

**HORLEY PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20th April 2023
7.30pm in the OLD SCHOOL ROOMS, HORLEY.**

PRESENT: Chairman Cllr John Tite, Cllrs Graham Curd, Bob Barnwell, Kate Wythe, Simon Attfield, Martin Hamer, Duncan Raper, Clerk to the Council David Beck.

Five village residents were also in attendance

1) Apologies for Absence

District Councillor G.Reynolds.

2) Declarations of interests

None to declare

3) Minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2023

Acceptance was proposed by Cllr Wythe and seconded by Cllr Curd. It was resolved that the minutes be agreed

4) Matters Arising

- Replacement Poo Bin posts – matter now completed
- In spite of ‘chases’ by the Parish Clerk, no actual responses (acknowledgements only) had been received from CDC and the Environment Agency following the Parish Council being informed of potential building works at a house/surrounds on Wroxton Lane.
- Following numerous communications from the Parish Clerk, the street light outside the Red Lion Public House had finally been fixed.

5) Finance

Bank Statement to 31st March 2023

The reconciled bank statement had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. The statement shows total bank balances of £42552.16.

- 2022/23 Budget Monitoring Report

The budget monitoring report setting out income and expenditure during the period to March 31st 2023 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

- Financial Year End 2022/2023

The Financial Year End Accounts are based on the above Bank Statement.

The Council is no longer required to submit its annual accounts for external audit, and, as in previous years can now certify that it is exempt as neither gross income or gross expenditure exceeded £25,000. Before making a decision as to whether such certification should be approved, the accounts will be submitted to the Council’s internal auditor for review, together with the Asset Register, Risk Assessment and Bank Reconciliation. Once the

Internal Auditor's report is available, Members will then be asked to approve the relevant documentation for publication.

At this meeting the Members voted to adopt the prepared Risk Assessment 2023/24 document, the Code of Conduct and the Asset Register.

6) Relevant Correspondence

Cherwell District Council – Increase in Dog Waste Bins collection of 5.5%. (The 2023/2024 budget allows for this increase.)

Ms.J.Smith – email correspondence ref the OCC provision/placing of a tree outside her property by Oxfordshire County Council

Cherwell District Council – Report of the Parish Remuneration Panel was noted. (Horley Parish Council members traditionally do not seek financial remuneration.)

Horley Altar Guild – request for £200 towards the King's Coronation celebrations. As this amount was budgeted for and agreed by the PC the cheque had been raised. In addition to this amount the Alter Guild could apply, with the consent of the Parish Council, for a further Cherwell District Council grant of £300. The consent was given and it was agreed any monies from CDC pass through the Parish Council bank account on it's way through to the Altar Guild. Parish Clerk will inform the Ladies Guild and CDC. **Action Parish Clerk**

Hanwell Parish Council – email invitation for a representative to attend their next meeting on May 3rd where the Vistry Warwick Road planning application would be discussed. Cllr Barnwell agreed to attend on behalf of Horley PC, whilst Cllr Wythe agreed to attend the Banbury Town Council meeting on the subject. **Action Cllrs Barnwell/Wythe**

This opened up a discussion with the residents in attendance regarding the application. Cllr Wythe gave the details of the application for a development of 170 houses on the Warwick Road within 85 metres of the Hanwell Village boundary. Various points were discussed including methods and reasons for commenting and/or objecting. It was agreed that the Parish Council would consider their response at the meeting on May 11th after Cllrs Barnwell and Wythe had attended the meetings as noted above. The closing date for comments/responses to CDC was May 19th.

Planning Applications received since last meeting

Motocross Site Stratford Road, Wroxton. – notice that this further application would be considered on 9th March 2023 - no response received as yet from that meeting and it was noted that the CDC Planning website was still reporting that this application was 'Under consultation'

R.Cordery, Savee Farm – create new gateway access

Planning Permissions received

C.Harris, Rose Cottage, Manor Orchard – trimming of two trees.

Ms.Condon, Apple Barn House – felling of 30 foot Conifer

Planning Applications refused

Mr. & Mrs.M.Hamer, Meadowsweet Farm – First floor extension

7) Parking issues at Wroxton Lane

Update/current position - It was noted that the application had been placed in June 2022 and to date in spite of various correspondence, agreement to conditions and site meetings, no decision had been reached by CDC Planning. Architect Bill Essex was regularly chasing CDC without any success or even response. Parish Clerk to contact District Cllr Webb for his assistance in moving this forward.

Action Parish Clerk

8) Proposed Solar Farm – top of Banbury Lane

Update/current position. - Cllr Wythe and the Parish Clerk gave the update following Hanwell Action Group presenting to a public meeting held in Horley the previous evening April 19th 2023. No planning application was in yet, it was anticipated this would be made to CDC in May/June. Cllr Hamer explained the boundary changes that came into force in May 2024 and how then the proposed Solar Farm on the Horley side would be in the boundary of Horley Parish Council.

There then followed an open discussion with the residents in attendance on the methods, site including landscaping, solar farm working conditions and logistics etc.

It was agreed Cllr Tite should approach Elgin Energy to attend an open meeting in Horley on Thursday May 18th 2023.

Action Cllr Tite

9) Dates of next meeting

Currently:

- 11th May 2023 **7pm** Annual General Meeting and approval of accounts after audit
- 7.30pm** Annual Parish Meeting/Village Groups. (to include Hanwell Parish Council presentation)
- 27th July 2023
- 19th October 2023
- 18th January 2024

It is accepted extra meeting(s) may need to be called to discuss any outstanding matters when and if the situation was necessary

10) Any other urgent business

Cllr Attfield – had noted there were broken stiles in various walks around the village. Cllr Hamer to contact land owners.

Action Cllr Hamer

It was agreed that Cllr Curd approach R.Gamage for advice on the maintenance of the Village Gates and Bench.

Action Cllr Curd

Cllr Hamer – reference the grass verges through the village. Parish Clerk to contact the contractor to confirm the plan for cutting.

Parish Clerk reminded all that photo id was necessary when voting at the local elections in May.

MEETING CLOSED AT 21.05pm