



## Great Horwood Parish Council

# Great Horwood Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on  
12<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Great Horwood

Present: Cllr John Scholtens (JS) (Chairman), Cllr John Gilbey (JWG) (Vice Chairman), Cllr Angela Mayne (AM), Cllr Mary Saunders (MS), Cllr Jane Holland (JH), Cllr John Gunn (JAG), Cllr John Huskinson (JRH), Mandy Cliffe (Clerk), 8 members of the public.

1. To receive apologies for absence  
Sir Belville Stanier was unable to attend due to an AVDC scrutiny meeting.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015  
No amendments were made.
3. To receive declarations of interest  
None were received.
4. To consider matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting
  - Thomas Reddy Contracts (Ian Walker) has been asked to quote for maintenance of planters and strimming around them when necessary. **(Action Clerk)**.
  - Cllr AM asked whether the Heady Plants invoice was for autumn planting **(Action Clerk)**. AM has a contact who would like to compete for the contract.
  - Photograph of damaged MVAS ground screw has not yet been taken but Duncan Trigg will arrange.
  - No progress on improving the website but Cllr JWG will ensure that electronic editions of Focus continue to be a regular feature of the website **(Action JRH, MS and JWG)**.
  - Cllr JS said that Weston Road pavement repairs had been requested via the Local Area Technician.
  - Steve Brigden has updated the trustees of the Great Horwood and Singleborough Trust on the Charity Commission website but the charity remains overdue (254 days) in submitting their annual return **(Action JAG)**.
5. Public Participation Period  
Monica Gilbey expressed concern for the many elderly and disabled residents using Willow Road in the event of the Talbot Homes application (14/02414/AOP) being approved. The positioning of white lines at the Willow Road junction with Little Horwood Road and parking were particular issues. Cllr JS said that another Spring Lane was being created and that the Parish Council would continue to fight proposals like this that were outside the Neighbourhood Plan. **(Action – JS) JS will contact the case officer and ask that Highways Authority clearly mark the distance and positioning of white lines on published drawings to facilitate informed comment through the AVDC portal).**
6. Planning Issues
  - 6.1. Councillors were provided with an updated Planning Report which was ratified at the meeting. One new application had been received and six applications had been determined. The planning report is attached to and forms part of these minutes.  
  
Re 15/00038/REF (Land off Little Horwood Road), Cllr JS originally attended a hearing that upheld the objection to this proposal but an appeal has now been lodged but with no further grounds. Councillors discussed the issue of AVDC and travellers sites. JS along with John Hamilton from Nash PC, Cllr Carole Paternoster from AVDC and Sir Beville Stanier, will be attending a meeting with John Bercow and SofS for Communities and Local Government to discuss Traveller policy and ensuing problems.
7. Report from the Recreation Committee  
A lengthy report was received and this is attached to these minutes. Councillors discussed:
  - The need for a picnic table with wheelchair access (MS). **(Action JH)**.
  - The need for a vision plan from the Rec Management Committee **(Action JH)**.
  - The level of PC involvement (JWG).
  - The Management Committee decision to use the budget on maintenance rather than capital projects due to the high cost of a suitable slide (JH).

