

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT HASELEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 9th APRIL 2018 AT 8.20PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllrs D Simcox (Chairman), J Andrews, H Harvey, D Lindsay, D Mann, A Sheppard, E Spencer, A Oughton (Clerk) and one member of the public.

18/1 Public Discussion

There was no public discussion.

18/2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from District Councillor C Newton and County Councillor S Harrod.

18/3 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest.

18/4 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

18/5 Matters Arising

Cllr Spencer passed the paperwork connected with the new grass cutting contract to the Clerk. Grass cutting would be commencing soon in line with the contract. Cllr Spencer would get a set of keys cut for the contractor, GHS Garden Services, as the keys held by Mears had not yet been returned.

Cllr Newton had given an update on the District Local Plan at the Annual Parish Meeting earlier in the evening.

The Clerk had contacted Hugo Fox regarding possible icloud storage but it was not a service the company provided. This might be possible via The Haseleys website. Councillors agreed that they should have generic parish council emails. The Chairman would take this further.

The Chairman had attended a meeting of the Oxford to Cambridge Express Action Group. Highways England had published the three proposed corridor routes, the northern corridor would involve upgrading the current A34 whilst the southern route would involve a large amount of new road being built on green belt land.

The Action Group was launching a poster campaign on 12 April 2018, the Chairman tabled the different poster designs. There had been some debate at the Action Group meeting about the wording. The Parish Council felt that posters displayed in windows in Great Haseley would not be effective and that some designs were more relevant than others.

After discussion it was decided to obtain printing quotations for a selection of the yellow / blue posters, A3 size. It was suggested that Great Haseley, Great Milton and Little Milton join forces to display posters along the A329 from the M40 junction through to Little Milton.

18/6 Planning

P18/S1068/T28 – 4 Latchford Lane, Great Haseley

The proposal incorporates the installation of 1x DSLAM equipment cabinet olive green, the dimensions of which are: Height 1300mm x Length 1430 mm x Depth 450mm.

The Parish Council had no objection to this application but commented that the site of the proposed cabinet may have to be altered due to a drainage pipe running parallel to the road.

P18/S0958/RM – Land on the South Side of London Road adjacent to Great Expectations, Milton Common

Approval for Reserved Matters (Access, Layout, Scale, Appearance and Landscaping) pursuant to outline application (P17/S4227/O) for the erection of up to eight dwellings with associated access, parking and amenity space.
The Parish Council had no strong views.

P18/S0973/FUL – Land adjacent to London Road, Tetsworth

Change of use from agriculture to gypsy and traveller site providing 12 individual plots. The problems with the access had been addressed and the bund changed to acoustic fencing to help reduce traffic noise from the M40 motorway. However, the design still did not comply with gypsy traveller site guidelines, there were concerns regarding the flood risk and the site was intrusive and visually imposing.
The Parish Council agreed to recommend refusal.

18/7 Responsible Financial Officer's Report

The balance on the Current Account was £12,537.54 and the Business Reserve Account £15,390.83. Income for the month of £127.40 was received from advertisements placed in The Haseleys.

The following cheques were written: Colourplus £313.34; stamps for The Haseleys £27.84, SODC (Dog Bins) £62.80, Parish Council Laptop & Software £739.98, SLCC Membership (agreed at February meeting) £72.00, Nicholsons Nurseries Ltd £510.00, Sovereign Design Play Systems £2,027.70, Clerk's Salary £352.01, HMRC (tax on salary) £88.00. The following cheques were written at the meeting and would appear on the May agenda; HMRC £147.27 (VAT over claim in earlier part of the year), £50.00 Cllr Sheppard Expenses.

18/8 Bank Accounts – Change of signatories

It was agreed to add Mrs Andrea Oughton, the Clerk, as a signatory on the Parish Council's bank accounts and to remove Mrs Jane Simcox, as the retiring Clerk.

18/9 Extension of Lease on the School Garden

No further correspondence had been received from Oxfordshire County Council regarding the extension of the lease on the School Garden.

18/10 Extension to the Churchyard

The Chairman had received an enquiry from the secretary of St Peter's PCC regarding the possibility of extending the churchyard and seeking financial assistance from the Parish Council. The process would involve two separate elements, one a full planning application to SODC for change of use of the land from agricultural to churchyard and secondly the transfer of the land from the owner to the church.

