



Great Horwood Parish Council

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Minutes of an Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on
8th July 2013 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Great Horwood.

Present: Cllr John Gilbey (Chairman), Cllr John Scholtens, Cllr Ian Lamberton, Cllr Angela Mayne, Cllr Valerie Porritt, Cllr Russell Margerrison, Karen Francis (Clerk)
10 members of the public

1. To receive apologies for absence
Cllr Bennett-Coles couldn't attend due to work commitments.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th June 2013
No amendments were made.
3. To receive declarations of interest
No declarations of interest were received.
4. To consider matters arising from the Minutes of the last two meetings
 - Sites have been allocated and marked out for the MVAS. Cllr Gilbey passed around photos of the sites. He has also complained to BCC that there was no consultation over the sites with the Parish Council but hasn't received a response.
 - Cllr Mayne has come up with a proposal for handrails in Nash Road which will fit into the Conservation Area more aesthetically than the basic scaffold type pole which would be provided free of charge by BCC. The Parish Council agreed to fund the additional expenditure. Two quotes were obtained and it was unanimously agreed that the cheaper quote which included fitting would be accepted. Cllr Mayne will arrange for these to be made and installed.
 - There is still no update on the Village Freighter information. The Clerk will chase over the summer.
 - Cllr Mayne confirmed the planters had been cemented down. It was mentioned that the one at the entrance to the village along the Winslow Road was too low and Cllr Mayne will discuss raising this with ABH.
 - A note was sent in support of the Vale of Aylesbury plan.
 - Bushes have been pruned around The Green.
 - The Clerk has been in touch with BCC to see if the footpath in Nash Road from the Ernie Ridgeway Path towards the A421 can be repaired. BCC have agreed it needs replacing and have raised an order for the works although due to budget constrictions there is no guarantee this will be done.
5. Gordon Austin – Community Resilience

Information was presented from Gordon Austin on the Community Resilience plans. There is an ongoing programme within BCC about resilience and they would like Parishes to have a plan for disasters that may occur. Residents are not being asked to deal with an actual crisis but more the periphery problems such as road closures, isolated residents etc.

Cllr Scholtens asked whether military aid would be provided and Mr Austin responded that military aid is the last resort.

Cllr Scholtens also asked whether there were template plans that could be used and Mr Austin agreed to send these through to the Clerk who would then forward them on.

Cllr Gilbey thanked Mr Austin for attending.
6. Public Participation Period
 - Mick Wood asked whether the Parish Council should ask the residents in Nash Road whether they were happy with the handrails. After discussion it was agreed Cllr Mayne would consult the local residents on the precise positioning and length of the hand rail and then proceed with the order as decided under Matters Arising.
7. Planning Issues
 - 7.1. Cllr Gilbey provided Councillors with an updated Planning Report which was ratified at the meeting. No new decisions have been made but two new applications had been received. The planning report is attached to and forms part of these minutes.
 - 7.2. The Clerk has responded to the BCC Legal Team with the answers to the Land Registry questions and is now waiting for the response from the Land Registry.

8. Report from the Recreation Committee

A report was provided from the Recreation Committee.

- The zip wire is dormant until a replacement seat is received.
- The football area is still unfinished with exposed matting and turf mounds.
- The picnic benches have broken seat and one table has a burn in the centre of it.
- The level of litter seems to have increased.
- The endeavours of the volunteers have rendered the grass low giving the whole site a sprightly appearance. The voluntary endeavour is the way the Committee will continue until a worthy professional company can be found.
- The Trust accounts have been completed and are now on the Charity Commission website.

9. Neighbourhood Planning Team Update

A report was circulated amongst Councillors prior to the meeting.

At the last NPT meeting the Chairman, John Scholtens, resigned and read out the following statement.

"It is quite clear that many of the residents at the eastern end of the village have not appreciated that in light of the public consultation on 18 May, the NPT took forward the points made by many of the attendees. As promised at the meeting, we re-assessed the planning assumptions, proposed an additional potential development site and challenged AVDC to change their decision about the unsuitability of the Old Mill site. I am saddened by the increasingly personal attacks, admittedly from a minority of residents, on both the NPT and me. Some of the comments have been scurrilous and blatantly unfair and I suspect that nothing we say or do will appease them. I for one, have nothing personal to gain from the whole process and despite a huge investment in time over the past 18 months as Chairman of the Team, I feel it is now time to step aside."

Three other members of the team also resigned so now only one original member and one new member are left.

The NPT needs to have the support of the Parish Council in order to function so Cllr Gilbey suggested a cooling off period and to revisit the topic in September. In the meantime, the NPT is not functional as there is no quorum so any work carried out will be classed as unofficial. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to AVDC to seek its advice on the implications of Great Horwood Parish Council withdrawing from the Neighbourhood Planning process and advising AVDC that the Parish does not currently have a recognised Neighbourhood Plan team in place.

