



**Great Horwood  
Parish Council**

# **GREAT HORWOOD PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting  
held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2007  
at 7.30pm at Great Horwood C E Combined  
School

Present: Cllr J Gilbey, Cllr R Moulding, Cllr M Brocklehurst,  
Cllr I Lamberton, Mrs. S Brazier (Clerk) and one member of the public

- 1 Apologies for absence – Cllr J Samways and Cllr M Berrill.
- 2 Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed.
- 3 Declaration of interest – none
- 4 Matters arising from the minutes –
  - 4.1. Land at Greenway Farm – see item 9
  - 4.2. Parish Plan – see item 7
  - 4.3. Street Lighting – see item 15
  - 4.4. Designated Parking in Nash Road – see item 12
  - 4.5 The Clerk had written to Mr. Rose, Bugle House, since the overgrown bush near his wall had been causing visibility problems for pedestrians crossing Nash Road and for vehicles turning right into Little Horwood Road from The Green. No reply received to date. The Clerk will chase for a reply.

Other issues –

LTSB overdraft facility – Cllr Gilbey had called the Business Call Centre number provided by the Clerk. They could not trace Cllr Gilbey as being a signatory to the Parish's accounts. They did however advise that charges levied to facilitate the overdraft would be £100.00. It was decided not to pursue this course of action at the present time as it was expected that the Council would not now need an overdraft facility in the immediate future. The Clerk will however make sure that Lloyds TSB, Winslow has sent off the relevant paperwork to be processed for the change of signatories. The Clerk reported that the balance of the current account is £7341.10 and the deposit account is £2273.72. The Clerk informed the Council that she had contacted AVDC for advice re: advertising the vacancy for a Parish Councillor. It was decided to start this process by displaying the appropriate paperwork on the Council's notice board. An AVDC letter passed to Cllr Moulding at the previous meeting titled Conservation Management plans should be included in the previous minutes. Cllr Moulding had contacted AVDC to offer his services; however, AVDC stated that they had received enough offers for help this time.

Cllr Gilbey wished to publicise the new Parish Council website. He had circulated the website address to Parish Councillors and Parish Plan Steering Committee members in the first instance. Mr. David Saunders had offered some new ideas and Cllr Gilbey had amended the site accordingly.

Cllr Brocklehurst asked whether the draft minutes were posted on the notice board. This had never previously been the case, but it was agreed to start displaying them, if space was available.

- 5 Public Participation Period – The member of the public present did not wish to speak.
- 6 Report from Recreation Sub-Committee – A written report had been received from the Sub-Committee. The transfer of ownership of the land was currently in the hands of solicitors. The sub-committee manned a stall at the Fete which proved very busy with lots of interested residents. The Consultation event on 14<sup>th</sup> July proved successful. Comments and suggestions were received from a balanced representation of the village. Work still needs to be done on making the mill safe. A range of different avenues for funding are being pursued. A planning application to change the use of the land to recreational is soon to be made, however Cllr Brocklehurst asked whether the application could be made in the name of the Parish Council as costs would be cheaper. Cllr Moulding proposed this course of action which was seconded by Cllr Gilbey and unanimously agreed. Cllr Gilbey was concerned about any ongoing maintenance costs of the new rec and Cllr Brocklehurst agreed that this would need planning for, in order that the Trust did not become dependent on the Parish Council. Cllr Moulding had noticed that the Trust Deed was made in the name of Great Horwood and Singleborough Parish Council. Cllr Brocklehurst will check and look into any necessary amendments.
- 7 Report from Parish Plan Steering Committee – Cllr Moulding had circulated the latest Parish Plan report, together with the updated list of action points. A re-launch of the Parish Plan is provisionally planned for April 2008, the second anniversary of its initial launch.
- 8 Bucks CC - Aylesbury Vale Local Committee Report – Cllrs Gilbey and Moulding attended the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> July. The Aylesbury Vale Local Committee meets quarterly. Representatives of local Parish Councils are invited and the meeting is also open to members of the public. Attendees were presented with information on the new Code of Conduct and advised that advice in customising the Code was available if required. Other topics discussed at the meeting are covered under items 10 and 11 below. The Local Delivery Plan gives details of planned projects in the Aylesbury Vale area and included the Nash Road Parking scheme. Date of the next meeting is 4<sup>th</sup> October. Cllr Gilbey remarked that attendance at the meeting allowed contact with Councillors from other Parishes, receive up to date information and ensure that Great Horwood is represented.
- 9 AVDC Local Development Framework: Core Strategy: Preferred Options: Consultation Response – Cllr Gilbey referred to Cllr Moulding's front page article in Focus on this subject. The document does not refer to any major housing development on the Little Horwood Airfield site. It does, however include Great Horwood amongst the settlements defined as 'Third Tier Settlements'. However the Third Tier Settlements are defined as "larger more sustainable villages" with a population of at least 2000 or more, or where this is not the case, because of the range of key services that they provide and because of their public transport links. After discussion it was decided that the Council should respond to the consultation by welcoming the absence of any proposed

