

MINUTES OF GREAT HASELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 11 January 2021 AT 7.30PM VIA ZOOM

Present: Cllrs A Sheppard (Chair), D Lindsay, C McGuirk, C Pickett, T Suter, P Woodrow, A Oughton (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

20/134 Public Discussion and Public Questions

A parishioner raised concerns regarding the work carried out on Back Way, particularly the area near the Chapel, which had not been properly finished.

The parishioner raised this at the time with the contractor and also contacted the Back Way Team (BWT) in October. BWT had responded saying the contractor was aware of the problem and would put it right in a couple of weeks but advised no further compaction would be done.

The parishioner further stated the surface on Back Way is deteriorating already and the track has more potholes than before the work commenced. She also asked if there is provision to install signage asking vehicles to slow down.

The Chair responded to say the Parish Council will contact the Back Way Team about the matter. With reference to speeding vehicles, the Parish Council had purchased and erected signage encouraging vehicles to slow down and also undertaken a mail drop to every house on Back Way asking residents to advise visitors and delivery drivers to their property to drive slowly.

Another parishioner raised concerns regarding unusual activity he had witnessed in the early hours of this morning and urged residents to be vigilant.

20/135 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Spencer (unwell).

20/136 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations.

20/137 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2020 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

20/138 Matters Arising

Tier 5 lockdown had been instigated since publication of the agenda. The Chair suggested that a note is placed in the Haseley Updates asking if anyone needs help, all agreed. Cllr Pickett had been volunteering at the COVID vaccination clinic in Wheatley and encouraged others who were able to volunteer to contact the surgery.

The community carol singing on Christmas Eve was a good village event and appreciated by many residents. Cllr Woodrow reported the collection had raised £150, which will be donated to Meadowcroft Care Home in Thame.

The parishioner who raised concerns regarding the 'Tommy' silhouette at the War Memorial has offered to purchase a plant to go in front of the white plaque. All agreed this was a good idea.

The new contract with Scoop Dotty Dog to empty the dog waste bins commenced this week. The previous contract with South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) has been terminated. The Chair

had spoken to John Haywood about possibly relocating the bin originally on Rectory Road along the bridle path. It was agreed to wait until the new contractor had settled in before going ahead.

Chalgrove Airfield development – The Chair had contacted Highways at Oxfordshire County Council to arrange a meeting to discuss road infrastructure should the application for Chalgrove Airfield be granted permission. A date has not yet been confirmed; any Councillors who would like to attend the meeting should contact Cllr Sheppard.

The relocation of street name signs on Rectory Road and Mill Lane had been completed.

Superfast Broadband – Cllr Suter reported there were two options:

1. Airband: Currently working in Little Milton, contracted as part of BIR0 by SODC, may be able to provide fibre to the village later this year, a disadvantage is Airband require commitment to a three year contract.
2. BT Openreach – Cllr Suter had registered an interest, on behalf of the village, as a community project and awaiting confirmation. Using Openreach will allow access to voucher scheme, requires a certain number of homes to sign up, there is no contract lock in, residents can choose their own provider, expected to be able to provide fibre in 18-24 months.

Cllr Suter will continue to gather information and arrange for both companies to make a presentation to a future Parish Council meeting.

Speeding initiatives – Cllr Suter reported he had registered the Parish Council with '20's plenty for Oxfordshire' action group.

Neighbourhood Plan – Cllrs Sheppard and Suter had met with the Chair of Little Milton Parish Council to gain a better understanding of the mechanics / pitfalls / advantages of developing a Neighbourhood Plan (NP). A number of enabling actions need to take place before going to consultation including; setting the boundaries of the NP and whether to include site selections for possible future development. Cllrs Sheppard and Suter will also talk to the Neighbourhood Plan Officer at SODC and also the Neighbourhood Plan Continuity Officer at Thame Town Council.

The development of a NP will require a Working Group to be set up made up of a cross-section of residents. The Parish Council needs to agree the Terms of Reference for the Working Group.

Accounting package – Cllrs McGuirk, Sheppard and the Clerk were investigating suitable accounting packages for the Parish Council. Scribe Accounting provides packages for Parish Councils at a monthly cost of £24 for one login. It was agreed Cllr McGuirk and the Clerk will investigate further and report back to a future meeting with the aim to have a package in place for the start of the new financial year.

20/139 Planning Applications

P20/S4535/HH – Pancott, 1 Mill Lane, Great Haseley

Remove existing single storey rear extensions. Erect new two storey extension to rear.

Resolved to Fully Support the application

P20/S4769/HH - 1 Standhill Cottage, Standhill Lane, Little Haseley

Proposed first floor rear extension to enlarge en-suite

Resolved to Fully Support the application

**P20/S3245/FUL - Harlesford Farm near Tetsworth
Amendment No. 2 – dated 21 December 2020**

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 and amended by drawings received 21 December 2020).

