



**Great Horwood  
Parish Council**

# Great Horwood Parish Council

Minutes of an ordinary meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Great Horwood.

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

1. To receive apologies for absence  
Apologies were received from Cllr Samways due to work commitments
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2010  
These were approved without modification.
3. To receive declarations of interest  
Cllr Moulding declared a personal interest in item 15 – Dropped Kerbs
4. To consider matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting
  - Tenancy agreements have been sent to all allotment holders in Church Lane. The majority have been returned with rents paid for 2011. There is currently one available plot in Church Lane and two in Willow Road. An article will be included in the December Focus magazine to this effect.
5. Public Participation Period  
Mrs Jane Moulding raised the issue of dropped kerbs. These have been installed at the junction of Wheathouse Copse and Little Horwood Road. The workmanship has been poor and the grass verge has been damaged. She has asked the Parish Council to support them in getting the verge reinstated.

Cllr Gilbey responded by stating that he has complained about the workmanship twice. David Hedley and BCC have agreed to remedy this issue but no timescales have been agreed. It was agreed the Clerk would write to David Hedley using notes prepared by Mr and Mrs Moulding.

Mr David Bolton asked the Parish Council to consider not increasing the precept for the coming year.

6. To receive and consider reports from Committees of Council
  - 6.1. Cllr Moulding updated the Council on the report from the Planning Committee. There have been three decisions and one new application since the last meeting.

After the last meeting it was agreed not to speak at the Development Control Committee on the Roddimore Farm application. This effectively meant the Parish Council withdrew its objection.

Discussions with the AVDC Forward Plans Group have continued and they are looking to meet with representatives from the Planning Committee, Parish Plan Steering Committee and Parish Council in December. All members of the Parish Council expressed an interest in attending.

Discussions on affordable housing are continuing.

- 6.2. Cllr Brocklehurst updated the Council on the recent developments at Horwode Pece.
  - Weekly inspections are continuing and there is nothing substantial to report.
  - Items to be purchased with the remainder of the sustainability grant are being finalised.

- The grass has been mown for the winter. Other firms have been approached to provide a grass cutting service for next year.
- A working party is still being planned and a date is to be agreed shortly.

7. Report from the Parish Plan Steering Committee

There is nothing additional to report from the last meeting.

8. Update on application 10/00680/APP (Nash Road, Great Horwood)

Cllr Moulding attended the Development Control Committee where this application was heard. The Case Officer's report recommended refusal and a number of people spoke to object to the application including Cllr Moulding who represented Great Horwood Parish Council. An agent for the applicants spoke supporting the application but the application was unanimously refused.

It is expected that the applicants will submit an appeal and have six months in which to do so. Consequently there is little that can now be done other than monitoring the situation.

9. Report on the NAG meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> October

There is little to add to this item since the Buckingham South Newsletter was distributed recently. The neighbourhood team will be attending a 'Have your Say' session in the Village Hall on the morning of Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November.

10. Report on the AVALC AGM held on 6<sup>th</sup> November

Cllrs Gilbey and Moulding attended this meeting as they were both members of the Executive Committee.

At the first part of this meeting, Cllr Gilbey agreed to remain on the Exec Committee for another year.

The second part of the meeting consisted of a presentation and question & answer session on 'Moving Forward from the LDF Core Strategy'. It was explained that budget cuts required by local Government will be clearer after the Revenue Support Grant details are revealed on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. However the important issue is that it is now expected that housing needs will be compiled from the bottom up so Parishes will have to contribute to the discussion on future needs in its area.

11. Consultation on the political set up of AVDC (Mayor or Leader)

A letter had been received and circulated before the meeting highlighting AVDC were carrying out a consultation on how the authority should be run in the future. One of two political arrangements must be selected – either a mayor or a leader.

The main concern from Councillors were the budgetary differences and it was agreed unanimously between Councillors that a leader is the preferred option. Cllr Moulding will provide some wording as a collated response from the Parish Council and email to the Clerk for sending.

12. Resolution for amendment to Standing Orders regarding Electronic Signatures and emailed documents

A statement of resolution for amendment to the Standing Orders was provided which will be voted on at the December meeting. The resolution is as follows:

