

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT HASELEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
ON MONDAY 13 JUNE 2016 AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** D Simcox (Chairman); J Andrews; D Mann; K Sentance; A Sheppard; E Spencer; S Harrod; J Simcox, Clerk and no members of the public.

**16/30 Public Discussion**

As there was no public present, there was no discussion.

16/31 Apologies for absence were received from H Harvey.

16/32 D Simcox declared a personal interest in item 16/37 on the clerk's salary.

16/33 The minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2016 were confirmed and signed.

**16/34 Matters arising**

The Chairman reported that he had been working on a map to go on to the website and hoped it would be available before the end of the summer. D Mann reported that she had been approached about the orange flags to say that children would go to the flags rather than leave them alone. It was agreed to monitor the situation and it was hoped that parents would inform their children regarding their use.

**16/35 Planning**

**P16/S0911/HH Brookbank Cottage, Standhill Lane, Little Haseley**

Single storey extension

The Parish Council has no strong views regarding this application.

**P16/S1104/HH & P16/S1105/LB 15 Little Haseley**

Demolition of existing conservatory and new rear extension

The Parish Council has no strong views on this application.

**P16/S1773/AG Rycote Farm, near Albury**

Proposed extension to the existing barn

The Parish Council has no strong views on this application.

**P16/S1671/LB Vine Cottage, 23 Rectory Road, Great Haseley**

Removal of rear buttress, which has come away from the elevation. To be replaced by Helifix support – as agreed with Structural Engineer, Helifix specialist and Emily Karau, planning officer

The Parish Council recommends approval of this application.

**P16/S1826/HH & P16/S1827/LB Stones Farm, Little Haseley**

The proposal is for a renovated guest barn, coach house and a new pool house with adjoining swimming pool, tennis court and associated boundary treatments

The Parish Council recommends approval of this application.

**16/36 Responsible Financial Officer's report**

The current account currently stands at £13,040.19 and the Business Reserve account stands at £15,382.90 The following cheques were written: Stamps for The Haseleys

£26.40; Colourplus £335.50; Sylvatrees Ltd £1,128.00; Allan Janes £436.80. Cheques written at May meeting but not on the agenda: Allan Janes £265.40; Mears Estates £174.00; Colourplus £400.71. The following two cheques were written during the year to 31 March 2016 and not recorded in the Minutes. These are: Woodrow Joinery (work on the kitchen in the Village Hall) £3,600 and Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal £35.00. Cheques written at the June meeting but not on the agenda, these will appear on the July agenda: Curry PC World £105.98 (two portable storage); Nicholsons Nurseries Spring herbicide application £60.00; Allan Janes extra for additional land £200. Whilst this was marginally over that in the budget, it was unanimously agreed that the expenses for the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Street Party should be paid (H Ball £215.57 and Great Haseley Village Hall £48.76). Cheques were written for these amounts and would appear on the July agenda. No other cheques were written. A request from Home Start had been received, this was not in the budget but it was agreed to donate £25 and this would go on the agenda for the July meeting. The clerk received £48 income from *The Haseleys*, £10 for Book of Walks and £65 for defibrillators during the month of June.

The clerk reported that a meeting had taken place with P Cawdron, the internal auditor, and that the end of year accounts were now agreed. Due to an under claim of £82.40 and an over claim of £53.94 of VAT, an under claim of £4.66 remained. This would be added to the return for the April-June return and recorded in the accounts. The balance sheets were now on the Parish Council website.

D Simcox left the room.

#### **16/37 Increase to the Clerk's salary for 2016 and 2017**

K Sentance took the Chair. The clerk had received notification from NALC that had reached agreement that the hourly rate should change for 2016 backdated to 1 April from £10.261p per hour to £10.363 per hour. It was also recommended that a rate of £10.467 per hour should come into effect on 1 April 2017. It was unanimously agreed that this should be agreed and the clerk was thanked for her work.

The question of the number of hours worked by the clerk was raised. The clerk had assessed some 20+ years ago that she worked 3 hours a week on behalf of the Parish Council. However over that time period the hours she now works are greater but she felt that she did not wish to increase the burden of the Parish Council of extra expenditure and was quite happy to continue that this rate. It was agreed that this should be put on record in order that when she steps down from the post, it is probable that her successor would expect to be paid for more hours.

D Simcox returned to the Chair.

#### **16/38 A seat for the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday**

As a result of the May meeting it had been decided to purchase a seat to mark this occasion. The clerk had found a number of seats and the Chairman had found a maker of seats similar to those purchased at the last two coronations. It was thought that it would be appropriate to try to get another similar to those. The Chairman was waiting for information on the cost of these and this information would be circulated by email to the Parish Councillors in order to make a decision. The Chairman had also asked for a price to buy a new end for the seat which is on the Playing Fields and this information would also be circulated.

#### **16/39 Future of the Parish Chest**

The Archive Group, on behalf of the Parish Council, had looked through the Chest and a list of contents would be produced by K Sentance. The Parish Council would then formally inform J Alexander that the Parish Council thanked him for the safe keeping of this information and that it would then be passed to the Archive Group for their ongoing research. Once this had taken place and the contents itemised, the clerk would write to the County Records Office informing them of this and requesting the return of the Minute Books placed with them in 2010.

