - Cllr Gilbey has spoken with Monica Jones about the footpaths item on the agenda from the previous meeting to explain that the Parish Council were offering help should it be needed. A response has also been sent to Mike Walker explaining that the footpaths are already well monitored around the village. Cllr Moulding clarified that Robert Deuchar takes responsibility for the North Bucks Way.
 - It has been established that the Great Horwood Feast cannot be held before 6th August or after the 13th August. This year it will be held on 9th and 10th August with the fair arriving on the 8th August.
5. Public Participation Period
Mr Mick Wood raised the issue of the speed limit review. No speed limit has been given for Pilch Lane or Singleborough Road which he is concerned about. Cllr Gilbey noted that this is now a public consultation so residents are entitled to make responses to Bucks County Council and his article in the Focus magazine will emphasise this.

Mr Mick Wood also raised an issue where water is flooding a small part of the Singleborough Road and is becoming extremely dangerous when it freezes. The clerk agreed to contact Bucks County Council to ask whether this issue can be investigated.
6. Parish Youth Council
Elizabeth Garside gave a report on the Parish Youth Council and the setting up of the Youth Club. It is expected that these two organisations will be linked and so the setting up of the Youth Club is being concentrated on at present. There has been interest both within and outside of the village. A small number of young people are now involved in setting up the Club, a list of activities has been drawn up and fundraising ideas are being put together. An open evening is to be held on Tuesday 16th March in the Village Hall at 7pm to discuss this further and it is hoped that adults will also come along to understand what is being planned and to volunteer their help.

Cllr Moulding explained that the Youth Club priority had been raised on the Parish Plan and if Elizabeth wanted to provide any further information, he would take it to the next Parish Plan Steering Committee meeting

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 raise any major issues but it was noted that 2 Spring Lane have now made a new application but this could not be commented on as the paperwork had not yet been circulated.

Further to external discussions by Cllr Moulding it has now been agreed that when an application is either supported or opposed (as opposed to no objection) a letter will also be included with the application with additional information. This is due to the fact that at an appeals process no further information can be considered so all reasons need to be provided with the initial response to the application.

7.2. Cllr Brocklehurst updated the Council on the recent inspection report from Horwode Pece.

- A supplier for the new equipment has not yet been decided upon and a decision from AVDC on the planning application for a 6 metre climbing frame is expected later this week.
- An inspection by RoSPA (or equivalent) will need to be carried out once the new equipment has been installed and the Recreation Committee are hoping this can be carried out at the same time as the annual inspection in order to save funds.
- The weekly checks appear to have little to report and after the recent wet weather it seems the ground is draining well.
- Splits in the wood surround have been found and it is believed this has been caused by grass cutting equipment. The contractors have been contacted and asked to take extra care.
- Tom Saunders hopes to install the entrance bars later this week. It has also been reported to Tom Saunders that the join between the path and the road is crumbling slightly and needs attention.
- A working party was held last weekend and now gates have been erected at the back of the hard standing to deter vehicles from being driven on to the field.

8. Report on the hearing of the AVDC LDF Core Strategy Examination

Cllr Moulding was invited to participate during two days of this examination where he reinforced the points made about Great Horwood being classified as a Fourth Tier settlement. A few additional points were also made and Cllr Moulding felt that this was time well spent. The report on the examination is not likely to be available until later in the year.

9. To consider whether to enforce the Whaddon Chase Green Infrastructure Plan

A full response was submitted based on the draft plan although the final version of the plan has now been received. It had been commented that there were a number of aspirations that were not wanted by the Parish but none of these have been changed or quantified in the final version. Parish Councils covered by this plan have been asked to endorse it and it has been indicated that if the process isn't endorsed by all of the Parish Councils then the plan is deemed to fail. If the Parish Council makes a definitive decision on the plan then this cannot be changed for six months due to legal reasons. Therefore it has been suggested that the decision is withheld while a meeting takes place with Bucks County Council to try and resolve the differences and come to a mutually satisfaction outcome. It is hoped that Cllrs Gilbey, Moulding, Berrill and Brocklehurst and the Clerk will be able to attend this meeting and Cllr Moulding will arrange it.

10. To consider a response on the Salden Chase Strategic Development Area SPD

This relates to the LDF Core Strategy. It was discussed at the Planning Committee and Cllr Gilbey has agreed to draft a response, circulate via email for approval and then send it off before the deadline of 3rd March.