That the Standing Orders of the Council be amended to delete the words 'To sign and issue the Summons to attend meetings of the Council' from paragraph 1.5, to re-number paragraph 1.5 as 1.5.1, and to insert three additional paragraphs 1.5.2, 1.5.3 and 1.11.10 to read as follows: '1.5.2 In the case of meetings convened in accordance with Standing Order 1.2.1 **the Clerk shall sign and serve on councillors by delivery or post at their residences a summons confirming the time, date, venue and the agenda of the meeting of the Council at least 3 clear days before the meeting.**' '1.5.3 In the case of all other meetings and if the Council has agreed an appropriate resolution in accordance with Standing Order 1.11.10 and save in respect of any councillor or committee member or sub-committee member where consent has been given by the Council the Clerk shall electronically serve on councillors and on other members of committees and sub-committees as appropriate a summons confirming the time, date, venue and the agenda of a meeting of the Council and a meeting of a committee and a sub-committee at least 3 clear days before the meeting provided that any such email contains the electronic signature and title of the Clerk.' '1.11.10 To resolve that service by the Clerk of summons on councillors confirming the time, date, venue and the agenda for a meeting by delivery or post at their residences at least 3 clear days before a meeting is not expedient save for meetings convened under Standing Order 1.2.1. Should such a resolution not be agreed at this or any other meeting or, in respect of any councillor or committee member or sub-committee member, if the Council otherwise consents the

provisions of Paragraph 1.5.2 will apply *mutatis mutandis* to all meetings of the Council and of committees and sub-committees.

13. Willow Road Allotments and Tom Saunders

The Clerk provided an update on the situation of recovering money from Tom Saunders. While some communication has been received, no refund has yet been provided.

The Council are keen to avoid legal action and therefore have a proposal for Tom Saunders which involves payment of the outstanding amount in two instalments. The Clerk will contact Tom Saunders again to explain this proposal.

Cllr Gilbey also thanked Mr Mick Wood for his assistance in clearing the site at Willow Road allotments.

14. Electoral Review of Buckinghamshire

A letter was received and circulated before the meeting relating to an electoral review of Buckinghamshire. After discussion, Councillors agreed not to make any comment.

15. Dropped Kerbs

Further to the discussion held during the Public Participation, Councillors agreed that BCC should reinstate the kerbs and grass verges at Wheathouse Copse back to their original condition. The installation of dropped kerbs at Wheathouse Copse had never been requested and Councillors agreed that they were not required.

The Clerk will contact BCC to discuss the options available.

16. Cleaning of War Memorial and provision of wreath holder

A working party has been arranged to clean the War Memorial which will take place soon after this Council meeting. Cllr Gilbey has already cleared the weeds from the base of the wall.

Cllr Moulding has made a wreath holder which will be used on Remembrance Sunday. Cllr Moulding will ensure the holder fits on the wall and the war memorial before the event.

17. Tree on The Green

A new tree on The Green is due to be planted on 19<sup>th</sup> November. This tree is planted in memory of Toby Terkelsen and has been funded entirely by donations. Cllr Gilbey will liaise with the Terkelsen family to ensure all logistical arrangements have been made regarding the planting of the tree.

18. Preliminary Budget

The changes requested in the previous meeting have been reflected on the budget and the figures have been circulated before the meeting.

Cllr Brocklehurst questioned the figure for election costs and after discussion it was agreed to wait to see if AVDC provided figures before the next meeting.

Cllr Brocklehurst also asked for confirmation of the cost of training a new Councillor. The Clerk will investigate the costs incurred after the previous change of Council in 2007.

It was noted that the precept amount had been increased as requested. Cllr Moulding explained there were two reasons for this:

- Ensuring the Council holds reserves for large projects
- It is likely that there will be limitations on increases to precepts in the future and by increasing the precept now means there will be more flexibility on dealing with future requirements.

Cllr Margerrison stated he would like to see a lower increase than the current £3000.

Cllr Brocklehurst suggested the decision was postponed until the cuts being made by the District and County Councils had been identified. Councillors agreed this was a sensible course of action.

19. Dates for 2011 Meetings

Prior to the meeting, dates for 2011 had been circulated. These were agreed.

20. Receipts

- Allotment Rent £25.00
- Barber Rent £15.00

21. To agree items for payment

- OPFA (Horwode Pece) £135.00
- Mr M Wood (Skip Hire for Willow Road Allotments) £129.25
- AVDC Dog Bin Maintenance £486.36
- Focus Donation £200.00
- AON Ltd (Insurance for Maintenance Equipment for Horwode Pece) £30.62
- Community Impact Bucks Subscriptions £30.00
- Majestic Trees £5,885.81
- AON Insurance (Horwode Pece) £376.65

22. To receive and note correspondence

- Letter from an allotment holder in Church Lane asking if the Parish Council would look at the plots as some allotments aren't being maintained. Cllr Gilbey said he would look at the plots if the Clerk could provide him with a plan of the allotments.
- Letter from Great Horwood Village Hall Trustees thanking the Parish Council for their donation.
- Letter from North Bucks Care of Carers Partnership requesting funds. It was agreed that none would be provided.
- Letter from Aylesbury Vale Dial A Ride requesting funds. It was agreed that none would be provided.

23. Items for the next meeting

2011/12 Budget, Dropped Kerbs and a report from the Planning Workshop are to be included.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

**Draft**

Date \_\_\_\_\_