Resolved to continue to Object to the application

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

P20/S3293/HH - The School House, Rectory Road

Demolition of existing garage at the front, erection of single storey extension (in place of garage), side extension to first floor, loft conversion and removal of existing render to all elevations.

P20/S3383/HH – 27 Rectory Road

Proposed first floor rear extension.

P20/S3481/FUL - Rycote Lane Farm, Rycote Lane, Milton Common

Grain store with turning area.

P20/S3816/HH – 18 Horse Close Cottages

Erection of detached garden store.

P20/S4105/FUL - Haseley Court, Linden Lodge, Little Haseley

Variation of condition 5 - Occupation on application P07/W0549 to allow occupation by persons employed, or formerly employed, at Haseley Court or as ancillary accommodation.

Erection of new dwelling for staff.

20/140 Financial Report

Copies of bank statements to 31 December 2020 had been circulated to Councillors. It was noted the balance on the Current Account was £13,747.09 and the Business Reserve Account £35,448.77.

20/141 Payments

The following cheques were written as notified on the agenda: £671.48 Parish Administration, £168.00 HMRC.

20/142 Budget & Precept 2021-22

The draft budget had been discussed at the December meeting, following which a small number of amendments had been made.

Resolved that the 2021-22 Budget of £16,511 be approved.

After discussion it was agreed to raise the Precept to £16,300, which equated to £62.05 per year for a Band D dwelling, which represents a slight decrease on the previous year due to there being more occupied homes in the parish in doing so this would result in a very small surplus for the year.

Resolved that £16,300 be raised for the Precept for 2021-22.

20/143 District Councillor Grant

The Parish Council had received £511.00 from the District Councillor Grant fund to purchase two dog waste bins. Following the substantial increase in cost by SODC to empty the bins it was agreed not to purchase any further bins.

Cllr Woodrow put forward a proposal on behalf of the Village Hall Committee to purchase two dehumidifiers for the toilets at the Village Hall, which were urgently needed, using the District Councillor Grant. The cost of the dehumidifiers will be £382.12 + VAT for two.

Resolved to spend the District Councillor Grant to purchase two dehumidifiers for the Village Hall

It was further discussed and agreed to use the remaining portion of the grant to refurbish the parish noticeboards on the village hall and in Little Haseley.

20/144 Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice (OSAV CA)

The Parish Council had received a letter from Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice (OSAV CA) requesting funding. The letter highlighted the typical cost of a session is £36 and that over the course of the last year 28 residents had contacted OSAV CA for help. £70 had been budgeted for this financial year.

Resolved to make a donation of £70 to OSAV CA

20/145 IT Infrastructure

Cllr Lindsay reported he had copied all files and pages on the Haseley's website and stored them in an iCloud bucket. Communication continued with Carmella Media re closure of the website. Councillors who had not already done so were asked to set up emails using [.ghpc@gmail.com](mailto:ghpc@gmail.com). Cllr Lindsey offered help if needed.

20/146 Communication

It was agreed Cllr McGuirk will set up a Parish Council FaceBook presence, this will provide another platform of communication for the Parish Council. Cllrs McGuirk and Sheppard will be responsible for administration of the page.

20/147 Reports from Committees / County and District Councillors

County Councillor Harrod had sent his apologies.

District Councillor Newton had circulated her report ahead of the meeting. Cllr Newton reported the District Councillor Grant Scheme was now open; the deadline for receipt of applications is 5 February 2021.

Cllr Newton had attended a COVID briefing last Wednesday; the growth in infection rates could be seen clearly to be 'travelling' out from London throughout South Oxfordshire. The high rates were putting huge pressure on local hospitals. It had also impacted Officers at SODC who have been redeployed to help with the mass vaccination process, contacting people eligible for the vaccination by telephone or letter and organising transport where needed. The Brown Bin service had been temporarily suspended as a result of a reduced workforce at Biffa who were off sick or self-isolating.

There will almost certainly be a judicial review on the Local Plan, which was adopted by SODC in December. However, following adoption the focus now moves to ensuring planning application for the large development sites are acceptable and the appropriate infrastructure is in place.

Reports from Committees:

Discussion took place to elect Councillor Representatives to the Environment and Footpaths Committees.

Resolved that Cllr Suter is Councillor Representative for the Environment and Cllr Pickett is Councillor Representative for Footpaths.

Allotments – Cllr Pickett reported there was a healthy waiting list. It was pleasing to note the popularity of the allotments.

Village Hall – Cllr Woodrow reported the Village Hall had been offered as a vaccination centre. The NHS had responded and were grateful for the offer but at present it was not needed.

Communication, Environment, Footpaths, Millennium Wood & Miss Cross Field – nothing to report.

The Clerk had received notice of the next meeting of Parish Transport Representatives on 23 February 2021. It was agreed Cllr Suter will attend.

20/148 Correspondence

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

20/149 Information Exchange

Nothing to report.

20/107 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed the next meeting will be held on 8 February 2021 and the following meeting on 8 March 2021, 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 at 9.20pm

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Chairman
8 February 2021