development on the Little Horwood Airfield site but questioning the inclusion of the Parish in the list of Third Tier Developments. The Council encourages all villagers to attend one of the road show events and make their own individual responses to the consultation.

- 10 Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework: Buckinghamshire Waste Development Document: Preferred Options: Consultation Response – Cllr Gilbey explained that this document included defining a site enclosed by the A413, Furze Lane and the disused railway line as a safeguarded site for a Waste Transfer Facility and Household Waste Recycling Centre. It was understood that the whole site totals 9 acres but only 1 acre would be used for the Centre. It was felt that this would probably lead to a greater traffic flow, including refuse trucks. Cllr Brocklehurst commented that even though the land has been reserved, planning permission might not be granted. The consultation form gave limited options, and so careful consideration would be needed for completion. It was agreed that the Council would respond expressing concerns about increased traffic flows of large lorries through the village. The response deadline is 3<sup>rd</sup> August.
- 11 Buckinghamshire Green Infrastructure Plan: Feedback – Cllr Gilbey informed the Council that this document was about planning for a network of green spaces, managed spaces, natural spaces, green corridors and links, and restored gravel pits. Cllr. Moulding had asked if the responsible persons were aware of the partnership agreement between surrounding Councils for College Wood and had been surprised that they had not. He had subsequently been in touch with Philip Bowsher of Bucks CC. The deadline for consultation response is 3<sup>rd</sup> August.
- 12 Nash Road Parking – Cllrs Gilbey and Moulding had met with David Hedley re the Nash Road parking scheme. The new area will be considerably bigger than the existing one and David Hedley will provide 20 copies of the plan for distribution to adjacent households. The timetable for works to start appeared to about four month's time.
- 13 Little Horwood Road and Willow Road: Pavements – David Hedley had also informed Cllrs. Gilbey and Moulding that the pavements on the south side of Little Horwood Road and Willow Road payments would be resurfaced in late summer. This work was apparently a response to the numbers of complaints received from local residents. It was agreed that when Cllr. Brocklehurst completed his pavement survey report this could be used to discuss any further urgent requirements in the village with Bucks CC.
- 14 Maintenance of The Green and remuneration of Mr. W Whitehall – Cllr Gilbey proposed that Mr. Whitehall be given an immediate pay rise to £100.00 for tending The Green and this was agreed. The Clerk was requested to seek information from Mr. Whitehall re his duties, so more consideration can be given to his fees during the Annual Budget Preparation next January. Concerning the tree on The Green, the Clerk read out an email from Mrs. Taylor who had very kindly spoken to two friends/customers about the state of the tree. The tree surgeon commented that the tree was not in the best of health. It showed signs of scarring and pitting and had a very small leaf diameter for its age. This was possibly due to bad pruning in the past. After discussion the Clerk was requested to obtain a quote for professional pruning of the tree to ensure its future good health. Cllr Lamberton had asked whether there was a possibility of getting 2 of the bollards on The Green removed as they did not appear to serve any useful purpose and were mainly used as football goal posts. The Clerk was instructed to contact AVDC to get an estimate. The Clerk had also spoken to Mr. Thomas Moore re: reseeding the patches on The Green after the Fun Fair has left the village in August. The quote

amounted to 60.00 depending on any Fun Fair damage.

