

**MINUTES OF GREAT HASELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 7.30PM VIA ZOOM**

Present: Cllrs A Sheppard (Chair), D Lindsay, C McGuirk, C Pickett, E Spencer, P Woodrow, A Oughton (Clerk) and 7 members of the public.

20/91 Public Discussion and Public Questions

A parishioner, who previously raised concerns regarding the allotment tap, spoke regarding item 20/99 on the agenda. He felt it was unfair to allotment holders as by applying a hosepipe meant only one person could use the tap at a time.

In 2010 the Parish Council and allotment holders agreed not to allow hosepipes. If Thames Water invoice for the water used it will mean allotment rents will have to increase to cover the charge. The Parishioner could not see how this charge could be fairly distributed amongst the allotment holders. Allotment holders closest to the tap had an unfair advantage over those further away. In the current climate the Parish Council should not encourage the use of this precious resource.

It was reported that the collection for the Royal British Legion on Remembrance Sunday raised £200.

20/92 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

20/93 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Cllrs Pickett and Woodrow declared an interest in item 20/99. Both spoke at the beginning of discussion of the item but then withdrew from the debate and did not take part in the vote.

20/94 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2020 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

20/95 Matters Arising

The Chair thanked David Simcox for organising the collection on Remembrance Sunday and was pleased to hear it had raised £200 for the Royal British Legion. The Chair also extended thanks to Toby Garfitt and Simon Cronk for organising the Service at the church door, which had gone very well. Thanks also to Cllr Woodrow for supplying the PA equipment.

The Chair had been approached by a resident who requested the 'tommy silhouette', purchased to commemorate the centenary of World War One is removed between Remembrance Services to increase impact. It was agreed this will be added to the December agenda for discussion.

The Parish Council's response to the Local Plan and also the Government White Paper had been submitted. The Chair thanked Cllrs Lindsay and McGuirk for their help in compiling both responses.

The Chair had written a letter of thanks to the owner of Haseley Court.

Back Way signs – as agreed, signs to dissuade drivers from speeding had been purchased. The Chair thanked Cllr Woodrow for installing the signs. It was noted there had been no feedback following the letter drop to Back Way residents. Correspondence had been received from a resident to say that in the past the Parish Council had requested that any planning applications

for work to properties on Back Way had a planning condition that contractors make good any damage caused to Back Way. The Chair confirmed this would continue. Cllr McGuirk will contact the owner of the property to which work was currently being undertaken.

The Chair had attended a finance training and Cllr McGuirk an experienced councillor training, both organised by Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils. The trainings were held via zoom, Councillors found them useful, however, both missed the networking opportunities that face-to-face trainings provided. The chair encouraged councillors to consider future trainings.

Road signs – the Clerk had contacted the Street Naming Officer at SODC re moving the Rectory Road sign closer to the 30mph sign at the Ariens entrance to the village and also the Mill Road sign propped up against No. 14 Mill Road.

The Clerk will contact Open reach regarding the green box at Latchford Lane. Reference the concerns raised regarding parking on Rectory Road, the Clerk had contacted the fire officer but had not received a response. The Clerk will continue to pursue this action.

The Chair reported that Fresh Air Fitness would repair the rust marks on the adult exercise equipment tomorrow. Cllr Spencer confirmed the Risk Assessment had been completed.

The Chair had contacted Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) regarding the old damaged litter bin near to the bus stop on Rectory Road. Cllr Lindsay shared two photographs, one of the damaged litter bin and one of the new litter bin OCC were prepared to install. The new litter bin could be used for dog waste, if installed the Parish Council could remove the dog waste bin this would reduce the cost of emptying dog waste bins. If agreed as part of the 2021-22 budget, the dog waste bin could be installed at an alternative location within the parish.

Resolved to ask Oxfordshire County Council to install a new litter bin. The Parish Council will remove the dog waste bin and an alternative location agreed at a later date if funding for it to be emptied is agreed as part of next year's budget. The Parish Council will notify residents of the proposed changes.

20/96 Planning Applications

P20/S3816/HH – 18 Horse Close Cottages

Erection of detached garden store

Resolved to Support the application

P20/S3244/FUL – Land to the North West of Stoke Talmage

Amendment No. 1

The construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic farm and associated infrastructure, including inverters, substation compound, security cameras, fencing, access tracks and landscaping. (As amplified by information received 26 October 2020).

Amendment No. 1 was noted with no further comment.

It was noted that the District Planning Authority has granted permission for the following applications.

P20/S3259/LDE – 21 Little Haseley

Occupation of building in breach of agricultural occupancy condition attached to planning permission

20/97 Financial Report

Copies of bank statements to 30 October 2020 had been circulated to Councillors. The balance on the Current Account was £16,979.57 and the Business Reserve Account £34,315.68. The Clerk reported £2,000 of CIL funding held in Reserves had been transferred to the current

account to cover the donation towards Back Way work. £1,462.50 of CIL funding related to development within the Parish had been received from SODC.