- Whether an increase in precept, if feasible, would help the Management Committee to achieve their goals (JRH).
8. Footpaths Report  
Robert Deuchar has pruned all the Parish's footpaths. Cllr JS expressed the Council's thanks for a job well done and his hope that Robert could be persuaded to continue undertaking the task for the foreseeable future.
9. Update on the Neighbourhood Plan  
David Saunders gave an update on issues regarding the Neighbourhood Plan the fact that the Weston Road application (14/01540/APP) had been approved by AVDC and the Council discussed the matter at length. The main points were:
- Requests for the application to be called in by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government have been made. If not successful, formal planning permission will be granted.
  - The national importance of the case was highlighted.
  - David Saunders is taking legal advice on the possibility of applying for a judicial review of the AVDC decision and has suggested seven possible grounds of complaint against the decision.
  - The strong support received from our local MP John Berrow who has again written to S of S.
  - The implications of legal action. Cllr JRH asked whether money was available in the reserves to provide a fighting fund (**Action Clerk**).
  - Section 106 obligations (a legal agreement between the Planning Authority and the applicant/developer and others interested parties) and how funds for local improvements could be used to make an unacceptable development more palatable.
10. Great Horwood Parish Plan 2016  
Cllr JRH has produced and circulated the draft Parish Plan 2016 in a concise form that should prove more readable to all. Councillors discussed the best way to publicise and encourage full community input and involvement, to include written public consultation and a Village Hall event (**Action JRH**).
11. Reports  
Three meetings were reported on:
- North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium (NBPPC) Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015 was attended by Cllrs JWG and MS. Discussion included the Taylor Wimpey decision and planning in Milton Keynes.
  - Local Council Planning Liaison Group (LCPLG) was attended by Cllr JWG and discussion included cutting back of services, legislative change and contentious planning issues.
  - The Network Rail Consultation 29<sup>th</sup> September 2015. Cllr MS attended and highlighted the future impact on local roads of alterations of road bridges to accommodate electrification and the building of the new station in Winslow.
12. Motions proposed by the Parish Council  
All motions were carried unanimously
- Motion 1 was proposed by JWG and seconded by JH, namely:  
  
"Great Horwood Parish Council is appalled by the decision of the AVDC Strategic Development Committee to approve the planning application 14/01540/APP for 42 houses on Land off Weston Road in direct contravention to the Great Horwood Neighbourhood Plan and will continue to oppose the decision in all possible ways."
  - Motion 2 was proposed by JWG and seconded by MS, namely:  
  
"Great Horwood Parish Council proposes a vote of thanks to the 2 Winslow District Councillors (Cllrs Sue Renshell and Llew Monger) who sat on the Strategic Development Management Committee and voted against the motion to approve planning application 14/01540/APP and expresses its regret that our local member Cllr. Sir Beville Stanier was unable to attend the meeting and support the parish in speaking against the motion."
  - Motion 3 was proposed by JAG and seconded by AM, namely:  
  
"The Parish Council would like to thank Mick Wood and Duncan Trigg for the very conscientious way that they have moved the MVAS on a rota basis to all 4 sites in the parish and have downloaded and analysed the data collected so that it now appears that we can get follow up action by TVP with the chance to apprehend and prosecute those who exceed the speed limit as they enter the village."
  - Motion 4 was proposed by AM and seconded by JH, namely:  
  
"The Parish Council would like to thank Graham Burns who has relinquished the task of mowing the Green which he has performed diligently over the last 3 years."

13. Budget

The draft budget was considered a reasonable starting point for discussion. Cllr JWG asked when the street lighting loan would finally be paid (**Action Clerk**). Cllr JAG asked what was considered to be a good level of reserve for a Parish Council to hold (**Action Clerk**).

14. Devolution of Services

BCC are holding an event to discuss devolution proposals on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015. Cllr JH volunteered to attend. There followed a discussion on the implications of devolution. Councillors were particularly concerned about:

- The very low levels of funding for devolution.
- The legal liabilities that would be imposed on the PC for services that would be run by volunteers (if they could be found). Cllr JWG remains concerned about grass cutting and will get a quote for devolved services from a grass cutting contractor. Cllr JS remains of the strong view that devolution of services offer by BCC is unviable for the Parish Council both financially and administratively.

15. Donations to Worthy Organisations

Agreement was reached over the procedure by which village organisations could apply for funding from the Parish Council. An article for Focus and an associated application form was approved.

16. MVAS

MVAS data has been submitted to PCSO Wendy Taylor. Mick Wood asked if there would be an objection to revealing MVAS data to residents who requested it. As no confidential or personal data was involved Councillors agreed that this would be acceptable. An email from Wendy Taylor was discussed concerning TVP's unwillingness to perform speed enforcement operations on the Winslow approach to Great Horwood due to the lack of a safe area to stop cars. It was decided to ask why the Village Green parking area could not be used (**Action Clerk**).

17. Vote of Thanks to Village Volunteers

Cllr JH proposed a show of appreciation to residents for their time and efforts in planter maintenance, the Produce Show and mowing on the Green. It was decided that the best way to achieve public recognition was an article in Focus and to include all those thanked at the meeting (**Action JH**).

