

## HORLEY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 MAY 2015

**PRESENT:** Chairman Simon Attfield, Cllrs Martin Hamer, Bob Barnwell, Duncan Raper, Graham Curd, John Tite, Clerk to the Council David Marriott. District Councillor Douglas Webb, and parishioners Brian Ashdown, Jane Huskisson, John Naysmith and Jason Davey.

1	<b>Introduction of Members</b> Councillor Attfield introduced the parish councillors who were present at the meeting, together with district councillor Douglas Webb.
2	<b>Chairman's report</b>
	<b>a) Kerbing works</b> Cllr Attfield described the kerbing works which the Council hopes to carry out to protect the wide verges in Wroxton Lane, which are being damaged by vehicle parking. Currently progress is delayed due to inconsistent advice from the County Council, who have withheld permission for the Council's preferred contractor to undertake the work. The Council will continue to pursue this until a way forward has been found.
	<b>b) Play Area</b> Cllr Attfield reported that whilst a site for a play area has been identified, access to it would be via the cricket club, and is dependent on their proposals for a new pavilion. Currently progress is on hold until the cricket club are ready to bring forward their own proposals.
	<b>c) Proposed Defibrillator</b> Cllr Attfield reported that the Council is proposing to acquire a defibrillator for the village, and currently has a project team investigating the best way of achieving this.
	<b>d) Speeding Through the Village</b> Cllr Attfield referred to the speedcheck exercise which had been carried out on 30 April, and which had been discussed at the Parish Council meeting immediately preceding. Jason Davey and Brian Ashdown were both of the view that the problem originates with the speed traffic enter the village from the Hornton direction, and that vehicles do travel too fast along the first part of Hornton Lane. There was a discussion of the merits of asking for a 20 MPH speed limit to be introduced, and of moving the start of the 30 MPH limit back beyond the brow of the hill. It was noted that the Parish Council has resolved to pursue the various options to improve road safety and reduce speeding with the highway authority, Oxfordshire County Council.
	<b>e) Reports from other village organisations</b> None were available.
	<b>f) Questions from the public</b> Jane Huskisson queried the way in which planning application consultations were considered, and whether Members considered that they undertook sufficient preparation before considering these. Cllr Attfield explained the system under which most routine consultations were responded to by the Clerk, with Members having the opportunity to call for a special Council meeting if they consider it necessary. Applications which are likely to be of concern to Members are referred to the full Council, with a special meeting arranged if necessary. Members were keen to explain the limited powers which the parish council has as a consultee, with their role to provide local context, and raise local concerns where relevant. Cllr Webb explained that if members of the public raise appropriate concerns with him at the District Council, it is possible for him to arrange for a decision which would otherwise be made by a district council officer, to be referred to the district council planning committee. However, the district council are only likely to refuse an application if there are good grounds for doing so based on local or national planning policies, which they believe they can defend at any appeal.
3	<b>Any other business</b> None – meeting closed at 8.25 pm