

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT HASELEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
ON MONDAY 10 OCTOBER 2016 AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** D Simcox (Chairman); J Andrews; H Harvey; D Mann; E Spencer J Simcox, Clerk and no members of the public.

**16/94 Public Discussion**

As no members of the public were present, there was nothing to discuss.

16/95 Apologies for absence were received from A Sheppard; S Harrod.

16/96 There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

16/97 The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2016 were confirmed and signed.

**16/98 Matters arising**

The Chairman reported that the defibrillators had now arrived and he was arranging for the electrician to install them. It was agreed that one should be on the side of the Pavilion on the Playing Fields and the second one on the wall of the Village Hall. There had been various suggestions that one should be installed in the church instead of the playing fields but as the church was not open 24/7 this was not an option. The clerk had been in touch with F Heyward at Little Haseley to see if she was able to suggest a site there but as yet nothing had been decided.

The clerk had ordered the seats for the playing fields and it was hoped that these would arrive in the next two weeks. It was now necessary to get two quotes for a concrete base for the second seat. The Minute Books that had been lodged with the County Records Office were now back in the Archive Store so a complete record of Parish Council meetings was now available for anyone who wished to view them.

H Harvey asked whose responsibility it was to keep the hedges trimmed as some of the ones in Back Way were now coming over the track and forcing people to go up the verge on the other side. He agreed to talk to one owner and the clerk would write to another about this issue.

HCA had been in touch and were holding a Strategic Infrastructure Corridor workshop on 31 October to discuss current regional movement and transport matters and explain the merging infrastructure for the Chalgrove airfield site. Two members of the Parish Council would be attending this workshop. It was also noted that a traffic counter had been in place on the A329 monitoring traffic movement but it did not appear to monitor wait times on Arns Hill and other junctions on the A329.

**16/99 Planning**

**P16/S3232/HH Highway House, Rectory Road, Great Haseley**

Construction of bay window under pitched roof

The Parish Council recommended approval of this application.

**P16/S3146/HH Whistlers Barn, Back Way, Great Haseley**

Alterations to convert part of an existing open barn to residential accommodation and the construction of a new detached implement store  
The Parish Council recommended approval of this application.

Notification had been received that the planning application for the School site would be going to Committee on 18 October. The Chairman said that he would speak on behalf of the Parish Council.

#### **16/100 Responsible Financial Officer's report**

The current account currently stands at £13,397.92 and the Business Reserve account stands at £15,385.47 The following cheques were written: Clerk's salary (July – September) £323.36; HMRC Tax on salary £80.80; Stamps for The Haseleys £26.40; Colourplus £271.20; Nicholsons £60.00. Cheques written after the September meeting: Andrew Deptford (Defibrillators) £3,348.00; CIS Furniture (Seats) £1,848.00. Cheques written at the October and not on the agenda, these will appear on the November agenda: Wheatley Park School £20.00; Oxon Assoc. For the Blind £25.00; Mears Estate Ltd £372.00; Royal British Legion £25.00. No other cheques were written. The clerk had received no income during the month.

S Florence had checked the invoices against cheques written for the months of April to September 2016 and he was thanked for this.

#### **16/101 Year to date Forecast**

The clerk presented the Parish Council with a year to date forecast which was agreed. It was noted that it was showing a deficit at year end but this was in line with recommendations from both the internal and external auditors.

#### **16/102 Church clock annual service agreement**

The clerk had received notification from Smith of Derby who service the church clock to say that they had now serviced it and the three year contract had run out. They were offering a further three year contract at 2012 prices and asked if we wished to accept this offer. The Parish Council agreed to this as it was a saving of some £90 and the clerk would respond accordingly to Smiths.

#### **16/103 Neighbourhood Plan**

The clerk and the Chairman had been to a meeting with the John Howell MP and he had spoken about the importance of a Neighbourhood Plan. As two members of the Parish Council were not present at the meeting it was decided that the best way forward would be to put an "advert" in *The Haseleys* to see if someone would come forward to head up this important group and to put it on the agenda for the November meeting.

#### **16/104 Tenancy agreement for allotment holders for 2016/17**

This had been circulated to members of the Parish Council but unfortunately K Sentence was not present at the meeting who is responsible for the allotments, so it was decided that this should be postponed until the November meeting.