11. To consider a response on the Area 12 Speed Limit Review

Bucks County Council have now published their speed limit review for public consultation. The Parish Council responded last June and the majority of the requests made have been included. However, from the detailed map it has become apparent that the bottom end of Spring Lane is now to be classed as unrestricted which is a concern given the location of Horwode Pece and the 30 limit needs to be extended to the end of Spring Lane.

Cllr Gilbey reiterated the fact that this is now a public consultation and residents are encouraged to respond to Bucks County Council. The Parish Council will also make a response and this will be drafted by Cllr Gilbey.

12. To consider a response on the Conservation Areas SPD
This relates to general management of conservation areas. Cllr Moulding has agreed to draft a response and circulate for approval via email in order to meet the response deadline of 3rd March.
13. Aylesbury Vale Green Infrastructure Strategy
A response was composed by Cllr Moulding based on the comments made at the previous meeting and was submitted by the deadline
14. Parish Plan Steering Committee (PPSC) report and revised Parish Plan action points
The PPSC was set up to research, compile and produce the Parish Plan which was published in April 2006. A meeting was held recently to decide what to do with the Parish Plan as a number of external bodies are using the action points from the plan for their own planning purposes. Therefore the PPSC met up to update the action points and add new ones where necessary.

The PPSC agreed to do two things. The first was revise the action points on an interim basis and the second was to rework the whole Parish Plan. A proposed set of updated action points has been circulated by Cllr Moulding and the PPSC asked the Parish Council to endorse these changes. Cllr Brocklehurst confirmed that the Parish Council were only being asked to endorse the interim changes. This being the case, endorsement by the Parish Council was proposed by Cllr Moulding, seconded by Cllr Brocklehurst and carried unanimously.

These updated action points will now be used for the Winslow and District Local Area Forum Planning Workshop on 25th February.

It was also noted that the PPSC needs more village residents on the Committee.

15. Winslow and District LAF Planning Workshop
Cllr Moulding explained that the action points on the Parish Plan need to be converted to a spreadsheet to be used at the Winslow LAF Planning Workshop. Cllr Moulding has met with Jackie Wesley to establish exactly what needs to be done. Cllr Gilbey offered assistance and it was agreed that Cllrs Gilbey and Moulding would put together the spreadsheet ready for the meeting on 25th February.

The purpose of the LAF Planning Workshop is to prioritise the various plans across the Parishes in order to decide where funding should be allocated.

16. Report on the meeting of the North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium (NBPPC)
Approximately 8 Parishes attended along with Chris Williams, Chief Executive of Bucks CC. Topics discussed included the South East Plan, the AVDC Core Strategy Examination and Salden Chase SPD.

The East/West rail link was not discussed but two further possible High Speed Rail Links (called High Speed 2) for a London to Midlands link with a Heathrow Spur or an additional route to Scotland were discussed. Both of these would run alongside existing lines and both routes would come through Buckinghamshire. Having the new lines running alongside existing lines are being supported by Bucks CC, AVDC and other District Councils.

17. Report on the meeting of the AVDC Local Councils Planning Liaison Group
Cllr Moulding attended this meeting. New Government planning guidance and consultations occupied some of the time. An update on the LDF Core Strategy Examination was provided. Local workshops on allocations resulting from the LDF are planned but these would only affect Great Horwood if the parish remains a Fourth Tier settlement.

18. Report on the meeting of the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG)
Cllr Gilbey attended the Buckingham South NAG which is the first time Great Horwood have officially attended this meeting. The NAG has set up four priority profiles which are being concentrated on as these are the main causes of disquiet within the district and these are:
 - Speeding
 - Antisocial behaviour
 - Countryside crime
 - Dog watch

A new poster has been provided informing dog owners about the legal aspects of clearing up after their dog. Cllr Gilbey suggested he may put some of these up around the village.

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month. Cllr Gilbey explained he is unable to attend meetings at this time and hoped that other Councillors may be able to attend in his place.

