

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT HASELEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

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

19/67 Public Discussion and Public Questions

Residents living close to the proposed development at Haseley End reported they had sent comments on the planning application to the District Planning Officer and were here to relay their concerns to the Parish Council.

The plot was originally an open space with a pond. The layout of the cottages surrounding the plot are positioned to look over the pond. Permission was granted for a bungalow to be built before the area was listed as a Conservation Area in the 1980s and is set towards the back of the plot.

This proposal is contrary to a large number of planning policies in the District Local Plan relating to the character of the area, traffic generation, poor design, inappropriate building materials and is completely inappropriate for a village setting.

If the development goes ahead the car park will be immediately outside the windows of neighbouring dwellings whose occupants will be adversely affected by vehicle noise, fumes and vehicle headlights entering and maneuvering in the car park.

The proposal represents overdevelopment of the site, the materials are inappropriate for the area and traffic generation at the pinch point in Rectory Road and especially the access to plot number 4 is dangerous. There is no visitor parking which will result in more on-street parking in an already congested part of the village. Perhaps one or two new, single storey dwellings be acceptable on this plot but any new development should enhance the area.

19/68 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Gheissari (Personal) and McGuirk (Business).

19/69 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest.

19/70 Minutes

The Minutes of the meetings held on 8 July 2019 and 15 August 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

19/71 Matters Arising

The Clerk reported she would circulate information received from The Open Spaces Society regarding the cultivation of common land.

The Chair reported she had contacted Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Services following concerns raised by a resident at the last meeting regarding emergency vehicles being able to access properties in Mill Lane and had been assured by the Fire Officer that emergency vehicles would not have any difficulty. The Chair had provided a written update to the resident.

Cllr Lindsay will allocate an area of the village to each Councillor to survey and report items to the Clerk for possible inclusion on the Parish Council's Asset Register.

Since the last meeting the Chair had sent at least another four emails to Oxfordshire County Council chasing clarification of the data gathered from the traffic surveys. This was not satisfactory and the Chair will continue to push for a response.

Regarding the proposed listing of the War Memorial, the Chair has written to Great Haseley History Group informing them of the Parish Council's support for the Group to continue to progress the listing of the Memorial.

19/72 Planning Applications

P19/S2503/O – Haseley End, Rectory Road, Great Haseley

Demolition of existing building and garages. Construction of 4 new residential attached dwellings, car parking and new vehicle crossover with access, appearance, layout and scale to be determined at this stage.

Resolved to Object to this application on the grounds of: Overdevelopment, Out of Character with the Area, Parking and Access, Overlooking and inappropriate materials. A detailed response has been sent to the Planning Officer.

P19/S2598/FUL - The Oxfordshire Golf Club Rycote Lane Milton Common

Variation of conditions 3 - Landscaping Scheme and 5 – Temporary Permission and Reinstatement Scheme on application P19/S1413/FUL for changes to allow alternative method of visual mitigation including trees.

Resolved to Fully Support this application.

P19/S2685/FUL & P19/S685/FUL - Lobb Farm, Access Road to Lobb Farm, Tetsworth

The proposed development is for a Gas Fired Electricity Generating Facility with the ability to generate up to 49.99 MW of electricity. A low carbon flexible generating facility using gas reciprocating engines. The facility will generate electricity principally for the regional distribution network in times of generation shortfall and/or high demand.

It was agreed to defer consideration of these applications until hard copies of the planning applications had been received. An additional meeting will be arranged to discuss the planning applications on Monday 23 September 2019.

19/73 Payments

The following cheques were written as notified on the agenda: RoSPA £164.40, Oxfordshire County Council £271.20, Open Spaces Society £45.00, Royal British Legion £35.00, Andrew Deptford £114.00, Ridgeway Rural Services £1,200.00, South Oxfordshire District Council £69.07, Postage – The Haseleys £29.28, Parish Administration £106.34, Colourplus £450.77.

The following cheques were written at the meeting: Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal £35.00, Wheatley Park School £20.00.

19/74 Financial Report

The balance on the Current Account was £4,305.26 and the Business Reserve Account £22,890.81. The income for the month of £742.00 had been received and previously agreed expenditure for the month of £320.54.

The Clerk had obtained the necessary form to add and remove signatories from the Parish Council's bank accounts.

Resolved that Cllrs Gheissari, Pickett, McGuirk and Woodrow are added as signatories to the Parish Council's Bank Accounts held at National Westminster Bank and that Mr Andrews, Mr Harvey, Mrs Mann and Mr Simcox are removed as signatories as they stood down from office at the last election. New signatories to return the necessary paperwork at the next meeting.

19/75 Financial Regulations

The Clerk had reviewed the Financial Regulations (based on the model Financial Regulations issued by the National Association of Local Councils) and circulated to Councillors. Minor adjustments had been made to suit a Parish Council the size of Great Haseley.

Cllr Sheppard suggested the following amendments:

4.1 – additional sentence to read ‘with a threshold value on any payments that exceed individual budget line items of 5% of its value or £100, whichever is the smaller’.