#### **16/105 Work on trees in Back Way and the Millennium Wood**

In the Spring, some work had been done on trees in Back Way and it was agreed at the time further work would need to be undertaken in the Autumn. It was therefore agreed to ask Sylvatrees to come back and finish the work over the winter period. It was noted that

some of the trees in the original area of the Millennium Wood were in need of pruning. It was therefore agreed to ask Nicholsons Nurseries to give the Parish Council a quotation for this work.

## **16/106 Reports from Committees**

**Footpaths** – No problems had been reported.

**Village Hall** – D Mann reported that the light had been fixed in the Village Hall; the ladies toilets mould problem was being attended to and also paint problems in the kitchen. It had also been agreed to V Wooster had agreed to be “housekeeper” for the village hall to ensure that after events it would be inspected weekly to ensure all was well. She also reported that almost all the tickets for this year’s ball had been sold.

**Playing Fields** – E Spencer said that she was concerned about the rubbish that was appearing at the back of the Pavilion, most of it seemed to be coming from the cricket clubs. It was agreed that she should talk to C Groves and ask him to get Tiddington Cricket Club to get a skip in and move the rubbish. It was also noted that on the eve of the Pumpkin Show the containers had both been broken into and a sit on lawn mower had been stolen.

The landowner around the playing fields was again having problems with rabbits and it was agreed that the Parish Council would contribute £150 towards the problem. The Chairman asked if an extra cut of the playing fields could be arranged as it was now quite long. He also said there had been problems again the model aircraft users flying over houses. He had spoken with the group and informed them that if they did it again, they would not be allowed to fly there in future.

**Cross Field** – E Spencer and J Andrews had met on the Cross Field to look at the equipment and found that in the interim perhaps some of the equipment could be repaired. J Andrews had looked at various play equipment websites and to replace like for like would be in excess of £20,000 + installation costs and removal of current equipment. It was agreed that this was not an option. The Pumpkin Show had said that they would be prepared to donate approximately £5,000 towards play equipment and it was felt that the Parish Council should match this figure.

After much discussion it was agreed to try to repair some of the equipment and replace perhaps one and then try to get a grant for the remainder of the equipment.

**Millennium Wood** – This had now had its final cut for the year.

**Allotments** – This was dealt with under 16/104. It was however pointed out that some of the allotment were in a poor state and did not appear to be used by anyone.

**Transport** – Rumours seemed to be surfacing that the bus service would be finishing on 2 December. However the Parish Council had not received any official notification of this but it would try to find out if this true as it would have major implications for a number of people in the village who have no other form of transport.

### **Report from the District and County Councillor**

As S Harrod was not present nothing was discussed although his reported had been circulated to the Parish Council in advance of the meeting.

#### **16/108 Correspondence**

OALC had been in touch regarding a government consultation the possibility that should a Parish Council wish to increase its precept by 2% (or £5 per head – whichever is the greater) they would have to have a referendum. This had been discussed at the meeting with John Howell and was pointed out should this come into forced, it could effectively double something that a Parish Council wished to do as they would have a pay for the referendum. It would effectively stop Parish Councils doing their job. It was agreed that perhaps larger Parish Councils should have to do this but not small ones. The Chairman agreed to reply to this consultation.

The usual bag of correspondence was given to the Parish Councillors.

#### **16/109 Any other business**

E Spencer said that as well as the break-in at the Playing Fields, equipment had been stolen from Sands Farm and two lorry loads from Farol over the last few weeks. Also a handbag had been stolen from a car at the Village Hall.

D Mann reported that a 30mph sign in Latchford Lane was covered by a hedge and she would arrange to get the hedge cut back. The Chairman said that drains had been looked at by OCC but some had not even been found. He had written to them about this and awaited their reply. He also reported that the clerk had been in touch with RAF Benson regarding helicopters that had been using Long Row as a ground turning marker and as a result were experiencing quite a lot of noise. This had now improved as they were now turning over the field at the bottom of the garden.

The Chairman thanked all those who had put on another splendid pumpkin show although he had not been present. He also reported that a large 40 tonne Dutch plated lorry had parked in the centre of Great Haseley and had intended staying the night there in order to go to Ariens in the morning. He reported it to the police who said they would try to go “and check his paperwork” during the night and it was also reported to Ariens. They said it was completely unsatisfactory and would try to ensure it did not happen again as there is parking up at the site and it is not necessary for lorries to park in the village.

16/110 It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on 14 November and the following one on 12 December 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

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