19. Buckingham Community Action (BCA) Reorganisation
BCA are proposing to rename their charity to Community Impact – Bucks and this will merge with three other organisations (The Priory Centre, Vale Volunteers and Voluntary Action Chiltern and South Bucks). A general meeting to vote on this proposal was held on 4th February which Great Horwood did not attend. However a postal vote was registered objecting to this proposal as it was believed there would be no membership structure. The result of this proposal is still awaited.
20. Annual Litter Pick
Sunday 28th March has been proposed as the annual litter pick date. Cllr Samways agreed to book the Village Hall and put an article in Focus.
21. Village War Memorial
The question of ownership has still not been answered. Cllr Moulding has lodged an enquiry with the War Memorials Trust and is now waiting for a reply.
22. Determination of a topic for AVALC Meeting at Great Horwood on 20th April
On 20th April Great Horwood will be hosting the AVALC meeting in the Village Hall. The meetings generally have a guest speaker who comes in and provides information about a specific topic. Suggestions made from Councillors included the following:
 - Footpaths and Rights of Way
 - Parish Youth Councils
 - Village Halls

Any further suggestions should be emailed to Cllr Moulding.

23. Theatre in the Villages
Cllr Moulding stated that he no longer wanted to pursue this topic.
24. Progress at Willow Road Allotments
Cllr Gilbey reported that there had been some difficulty in contacting Tom Saunders but a message had been left saying the fence would be started this week.

The Clerk will be contacting those residents who have expressed an interest in renting an allotment to determine the level of interest before plots are allocated.

25. Section 106 Wish List
AVDC have suggested it is wise for Parish Councils to think about S106 contributions so if a developer was to come along and offer some money, a wish list would already be in place. Suggestions made by the Council included:
 - A new bus shelter
 - Improvement of parking at the top of Spring Lane
 - Salt Bins
 - A new Parish Council noticeboard
 - Equipment for Horwode Pece

The Clerk agreed to maintain a list of these suggestions in case an opportunity arose.

26. Dog Bins
The Contractors have been out to assess the viability of the latest possible siting of the Dog Bin along the High Street but after investigations it has been established it is not possible to site it anywhere along the pavement due to underground cables. After discussion among the Council it was agreed to now try and site it past the allotments in Church Lane. The Clerk will meet with the Contractors to establish a suitable site.

The green waste bin on the High Street was also discussed and it was agreed that this should be resited now the new ones are in place. A suggested place was at the bottom of the alleyway into Spring Lane. The Clerk will contact AVDC to see if this is possible.

27. Annual Parish Meeting Date
The Annual Parish Meeting has to be held between 1st March and 1st June each year. Cllr Gilbey suggested the meeting was held on Tuesday 27th April as the Village Hall would be available. This was agreed.

Topics for discussion will include:

- Reinforcing the Parish Plan process
- Donations from D Jack Smith
- Publicising the Youth Club

Organisations from around the village will be invited to attend but a presentation will not be required.

28. Receipts

- Allotment Rent £7.00
- John the Barber £10.00

During this item it was noted that John Heath (John the Barber) is now working extra hours on The Green on a Friday. The Parish Council has not been contacted regarding this and although there is no formal agreement with Mr Heath, the expectation is one day per week. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Mr Heath and explain the position.

29. Items paid since previous meeting

- Tuckwells – Grass Cutting at Horwode Pece £690.00

30. To agree items for payment

- St James PCC Grass Cutting Expenses £250.00
- Clerks expenses £119.92 (Broadband Expenses £46.94, Stationery £9.05, Planning Reference File £24.08, Voice Recorder £39.85)
- Aylesbury Vale North Sports Council £12.00

31. To receive and note correspondence

- A letter confirming that Pilch Lane will be closed for the fun run in March.
- A letter confirming receipt of the Delegated Budget bid and stating a decision will hopefully be made at the Spring LAF.
- A letter from Buckingham Playing Fields Association asking for a subscription. Cllr Brocklehurst has taken this for the Recreation Committee while the Clerk will check whether this has been paid by the Parish Council in the past.
- A letter has been received from the Chair and Treasurer of the Village Hall asking to put the Village Hall as an item on the agenda at the next Parish Council meeting. The Clerk will write to the Chair and Treasurer asking them to attend the meeting and make a contribution.
- An email from Bucks CC confirmed that new salt bins are £450 to purchase although once purchased the County Council are responsible for keeping them filled.
- Information on Sustainable Community Strategy for Aylesbury Vale and Buckinghamshire was passed to Cllr Brocklehurst.
- An email was received regarding a Community Funding Fair on Monday 15th March. This has been forwarded to other organisations within the village.

32. Items for the next meeting

The Village Hall
The Litter Pick

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 8th March 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.31pm

Signed _____

Draft

Date _____