20/98 Payments

The following cheques were written as notified on the agenda: £269.10 SODC (Dog Waste Bins), £20 Wheatley Park School, £27.77 A Sheppard (signs for Back Way), £26.61 Clerk's expenses.

20/99 Allotments

Cllrs Pickett and Woodrow declared an interest as allotment holders, both spoke at the beginning of discussion of the item but then withdrew from the debate and did not take part in the vote.

Cllr Pickett reported the hosepipe stretched to the furthest allotment from the tap and the pressure was no different. There was a good atmosphere, allotmenters were engaged more in conversation, partly as a result of the introduction of the new tap and hosepipe. Cllr Pickett confirmed the hosepipe would definitely be reviewed should a water bill be received. The tap had never been left on to her knowledge. Using the old push tap had been hard work and difficult to operate. Allotment holders were all aware that should a water charge arise then allotment holders would be expected to pay and the tap situation reviewed.

Cllr Woodrow agreed with Cllr Pickett's comments and added he used the hosepipe to fill the water butt near to his allotment, which made things simple. Allotmenters were happy to pay for water if a bill is received. It was such a bonus to have the new tap and hosepipe.

The new tap and hosepipe were discussed. The Chair reported she had had a very positive conversation with another the allotment holder who said the new tap was less wasteful as it could be turned off, whereas the other one just ran on. It was noted the allotments were all rented with a waiting list; the allotments had never been so popular.

Resolved to keep the new tap and hosepipe. This will be reviewed should a water charges be levied in the future. The allotment rules will be updated to reflect this, should the eventuality arise.

20/100 Casual Vacancy

The Clerk had received four written applications from residents wishing to be considered for co-option to the Parish Council. The applications had been circulated to Councillors and applicants invited to attend the meeting.

Three applicants attended and answered questions; the fourth candidate had submitted apologies having a previous commitment. Following the presentations, the Chair thanked all the candidates for putting themselves forward and their commitment to the village. All the applications were of a high standard and it would be a very difficult decision.

The Chair explained that in normal circumstances the vote would have taken place during the meeting by secret ballot. However, this was not possible via zoom and so each councillor will submit his or her vote, in confidence to the Clerk, following the meeting. The Clerk will inform the Chair of the result who will then contact the successful candidate and let the other candidates know the result.

20/101 Coronavirus

The second lockdown was not as severe as the first. Councillor contact details were in the public domain should residents need to contact them. It was agreed the Parish Council could not add anything further to what was already in place. The lack of a footpath representative was important, particularly at this time when more people were using the footpaths, several councillors were happy to deal with any issues arising. This footpath representative would be discussed at the December meeting.

20/102 IT Infrastructure

Cllr Lindsay presented an overview of current costs related to the two website domains. Four options were considered; 1) cancel the Haseleys.co.uk domain, retain the Chair and Clerk generic email addresses under the parish council domain and move to a cloud-based system – cost £242pa without SSL or £267pa with SSL. 2) retain parish council domain – cost £12pa + SSL £25 (if required), 3) a hybrid model, retain Chair & Clerk email addresses, set up councillor emails using Gmail – cost £72 without SSL, £97 with SSL.

After discussion it was agreed in principle to go with the hybrid model with further investigation to be done on the website domains.

20/103 The Maple Tree

Consideration was given to a request from The Maple Tree for a donation towards their work. There was up to £100 set aside in the budget. It was agreed The Maple Tree was a brilliant organisation, which supported local families.

Resolved to make a donation of £100 to The Maple Tree

20/104 Reports from Committees / County and District Councillors

District Councillor Newton and County Councillor Harrod had sent their apologies.

Allotments – Cllr Pickett reported five people were on the waiting list for allotments. The water had been turned off for the winter.

There was nothing to report from the other Committees.

20/105 Correspondence

Items of correspondence and local parish magazines will be circulated in the Correspondence Bag for November.

It was noted the Parish Council receives a number of requests for donations from local and national organisations during the course of the year. It was agreed to discuss how such requests might be managed as part of the budget setting discussion in December.

20/106 Information Exchange

Cllr Pickett thanked everyone who had helped plant daffodil bulbs.

The Chair reported that although the road element of the Oxford-Cambridge arc had been shelved the arc continued to be promoted. The Chair will attend a zoom meeting on 17 November.

Items for inclusion on the next agenda:

Update on IT Infrastructure

Consideration of a village event post pandemic restrictions

Neighbourhood Plan

20/107 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed an additional meeting, to consider planning applications which had arrived too late would be held on Monday 16 November 2020 and the following meeting on 14 December 2020, commencing at 7.30pm.

The agenda for the meeting will be published on the Parish Council's website and will contain the link and information necessary for Councillors and Members of the Public to join the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed 9.50pm

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Chairman
14 December 2020