18. Village Green

Cllr AM reported that it was taking time to finalise plans to improve The Green. Funding is being sort as well as the necessary permissions, prices and horticultural advice. AM reassured the Council that any planting undertaken would not obscure the view of the parish church and that the proposed trees would be small. AM has also arranged the annual village walk around (inspection) for 21<sup>st</sup> October.

19. To agree items for payment

- Horwood Pece mowing £210.00 – BACS
- St James PCC mowing donation £250.00 – Cheque

Councillors JWG and AM agreed to authorise the payments.

20. To receive and note correspondence

- Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 Commencement Orders. Cllrs JRH and JAG advised waiting for further direction in 2016.
- Emails from resident Dr Nigel Heywood expressing concerns about the junction of Spring Lane and Winslow Road.
- Emails from Duncan Trigg re the Taylor Wimpey decision.

21. Items for the next meeting

Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP)  
Donation to Worthy Organisations Funding Application results

22. Confirmation of date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.36pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ **Draft** \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Planning Committee Report - for meeting on 12th October 2015

Below are current and recent Planning Applications. The Parish Council is invited to ratify the comments made to AVDC on behalf of the Planning Committee since the last meeting.

### CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

| Date Received | Application Number | Applicant | Site Address | Details of Application | Parish Council Response | AVDC Decision |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
|---------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|

#### Determined

|            |              |                           |                                  |  |              |          |
|------------|--------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------|----------|
| 10/06/2015 | 15/01205/ALB | Charles Wells Pub Company | Swan PH, Great Horwood           | Installation of extraction system; erection of a timber store/housing for LPG tanks internal alterations.  | No objection | Approved |
| 19/06/2015 | 15/02013/APP | Mr & Mrs Goss             | Tythe House, Little Horwood Road | Single storey front extension, construction of gable dormer windows to north roof slope and insertion of new doors and windows.  | No objection | Approved |
| 20/07/2015 | 15/02355/APP | Mr & Mrs Cook             | Cricketers Field                 | Creation of a ménage   | No objection | Approved |
| 15/08/2015 | 15/01204/APP | Charles Wells Pub Company | Swan PH, Great Horwood           | Installation of extraction system and erection of a timber store/housing for LPG tanks (Retrospective)   The Swan PH 1 Winslow Road Great Horwood Buckinghamshire MK17 0QN | No objection | Approved |
| 04/08/2015 | 15/02379/APP | Mrs C Cheshire            | 2 School End                     | Demolition of outbuilding. Erection of replacement garage, workshop and store with home office above and with external staircase   | No objection | Approved |
| 04/08/2015 | 15/02381/ALB | Mrs C Cheshire            | 2 School End                     | Demolition of outbuilding. Erection of replacement garage, workshop and store with home office above and with external staircase   | No objection | Approved |

#### Pending

|            |                        |                     |   |  |              |
|------------|------------------------|---------------------|---|--|--------------|
| 24/04/2014 | 14/01047/ATC           | Mr P Morris         | Mulberry Cottage                                  | Pollarding of two large Acer Saccharinum trees on side of boundary of site   | No Objection |
| 29/08/2014 | 14/02414/AOP           | Talbot Homes        | Land at Willow Road                               | Outline application with access to be considered and all other matters reserved for the erection of up to 34 dwellings including associated infrastructure and work.                                   | Objection    |
| 25/09/2014 | 14/01540/APP (Revised) | Taylor Wimpey       | Land off Weston Road                              | The erection of 42 no. residential dwellings together with associated access, car parking, landscaping and open space provision.   | Objection    |
| 29/04/2015 | 15/00038/REF           | Ms M McArthy        | Land Off Little Horwood Road Nash Buckinghamshire | Change of use of land to residential use for one static caravan , one touring caravan and car parking for Gypsy family   | Objection    |
| 07/07/2015 | 15/02233/APP           | Mrs Carmel Williams | Land opposite Causter Farm                        | Removal of Condition 2 on planning application ref 10/00680/APP allowed on appeal with ref APP/J0405/C/11/2148933 and APP/J0405/A/11/2148930 to allow permanent occupation of the mobile homes on site | Objection    |
| 08/07/2015 | 15/00060/REF           | Mr & Mrs Wootton    | 9 Little Horwood Road                             | Erection of three detached dwellings with associated parking   | Objection    |
| 18/08/2015 | 15/02811/APP           | Mr E Dablin         | Timbers, 2 Church Lane                            | Refurbishment of roof and new gate and fence   | No Objection |
| 18/08/2015 | 15/02602/ALB           | Mr E Dablin         | Timbers, 2 Church Lane                            | Internal alterations; convert 2 no. windows to door openings; refurbishment of roof and new concrete ground floor slab   |              |