- 15 Street Lighting – Cllrs Gilbey, Moulding and Berrill met with Paul Jones from ABB re: the proposed new street light on Nash Road. As there is currently a street light in the middle of the existing parking area, it was decided that this light would be re-sited just outside the end of the extended parking area. The planned additional street light would therefore no longer be necessary. The quote to move the existing one was less than the cost of the planned new light. Cllr Gilbey will inform Mr. and Mrs. Mayger of the decision made. Paul Jones informed Councillors that lanterns for the additional street lights planned were currently out of stock and so the project would recommence once new stock had been obtained.
- 16 Adoption of Code of Conduct – The draft document had previously been circulated to all Councillors. Cllr Gilbey introduced the agenda item commenting that Cllr Moulding had done an excellent job in customising the Code of Conduct. After discussion it was decided to formally adopt the revised Code of Conduct, using the draft presented and amended to include the addition of the adoption date. Cllr Moulding formally proposed a motion to adopt the Code and this was seconded by Cllr Brocklehurst. The motion was carried unanimously.
- 17 Adoption of Financial Regulations – The draft document had previously been circulated to all Councillors. Cllr Brocklehurst questioned whether the Clerk currently signed cheques. The Clerk does not do this, although the Regulations would require the Clerk to sign all cheques together with two other Councillors. Currently the signatories do not initial the cheque counterfoil but this would also be necessary if the Regulations are adopted. When obtaining any quotes, three should be obtained if any works are required costing between £100.00 and £1000.00. After discussion it was decided to formally adopt the revised Financial Regulations, using the draft presented previously and amended to include the adoption date. Cllr Moulding formally proposed a motion to adopt the Regulations and this was seconded by Cllr Brocklehurst. The motion was carried unanimously.
- 18 Adoption of Standing Orders – Cllr Moulding advised that this document governed how the Council should be run but there was more scope for customisation than with the Code of Conduct and the Financial Regulations. The Council is required to adopt those items in bold type, but it would be helpful to have the views of the absent Councillors. Cllr. Brocklehurst will circulate to all Councillors his thoughts on issues in the draft Standing Orders for further consideration with an agenda item to adopt the final version at the next Council meeting in September. It was agreed that the adopted versions of the Code of Conduct and the Financial Regulations will be published on the Council Website...
- 19 Accounts –
  - For Payment – Clerk's remuneration (Standing Order) – 165.00
  - Hacker Young (Audit Fees) – 158.63
  - Allianz Cornhill (additional premium) – 226.68
  - AVDC (election fees) – 95.00
  - Powergen (electricity supply) – 744.81
  - Payments received –
  - HMCE (VAT Return) – 1712.71

Since the Clerk had only two cheques remaining in the cheque book, it was agreed that when the new cheque book was received, the Clerk would circulate the cheques to obtain the necessary signatories.

## 20 Planning Applications –

New – 07/01561/APP – Mrs. D Hodgson, The Manor, Nash Road, Great Horwood  
07/01581/APP – Ms T McIntosh, The Retreat, Nash Road, Great Horwood  
07/01728/APP – Mrs. D Hodgson, The Manor, Nash Road, Great Horwood  
07/01706/APP – Mr. & Mrs. Elliot, 28 Spring Lane, Great Horwood

## 21 Correspondence –

Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Document – John to complete questionnaire  
AVDC Poster advertising meetings for July and August  
AVDC Poster advertising Electoral Registration Canvasser vacancy  
AVDC Poster advertising review of polling districts and places  
Flyer re Councillor training at Green Park, Aston Clinton  
AVDC Letter re changes to village freighter collection service  
AVDC Register of electors – 2 creations  
Copy of The Vibe – issued to Councillors  
BCC Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Stakeholder Consultation  
AVDC Poster re Preferred Options for Growth Public Exhibitions  
Posters re Civic Centre Children's Entertainment

An email had been received from the Clerk advising that she would continue in her role until after the September meeting of the Council. She was thanked for her flexibility and Cllr. Gilbey advised that apart from the posters around the village advertising the post the vacancy was also published on the Council website, on Bucks CC website, on AVDC website and on the notice boards in Winslow library and Winslow High Street. All Councillors were asked to give urgent consideration to identifying potential candidates for the post.

22 Items for the next meeting – Planning Committee, Standing Orders, Conservation and restoration of pump in Nash Road. There may be others added during the course of August and September.

23 Date and time of the next meeting – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September at the school at 7.30pm.