

**MINUTES OF GREAT HASELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 7 JUNE 2021 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllrs D Lindsay, C McGuirk, C Pickett, T Suter (Chairman), P Woodrow, A Oughton (Clerk) and 9 members of the public.

21/22 Public Discussion and Public Questions

Mr Simcox congratulated Cllr Suter on being elected Chairman, having served as Chairman himself for many years, Mr Simcox offered any help of advice if required.

Mr Simcox asked when back issues of The Haseleys will be available on the website. Also, if the Parish Council has plans to apply weedkiller to paths, particularly near Horse Close which was getting very overgrown.

Cllr Lindsay confirmed that all back copies of The Haseleys were safely stored in the cloud and just needed time to transfer to the website. However, each issue takes up a large amount of storage space, this will have to be carefully managed.

Attention was drawn to the Chairmen's Board in the Village Hall which needed to be updated. The Clerk asked if Mr Simcox would send her the details of the signwriter.

21/23 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

21/24 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations.

21/25 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 May 2021 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The draft minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 4 May 2021 were noted.

21/26 Matters Arising

The Chairman reported the allocation of Councillor responsibilities will take place at the July meeting once a new member has been co-opted.

No response has been received from Hazell & Jefferies to the letters sent by the Clerk and the Chairman.

The Chairman apologised for the proposed engagement plan for the Neighbourhood Plan not being on the agenda but confirmed it would be included for discussion at the next meeting.

It was noted the rabbit cull had taken place two weeks ago.

21/27 Planning Applications

**P20/S3244/FUL – Land to the North West of Stoke Talmage, Stoke Talmage
Amendment No. 5**

The construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic farm and associated infrastructure, including inverters, substation compound, security cameras, fencing, access tracks and

landscaping (as clarified by information received 26 October 2020, 11 November 2020, 22 January 2021, 1 February 2021 and 9 February 2021 and 20 May 2021).

No further comment

P21/S2087/FUL – 2 Windmill Meadow, Rectory Road, Great Haseley

Extension of existing garden by 7,578 square feet, for the purpose of creating a wildlife pond, wildflower meadow and vegetable garden.

Resolved to support the application

P20/S3905/FUL – Manana, Latchford Lane, Great Haseley

Amendment No. 1

Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of new chalet style house and garage (removal of garage, amendment to design, arboricultural impact assessment, preliminary bat roost assessment, energy statement, and water efficiency calculator received 18/05/2021).

Resolved that the amendment did not alter the original reasons for objection as agreed on 16 November 2020

P21/S1632/RM (Reserved Matters) – Land North of Ryctoe Lane, Thame

Reserved matters following outline permission (P17/S4441/O) for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale. The erection of up to 180,000 square feet (up to 16,722 square metres) of B2/B8 with ancillary B1(a) and B1(c) together with parking, drainage, landscaping (structural and incidental) and highway works.

The application was noted.

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

P21/S0638/FUL - Haseley End, Rectory Road

Demolition of existing bungalow and outbuildings. New 3 bed detached cottage and one pair of 2 bed semi-detached cottages. Landscaping and car parking with existing crossover retained and widened (as amplified by the energy statement including SAP calculations received 22 March, 2020) (as amended by plan ref C781 Rev A providing an additional parking space) (as amended by revised Landscape Plan A1 L) (as amended by Landscaping Plan ref 1284 rev C).

P21/S1105/FUL – 1 Windmill Meadow, Rectory Road

Extension of existing garden by 10m. To be used for planting wildflowers and for the children to play. Bench area for family seating in the sun.

21/28 Internal Audit

The Internal Audit was conducted between 7 May and 5 June 2021 and followed the agreed Scope of Work. The Internal Audit report had been circulated to Councillors.

The audit concluded that the control objectives had been achieved throughout the financial year, that the Income & Expenditure account for the year ended 31 March was a fair reflection of the financial transactions that had taken place during the year and that the Balance Sheet was a fair reflection of the financial position of the Parish Council at year end.

The Parish Council thanked Mr Heinrich for his time and support in auditing the accounts.

21/29 External Audit / Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) / End of Year Accounts 2020-21

It was agreed that the Parish Council's income had exceeded the threshold to Certify itself as exempt from a limited assurance review and that it was necessary to complete Part 3 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR).

The Parish Clerk asked the Parish Council to answer questions, 1 to 9 of Annual Governance Statement on page 4 of the AGAR. It was agreed to answer 'Yes' to each of the questions.

Resolved that:

The Annual Governance Statement for 2020-21 be approved.

The Financial Statements (Unaudited) including the Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021, the Income & Expenditure Account for year ended 31 March 2021 were received.

Resolved that:

The Accounting Statements for 2020-21, on Page 5 of the AGAR be approved.

21/30 Financial Report

Copies of bank statements to 28 May 2021 had been circulated to Councillors. The balances were noted as follows: £15,729.9 – Current Account and £39,089.74 Business Reserve Account.