## **Horwode Pece Management Committee**

### **Report to Great Horwood Parish Council – Oct 2015**

In last month's report I commented how well the Rec was looking, thanks to the new contractors, who cut the grass, and all the helpers that take their turn to make sure the equipment is in a first rate. I also noted there are some minor repairs needed and raised these at the 'Horwode Pece Management Committee' meeting that was held on 29<sup>th</sup> September. It was agreed at this meeting to organise a working party later in October to undertake Rec maintenance and any minor repairs needed. For your diaries, the working party is planned for the weekend of 17<sup>th</sup> Oct. and 18<sup>th</sup> Oct. should anyone wish to help. Members of the management committee will be available both days to oversee the Rec maintenance. Planned work includes: repairing the wooden surround to the toddlers area; replacing soil on the sides of the mound of the zip wire – it has been washed away over time - and replacing the damaged rubber matting on the mound where it is breaking up; minor repairs to both football nets and various other pieces of equipment need some minor maintenance.

Three more major items of maintenance, discussed at the management committee meeting, are not planned to be completed at the working party. These are:

1. The ramps will need to be repainted before the winter, without a good non-slip surface both ramps can be very slippery when wet.
2. Last month I noted the oldest of the picnic tables is now in a very bad state. At the management committee meeting it was agreed to look for a replacement as the general consensus was that it was not worth repairing.
3. It was agreed to obtain quotes to install a paved area under the basketball net and arrange for this work to be done before the next season. We have the required number of paving slabs, but ground work to level and lay these slabs is required.

Future equipment purchases were discussed at the management committee meeting; both a 'slide' and 'monkey bars' were discussed. In our budget for 2015-16, we had requested circa £3,000 towards the purchase of a slide for the teenage area of the Rec. However, on further research we have found that this would not be enough to buy a slide suitable for use by our teenagers.

At the cheapest end of the spectrum, a basic slide 1.92m high (6 ft) would cost £2,500, plus installation costs £152. Additional groundwork would be required to provide a safe landing area of 25m<sup>2</sup> if this could not be fitted into the existing teenage woodchip area. Less groundwork would be required for an 'Embankment slide'. This would cost £3,700 from Kompan, plus installation costs of £622. Both of these forms of basic slide would suit 4-12 year olds, not teenagers. The embankment slide would require we landscape part of the Rec to build a suitable hill.

At the more adventurous end of the spectrum are slides built into climbing structures. These are higher and may include a tubular slide section, but are much more expensive; for example 'the Amazon', height 2.87m (9 ft 4ins) to slide platform, cost £31,770 plus £1,638 installation plus groundwork of 48m<sup>2</sup>. Between these two extremes are slides in the price range £6,710 (1.77m high; 5ft 9ins) to £12,170 (2.81m high; 9 ft). They would require installation and groundwork, but all are too expensive for our budget.

For comparison, the cost of basic 'Monkey bars' would fit within our budget; £1,610 plus £242 installation, plus groundwork. A slightly more adventurous version, that matches the Pullox climbing frame down the Rec would cost £3,590 plus £993 installation and should fit in our existing groundworks.

At the end of this discussion over equipment, it was decided that a better option may be to use the equipment monies available to improve our existing equipment by replacing goal nets for example, replacing the oldest two picnic tables and paying a sub-contractor to install the paved area under the basketball net.

John Nicholls  
Chairman of the Horwode Pece Management Committee  
4<sup>th</sup> October 2015