4.7 – last sentence to read ‘.....shall show explanations of material variances of 10%.’

5.5a – add ‘ or to avoid undue delay’ after ‘.... Debts (Interest) Act 1998,’.

10.2 – remove.

Resolved the Financial Regulations 2019 be approved with the amendments as listed above.

19/76 RoSPA Play Area Inspections

The Clerk had circulated the RoSPA Play Area Inspection reports for Miss Cross Field and the Playing Field. The Inspection report for Miss Cross Field identified some remedial actions needed to the Monkey Climber; decay to the timber components, fraying of the ropes and the loose fill surface to be topped up.

It was agreed to begin the process of replacing the Monkey Climber with a similar piece of play equipment. Cllr Spencer will obtain quotations from play equipment suppliers, Cllr Pickett will research possible grant funding streams and Cllr Lindsay will obtain quotations to top up the loose fill surface to the required depth.

19/77 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The Clerk had updated the spreadsheet showing the amount of CIL received and what was expected and circulated it to Councillors together with the list of possible projects on which the CIL revenue might be spent.

It was agreed that each Councillor would look at a particular project and gather information / prices to present at the Parish Meeting in March 2020 for resident's comments.

19/78 Great Haseley Emergency Plan

Cllr Sheppard reminded everyone to read and feed back comments to David Simcox. Cllr McGuirk will pick up obtaining consent from local residents for their details to be included in the Plan.

19/79 SODC Local Plan 2034

See item 19/81.

19/80 Reports from Committees

Footpaths

Cllr Gheissari had given her apologies but had sent a report that since the last meeting she had reported the overgrown trees near old bus stop and just further up near the Old Bakery, also two tyres which had been dumped in the decommissioned bus stop near Horse Close Cottages.

Village Hall

Cllr Woodrow reported the Village Hall Committee were working hard on plans for the Garden Party being held this Saturday.

Playing Fields

Cllr Spencer had been called out twice in the last month following reports of joy riders at the Recreation Field but they had gone when she arrived. There is a broken wooden post and the basketball hoop needs repairing. Cllr Woodrow reported that he and his wife had found a replacement hoop and net and would install it shortly.

Miss Cross Field

Nothing further to report to that covered under item 19/76.

Millennium Wood

Councillors were pleased to note residents picking and using the fruit.

Allotments

Cllr Pickett reported two half allotments and one quarter allotment had been let with another enquiry to follow up. Cllr Pickett will ask for the advertisement to be included in The Haseleys again.

Despite best efforts Cllr Pickett reported the work in the allotments to tidy and cut back had proven too much and professional equipment was needed.

Resolved to instruct Ridgeway Rural Services to undertake the work at a cost of £80.00.

Communications - Nothing to report.

Environment - Nothing to report.

19/81 Reports from District and County Councillors

County Cllr Harrod had given his apologies and sent through his report which had been circulated to Councillors.

On the District Local Plan 2034, Cllr Newton reported it was agreed at a meeting in July to defer a decision on the Local Plan and write to the Secretary of State to ask for the infrastructure funding without a commitment to build as many houses. Unsurprisingly the Secretary of State had said this was not possible.

Proposed options for the Local Plan will be discussed at the District meeting on 10 October. It is at a sensitive point at the moment with newly elected Councillors beginning to realise

there is a fine balance between housing numbers if the funding for infrastructure is to be retained.

If the Local Plan falls the Vale of White Horse District's Local Plan will become invalid too and both districts will be open to speculative development. In due course SODC will have less than the required 5-year land supply.

The Planning Inspector dealing with Oxford City's Local Plan is also dealing with the SODC Local Plan. The Inspector has sent through the first round of quite broad questions to SODC's planning team related to the Local Plan.

The announcement of the proposed route for the Expressway which was expected in October has been delayed.

Following SODC's Climate Emergency declaration a new committee has been formed and are due to meet next week.

Each District Councillor has a Community Grant of up to £5,000 to give to worthy causes. Application forms are available to download from the District Council's website. Cllr Newton indicated she would look favourably on a grant application for funding towards the replacement of the Monkey Climber in Miss Cross Field.

19/82 Correspondence

The Clerk circulated the Correspondence bag.

19/83 Information Exchange

Concern had been raised at the removal of the hedge at the two new houses being built in Rectory Road. Cllr Sheppard had contacted the developers who reported the hedge had been inspected and the District Planning Department had given permission for its removal. A proposal had been sent through for replacement hedging. Cllr Sheppard had queried the proposed stone wall.

Cllr Lindsay had reported the asbestos which had been dumped and it should be collected soon.

The 30mph sign at Little Haseley was down and should be reported to the County Council via Fix My Street.

19/84 Date of Next meetings

It was agreed that an additional meeting to considered planning matters will take place on Monday 23 September 2019 and the following meeting on Monday 14 October 2019, commencing at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

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Chairman
14 October 2019