The Clerk reported income for the month was as follows: Current Account – allotments rents and £1,462.50 - Community Infrastructure Funding (CIL). CIL funds had been transferred to the Business Reserve Account.

21/31 Payments

The following cheques were approved: £36.00 Pet Waste Solutions, £20.70 SODC, £454.41 BHIB. It was further agreed to write the following cheques not published on the agenda: £468.00 Ridgeway Rural Services.

The Clerk reported a request to purchase further credits for the Haseley Update emails had been received. It was agreed to purchase 10,000 credits at £70.93.

21/32 Allotments

It was agreed the use of polytunnels on the allotments was in conformity with the Allotment Rules. Discussion took place on the possibility of setting up an Allotment Association. It was agreed Cllr Pickett and the Clerk would investigate and report back to a future meeting.

21/33 Faster Broadband

The 39 expressions of interest in faster broadband had been forwarded to Openreach who had plotted the locations. If the service points are all updated, they could provide cover for 129 premises. The total cost is £144076k, if all 129 premises join (which is unlikely), the cost per premise is £1116.87k. Costs can be offset by the DCMS voucher scheme which Openreach will manage. Other grants may be available to offset the capital cost. The critical point is how many premises commit to the scheme.

Cllr Suter will organise a further marketing push in the village and have a table at the village party on 10 July. Openreach will supply marketing materials. It was agreed the messaging needed to be clear so people knew the cost and that it will depend on the numbers who sign up to the scheme.

21/34 Casual Vacancy

The Chairman reported two applications had been received for the casual vacancy but one candidate had withdrawn from the co-option but had expressed an interest in applying should a co-option take place following the resignation of Cllr Sheppard. The Clerk reported she expected to hear whether the Council could proceed with a further Co-option on 18 June 2021.

The remaining candidate attended the meeting and answered questions. Following the presentation, the Chair thanked the candidate for putting himself forward and their commitment to the village.

On being put to the vote it was **Resolved** to Co-opt Mr Chris Groves onto the Council.

21/35 Reports from Committees / County and District Councillors

The Chairman welcomed County Councillor Freddie van Mierlo and congratulated him on his recent election to the County Council.

County Cllr van Mierlo reported he had sent through his priorities and encouraged people to sign up to his newsletter. He could not commit to attend every single meeting but was trying to attend the first meeting of as many of the Parish Councils in his ward. He was always contactable by email or phone.

Cllr van Mierlo welcomed applications to the County Councillor Priority Fund, he was keen for local communities to benefit now rather than spread the £15k funding over the two year period. There was no set criteria, however, Cllr van Mierlo was keen to support projects that might not benefit from other funding streams.

District Councillor Newton reported the application for Chalgrove Airfield had been withdrawn, however, it was highly likely Homes England will submit a new application relocating the airfield to the north of the site with housing development moved to the existing airfield. Concerns around infrastructure still remain. No news on Harrington development, however, if development at Chalgrove does not go ahead it is more likely Harrington could come forward.

There has been a supply problem to residents for new brown garden waste bins mainly due to accounts and payments being brought back 'in house'. Car parking rules changed from last week in an effort to regularise parking charges across the District. Sunday parking charges now apply.

Reports from Committees:

Allotments – Cllr Pickett reported the allotments looked amazing, there was a good community spirit amongst the allotmenters.

Footpaths – Cllr Pickett reported the Ramblers Association had sent through a spreadsheet of actions to be taken. Cllr Lindsay advised this should be sent to the relevant landowners who will carry out the repairs.

Village Hall - Cllr Woodrow reported plans for the Village Party on 10 July were progressing well.

Millennium Wood – The Clerk will find out when the footpath cut is due and report back.

Environment, Miss Cross Field, Communications, Playing Fields - nothing to report.

21/36 Correspondence

Items of correspondence and local parish magazines were circulated in the Correspondence Bag for June.

21/37 Information Exchange

Items for next agenda:

Engagement plan for Neighbourhood Plan
Emergency Plan

Community Infrastructure Levy
Dog Waste Bins – to review the current contract

Cllr Lindsay read the following statement:

Since the Charman was named in the ‘Dyson’ report, relating to a high-profile news story from the 1990’s. The remaining members of the Parish Council informally discussed the findings, particularly around the comments relating to Tim Suter.

During the discussion, Councillors assessed the impact of the report in relation to the Parish Council and to discuss if they felt Tim Suter’s role in the Report would affect his ability to serve the Parish, as a Councillor or Chairman.

The Councillors had an opinion that Tim Suter met the Nolan Principles as set out for roles within Public Office and he maintains the full support of the Council to remain as a Councillor and Chairman of the Parish Council.

21/38 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed the next meeting will be held on 12 July 2021 and the following meeting on 13 September 2021, commencing at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.20pm

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Chairman
12 July 2021