

**HORLEY PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
16 January 2020**

PRESENT: Chairman Cllr John Tite, Cllrs Dame Glenys Kyle, Graham Curd, Simon Attfield, Bob Barnwell, Martin Hamer. Clerk to the Council David Marriott. Also in attendance County Councillor George Reynolds and District Councillor Douglas Webb.

Item		Action
1	Apologies for absence Councillor Duncan Raper	
2	Declarations of interests None.	
3	Minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2019. Proposed by Cllr Attfield, seconded by Cllr Curd it was resolved that the minutes be agreed.	Clerk
4	Matters arising It was noted that the water leak on Banbury Lane is still running. Cllr Hamer said that he will extend his ditch in the adjoining field to try and intercept this flow of ground water, but currently the land is too wet to permit this work to be undertaken. It was noted that the water ponding in front of Brook Cottage has diminished. The County Council's drainage works in Hornton Lane remain outstanding, as does the resurfacing of Little Lane, previously planned for 2020/21 financial year.	Cllr Hamer
5	Finance (a) 2019/20 budget monitoring report to 31.12.19 The income and expenditure statement for the year to 31 December 2019 was approved. (b) 2020/21 draft budget The draft budget items set out on the agenda were approved, subject to the correction of one error to provide for a budget of £450 at item 3, Churchyard maintenance. It was agreed that the precept be increased to £7250, in order to increase the surplus to be used for the proposed parking scheme and environmental improvements. On this basis, the surplus (contingency) sum will be £4,244.52. It was agreed that this budget be approved, proposed by Cllr Attfield, seconded by Cllr Hamer.	Clerk
6	Parking Issues at Wroxton Lane (Mr and Mrs Rowland, Mr and Mrs Hayes, Mrs Macgregor and Mr Wynn attended for this item, and participated in the discussion.) The Chairman introduced the item highlighting the Council's concerns regarding parking at the bottom of Wroxton Lane, the damage being caused to grass verges, particularly in front of The Lawn, and the congestion in the area. A number of options aimed at providing some off-street parking had been explored without success. The Hamer family had indicated that they are prepared to provide land for some parking spaces on their field opposite Brook Cottage. A number of concerns were discussed, including whether residents would be prepared to use parking spaces in this location, how the use of the spaces would be controlled, the appearance and environmental impact, the need for landscaping, and whether lighting would be provided. It is proposed that, if this car parking is provided, the County Council be asked to reinstate the verge in front of The Lawn with appropriate kerbing	

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	<p>and measures to discourage parking in this location, although some doubts were raised as to whether the County's highways records showing this verge as public highway are correct.</p> <p>It was suggested that, if the Council decides to pursue this proposal, pre-application advice be sought from Cherwell District Council. In addition, a flood risk activity permit will be required from the Environment Agency, and the County Council will need to approve the detailed design, and provide access across the existing highway verge.</p> <p>It was agreed that the next step is to consult the residents at the Old Council Houses and John Naysmith, and that a suitable letter be drafted inviting them to attend an informal meeting on 5 February 2020 at the Old School at 7.45pm.</p>	Clerk
7	<p>Verges</p> <p>It was noted that the Council's grass cutting contractor was no longer cutting the highway verges for Oxfordshire County Council, and consequently last season there was no co-ordination to ensure the County Council cut the village verges at a suitable time. The County Council's preference is to assign the responsibility for grass cutting to the Parish Council, and are prepared to pay for two cuts, but require a legal agreement to be put in place. It was agreed that this is not acceptable to the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk contact OCC seeking better co-ordination on cutting dates for 2020.</p> <p>It was noted that Colin Hirons had not mown the triangle of land in front of Horley Mill as requested. It was agreed that Cllr Kyle would ask the Parochial Church Council to ask him to add this work to their churchyard mowing contract, and advise as to the additional cost to be met by the Parish Council.</p>	Clerk Cllr Kyle
8	<p>Planning report</p> <p>A report showing the position regarding planning and tree applications on which the Council had been consulted since the last meeting was noted.</p>	
9	<p>Assets of Community Value</p> <p>Cllr Atfield reported back on his discussions with the cricket club regarding whether there are protections in place in the cricket club constitution to prevent the land being sold for non-community purposes. It appears there are not, but David Beck suggested it would be appropriate for the club's constitution to be amended to cover this. It was agreed that the Clerk liaise with David Beck regarding some suitable wording.</p> <p>It was also agreed that, in the circumstances, it would be appropriate for the Council to pursue the registration of the cricket ground as an asset of community value.</p>	Clerk Clerk
10	<p>Applications for charitable and other donations</p> <p>It was noted that North Oxfordshire and South Northants Citizens Advice had requested financial support for their work in advising local people. It was agreed that the sum of £50 be donated to NO and SN Citizens Advice.</p>	Clerk
11	<p>Reports from external organisations</p> <p>None</p>	
12	<p>High Sheriff Award Scheme</p> <p>The request for nominations under the scheme was noted, but it was not considered that any nomination by the Council would be appropriate.</p>	
13	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Thursday 16 April 2020 – 7.30pm</p>	All

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14	<p>Any other urgent business</p> <p>Cllr Hamer reported that he had received a pallet of small sacks of road salt , and it was agreed that he distribute a number of sacks amongst Members and the Clerk, for use locally in the event of snowy weather. Cllr Hamer also mentioned the loose dog bin at the corner of Little Lane and Church Lane. It was suggested that this could be remedied if a suitable stake was rammed into the socket, which currently is too large for the post.</p>	Cllr Hamer
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MEETING CLOSED AT 9.20pm