#### **16/40 Local Plan 2031**

A Sheppard had attended a meeting to discuss the Local Plan which was being finalised before being put out for consultation. There were a number of issues that were of concern for the parish as it had been decided in order to get the requisite number of houses that have been identified as needed for Oxfordshire as a whole, the larger villages would need to increase their housing by 10% and the smaller villages (as Great Haseley is classified) by 5%. This would still leave a shortfall and various options were currently being looked at. One was for a settlement of approximately 11,000 houses around the M40 motorway junction 7. There would be three routes into this site; one from the A329, one from the other side of the motorway to Haseley under a bridge currently in place and one would be down Latchford Lane. The final document for consultation would be released on 27 June and it would be open for comment until 19 August. Once this was available, it would be necessary for the Parish Council to agree their response and then an open village meeting would need to be called to let everyone know what was going on.

As a result of this document, it was agreed that the Parish Council should start a Neighbourhood Plan so that any housing that was to happen in the village could be put where people wanted them to go. It was agreed that we would try to get someone from a similar size village that was quite a long way down the road of completing their Neighbourhood Plan to come to the next meeting to let us know what is involved. It was also necessary to get a strong Chairman to manage a group. The Neighbourhood Plan should not be undertaken by the Parish Council although one member of the Parish Council should be on the group in order to be able to keep it informed.

#### **16/41 Update to the Community Plan**

K Sentance had produced an update and this had been circulated to the Parish Council. However due to the long agenda, it was agreed that Parish Councillors would send their comments direct to K Sentance and this could then be discussed at the next meeting.

The clerk informed the Parish Council that she felt she did not have the time to set up an email tree. It was agreed that a flyer would be put in the July issue of The Haseleys asking people if they wished to be part of this scheme which would only be used for Parish Council issues and other very local information that may be of use to them. It would never be passed on to a third party. It was agreed to ask if a box could be put at The Plough for those who wished to put their replies in it or that it could be sent to the Clerk. A Sheppard said she would try to find someone to put together the emails and then let the Clerk have the list once it had been completed.

#### **16/42 Neighbourhood Plan**

This was discussed under Item 16/40.

#### 16/43 **Tetsworth Neighbourhood Plan**

The Chairman had been approached by Tetsworth Parish Council as they had started their Neighbourhood plan and they wanted to include some of the parish of Great Haseley into their plan. This was discussed and it was agreed that as we were now actively thinking of our Plan, we could not agree to this at this stage. Tetsworth would be informed of this decision.

#### 16/44 **Parish Council response to the OCC Unitary call for evidence**

Papers had been circulated prior to the meeting and this was discussed at length. S Harrod outlined what was being suggested and he was thanked for his clarity in explaining this. The paperwork received from OCC had been at best muddled and did not really say what the changes would be and how they would affect Parish Councils. After much discussion, a vote was taken and the Parish Council were unanimous in their view that whilst the current system was not perfect, it was better than either the scheme put forward by OCC and SODC and so voted as the status quo.

#### 16/45 **Bus shuttle service**

A suggestion had been made that due to the reduced timetable of the 103 bus service that a small local bus service, funded by ASDA, could be an option to serve the residents of Great and Little Milton, Great Haseley, Wheatley and Horspath. Whilst the Parish Council felt that this was a good initiative, it felt that this should not be contemplated while Heyfordian was running the 103 but should be kept in mind if after the six month trial period, Heyfordian could not continue the service.

#### 16/46 **Reports from Committees**

**Footpaths** – The Chairman had some problems with some of the footpaths and as time was short, it was agreed he would send these to A Sheppard for her to deal with.

**Village Hall** – There had been a very successful street party put on for the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was well attended even though the weather was not great.

**Playing Fields** – Scion were still not cutting the area by the tennis courts and it would now require to be strimmed as it was so long. E Spencer agreed to talk to Scion about this area and ensure that it is cut.

**Cross Field** – Both the Cross Field and the Playing Field equipment were to be inspected during July and all shackles needed oiling and ensuring that all equipment was OK. One piece of play equipment on the Cross Field needed repair and E Spencer agreed to look at it and see if anything could be done before the inspection.

**Millennium Wood** – The footpaths that were not cut wide enough when Scion did it and it was not possible to walk through the wood when it was wet. The whole area will be cut on 4 July so this should solve the problem. E Spencer agreed to talk to Scion as they were not cutting the paths where they should go.

**Transport** – J Andrews mentioned that the 124 bus route which came through Great Haseley on Tuesdays known as the Thame market bus would not now be subsidised and Thame Town Council was approaching parish councils along the route to ask whether they were able to support this service in order to keep it going. They said that the current

subsidy is £26,000 a year and J Andrews had asked for a breakdown of costs but had received no reply from them.

**16/47 Report from the District and County Councillor**

S Harrod had sent reports from OCC and SODC which had been circulated. He reported to the meeting that white lines in Latchford Lane would only be funded by OCC if work was being done nearby and the men could be persuaded to do those at the same time. If the Parish Council wished to have them done they could at a cost of £500. The subject of the lights at Farol was discussed and it was agreed that the Chairman would write to S Harrod to say that Farol had not applied for permission for their lights and just to put a timer on the lights was not sufficient.

**16/48 Correspondence**

The usual correspondence was circulated. The clerk reported that the mobile library would now be stopping due to lack of funding.

**16/49 Any other business**

The Chairman said for information that the pledges for the defibrillators were going well and currently the clerk had received nearly £1,000 plus many people had also agreed to pay an annual amount for consumables.

16/50 It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on 11 July at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. There would not be a meeting during August except for urgent and financial matters. There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.05pm.

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