It was mentioned that time is still of the essence as there are developers who are interested in the sites and without a Neighbourhood Plan AVDC can legitimately grant permission for much bigger developments.

10. Footpaths Report

The report received this month is as follows:

All the Parish's footpaths have been inspected and pruned between 24 June and 5 July.

11. Change to Financial Regulations

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated proposed amended Financial Regulations which would allow the payment of bills and invoices via BACS as well as a reduction of signatories from three to two.

After short discussion it was agreed the amended Regulations were acceptable so Cllr Margerrison proposed the change, Cllr Scholtens seconded it and all remaining Cllrs were in favour.

12. Report from Winslow and District LAF held on 13th June (including available LAF funding)

Cllr Gilbey attended this meeting where John Chilver was elected Chairman and Sue Renshall was appointed Vice-Chairman.

Cllr Gilbey raised two questions. The first was on the MVAS and was told that progress was being made and the second was relating to grass cutting on Highway verges. He was advised that BCC have reduced cuts in rural areas from 3 per annum to 2 per annum.

The meeting also discussed LAF funding. Currently Great Horwood Youth Club have received funding but there is still £11,000 which we can apply for. Two ideas were suggested:

- Footpath along the Winslow Road which is connected to the Adstock footpath.
- Replacement of the footpath mentioned in Matters Arising.

It was agreed, that as applications didn't need to be in until the end of September this would be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

13. Report from the NBPPC AGM and Ordinary Meeting held on 27th June 2013

Cllr Gilbey attended this meeting. The primary message was that the South West Milton Keynes extension is not within the MK Core Strategy but is a developer-led proposal.

14. Report from meeting with Winslow Town Council held on 27th June 2013

The reason for this meeting was to discuss the overlap and common issues between the two settlements as Winslow are also putting together a neighbourhood plan and want to accommodate issues raised from the surrounding area. The main discussion took place around:

- East/West Rail and parking

- Provision of Doctors Surgeries and locations.
- Dentist provision.
- Vibrancy of Winslow Town Centre.
- Footpaths and Cyclepaths connecting villages to Winslow.
- Location of new Secondary School.

15. Report from AVALC Meeting held on 29th June 2013

Cllr Gilbey attended this meeting and circulated some photographs prior to the Parish Council meeting.

16. Householder Extension Local Development Order Consultation

This had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting as it had to be decided whether the Parish Council should respond. Cllr Scholtens had read through the document and suggested that the ideas published were all sensible and there was no comment necessary from the Parish Council. The remainder of the Council unanimously agreed with this.

17. New Homes Bonus Fund

The fund is now up and available so if the Parish wanted to apply for funding it is now possible. However, it was agreed that at the present time it was not needed.

18. Grass Mowing at Horwode Pece

The current contractors are not fulfilling their agreement and the Pece is now mowed by volunteers. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Wottons telling them their services were no longer required and that Liz Nicholls would contact the school to see if a new contractor could be found who would mow both sites.

19. To agree items for payment

- BCC Legal Fees £248.40 (BACS)
- Clerks Expenses £50.82 (BACS)
- AVDC Forward Plans (Neighbourhood Plan account) £250.01 (BACS)
- Fuel Expenses for mowing at Horwode Pece £7.53
- NBPPC Subscriptions £20.00

20. To receive and note correspondence

- A letter from a resident regarding handrails in Nash Road.
- The Chairman's report from the NBPPC.
- An email from a resident regarding handrails, the Village Freighter and hedges on The Green.
- An email from a resident regarding the trimming of the hedges on The Green.

21. Items for the next meeting

Neighbourhood Plan

22. Confirmation of date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 9th September at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.01pm.

Signed _____ **Draft**

Date _____

Planning Committee Report - for meeting on 8th July 2013

1. The customary listing of current and recent Planning Applications follows. 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
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Determined

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Pending

09/05/13	13/01178/ATC	Mrs C Cheshire	2 School End	Removal and reduction of foliage	No objection
16/05/13	13/01191/ATC	Mr J Ahern	Chestnut House	Fell No.1 Horse Chestnut	No objection
03/06/13	13/01135/APP	Mr M Sheldon	Greenway Farm	Change of use from agricultural to B8 storage and distribution	No objection
13/06/13	13/01423/APP	Mrs S Brazier	Roddimore Farm	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of detached bungalow with garage	No objection
20/06/13	13/01283/APP	Mr S Pincher	1 Greenway Farm	Variation of condition No 1 of 67/00237/WN – Removal of agricultural occupancy condition	
27/06/13	13/01641/ADM	Mr R Deuchar	Dean Farm	Demolition of brick shed	