



**Great Horwood
Parish Council**

GREAT HORWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting held on
Monday 9th March 2009 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs J. Gilbey (Chairman) R. Moulding (Vice
Chairman) M. Brocklehurst, J Samways, and M. Berrill,
Mr. D. Trigg (Clerk)

In attendance: 11 members of the public.

9.1 Apologies for absence

Cllr I Lamberton

9.2 Confirmation of minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 9th February 2009.

These were approved.

9.3 Declaration of Interest.

None

9.4 Matters arising from the Minutes

None

9.5 Public Participation

A member of the public asked that as we now have a new recreation ground would the council consider ideas to revamp the Green. There was considerable discussion on the issue both from Councillors and other members of the public. It was agreed that no quick decisions could be made and that it might be suitable topic for the Annual Parish Meeting.

Another member of the public asked if the bus shelter in Little Horwood road could be removed as it is not in the best state of repair. It was explained that this had been discussed at previous meetings and during the setting of the new year's budget and that expenditure for a replacement had not been included. The issue will be kept under review during the coming year.

9.6 Report from the Parish Plan Steering Committee Cllr. Moulding

No items to report as all efforts are being put into the opposition to the Winslow Green planning application. Cllr. Moulding did, however, inform the meeting that as part of the BCC Historic Towns Project the Urban Character Mapping of Great Horwood has apparently been carried out. He will follow this up as the information could be very useful as part of the preparation of the Village Design Statement.

9.7 Report from the Recreation Committee. Cllr. Brocklehurst.

A cheque from the Lions has been received for £1050. This is to fund a particular item of equipment in the playground. The fencing has been installed but the standard of workmanship is not satisfactory and so the Clerk was instructed to retain the cheque which has been drawn up to settle the invoice until he is informed that the work has been completed to a satisfactory standard.

The drainage and play equipment will be installed shortly and should be completed by early April

The "official" opening day for the recreation ground has been set for Sunday 17th May 2009. The Management Committee is arranging the event and will invite VIP's and advertise in Focus etc.

9.8 Report from the Planning Committee. Cllr Gilbey

The report is attached to these minutes.

Cllr. Moulding will speak on behalf of the Parish Council at the AVDC Strategic Development Control Committee meeting at 1pm on the 1st April 2009 at the Civic Centre when the Winslow Green Outline Planning Application will be determined.

9.9 Report of the Village litter pick. Cllr Samways

The Village Litter Pick was carried out on Sunday March 8th as planned and proved a great success. Almost 30 people turned out to help and more than 20 bags of rubbish were collected plus 9 tyres. A big thanks to all the villagers who took part including Jeannie Marshall for the refreshments.

9.10 Replacement of the Tree on the Green. Cllr Berrill

After consultation a Wild Sorbus Tree has been identified as the ideal choice. It is a native tree and should be suitable for the environment on The Green. However the tree in the quote obtained did not meet the specification for girth as defined by AVDC and so a further quote will be needed together with decisions on when to plant it and the exact location. The Clerk will clarify the specification with AVDC.

9.11 Change of use on the old recreation ground. Cllr Gilbey

There were now 6 people expressing a definite interest in an allotment plot on the site and so it was agreed to proceed with the change of use.

The legal department at AVDC have advised that we can apply for change of use to agricultural without the need for planning consent. The only requirement is to advertise the proposed change by means of a Public Notice in a local newspaper. The notice needs to appear in two editions and then the Council will need to consider any objections received. Cllr Gilbey will arrange for the notice to be inserted in 2 consecutive editions of the Buckingham and Winslow Advertiser. In the meantime the Clerk will proceed to obtain quotes to take on the work of clearing the site and creating the allotments plots.

9.12 Vacancy on the Council. Cllr Gilbey

Since there had been no demand from registered electors of the Parish to hold an election to fill the vacancy on the Council we are now able to co-opt a member of our choosing. Cllr. Gilbey will submit an article advertising the vacancy in the next edition of Focus.

9.13 Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr Gilbey

Cllr Gilbey has invited 24 village based organisations to attend the Annual Parish meeting in order to promote more involvement in the life of our community. 2 replies have so far been returned and both confirm their plan to attend the meeting.

9.14 Request for an easement across the Green to allow access to a possible housing development behind 11 the Green. Cllr Gilbey

It was agreed that this is not a Planning Committee issue but a matter that should properly be dealt with by the full Council. It was agreed that at present there is not requirement to take any specific action, but the Council needs to be ready to do give the matter further consideration if a formal Planning Application is submitted. The Chairman will continue to look into the legal side of this matter.

9.15 For Payment. J. Graves £5912.15 (do not send until instructed), AVDC £55.57

9.16 Receipts £2500 AVDC Grant for Horwood Pece

9.17 Correspondence. Distributed as requested.

Cllr Gilbey and Mr. J. West to attend an SLCC training course on "Common land, Rights of Way, Village Greens, and Open Spaces".

9.18 Items for the next meeting.

See agenda for next meeting.

9.19 Date and time of the next meeting.

Monday the 6th April 2009 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

draft

Signed Chairman

Date