The cost to submit the planning application was £462.00, however, if the application was submitted by the Parish Council there was a 50% reduction. It was agreed that the PCC would prepare the application and it would be submitted in the Parish Council's name. The Parish Council would pay the application fee at the 50% reduction.

18/11 Wall by No. 1 Horse Close Cottages

The wall by No. 1 Horse Close Cottages had been damaged and needed repair. Although it was technically the responsibility of the County Council the Parish Council funded and built the wall to ensure it was built using materials that were in keeping with the character of the area.

It was agreed that the Chairman would obtain an estimate for the works and report back to the next meeting.

18/12 Community Infrastructure Levy Report

It was noted that CIL (Regulation 62A) required town / parish councils to send a report to the District Council for any financial year in which it received CIL. The Clerk had prepared the report advising that in the financial year ended 31st March 2018 the Parish Council had received £2,041.65 in CIL receipts and that no CIL monies had been spent. The CIL report was approved and would be sent to South Oxfordshire District Council.

18/13 Reports from Committees

Footpaths – Cllr Lindsay reported that he had received a report from the local representative of the Ramblers Association which listed the faults on the footpaths in the parish, some of which had already been rectified. It had been suggested that Cllr Lindsay accompany the representative on a site visit at a suitable date to be confirmed.

It was noted that the wood at the bridge which forms the junction between Great Haseley Bridleway 9 and Great Milton Bridleway 15 was rotting. Also, Footpath No. 6 – an irrigation system had been put in by the land owner across the footpath. The irrigation system either needed to be moved away from the footpath or a suitable crossing installed.

Village Hall – Nothing further to add to the report given at the Annual Parish Meeting earlier in the evening.

Playing Fields – Cllr Spencer reported that the grass cutting was due to start shortly. The two posts would be replaced once the tidy up was complete. The removal of wood from Millennium Wood continued.

Cross Field – The team had done a brilliant job in dismantling the old tower during the tidy day. Installation of the new piece of play equipment was due to take place on 20th April.

Allotments – Cllr Andrews reported that the common use shed was now in place. All allotment rents had been collected and given to the Clerk. There may be one or two people interested in taking up allotments that were soon to become vacant.

18/14 Reports from District and County Councillors

District Councillor Newton had given her report to the Annual Parish Meeting held earlier in the evening. Cllr Harrod was unable to attend the meeting and given his apologies.

18/15 Correspondence

The Clerk reported that an invitation had been received from John Howell, MP for two representatives of the Parish Council to attend a meeting with Iain Stewart MP at Beckley Village Hall on 3rd May 2018 to discuss the proposed Oxford-Cambridge Expressway. Cllrs Sheppard and Lindsay agreed to attend.

It was noted that the District Summer Town and Parish Forum will take place on Tuesday 26 June from 6pm to 9pm at Cornerstone Arts Centre Didcot.

18/16 Items not on the agenda raised by Parish Councillors

Cllr Mann reported that she had contacted South Oxfordshire District Council to inform them of the annual Litter blitz and it was now formally registered.

Cllr Mann had contacted Biffa two weeks ago to complain about the food bins being thrown down and often left on their sides with the lids open. Cllr Mann had contacted Biffa again today regarding the same problem.

The Chairman reported that Jane Simcox, the retiring Clerk, and asked that her thanks be passed on to everyone for her retirement gifts and good wishes.

The Chairman had meet with the Clerk of Thame Town Council and discussed a wide range of things including the parish boundary but nothing had been decided. Thame Town Council were starting the revision of their Neighbourhood Plan which could include land in Great Haseley Parish with the agreement of Great Haseley Parish Council.

Affordable Housing – the Chairman reported that the gas main appeared to have been installed before the ditch was reinstated along the road edge in the front of the properties which had led to the pipe being exposed. There was a similar issue with the water pipes. The Chairman would write to Soha Housing regarding these issues. Thanks was given to Cllr Harvey for his efforts with SSE to undertake repairs in Backway which had been caused by work SSE had undertaken.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.28pm

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Chairman
14 May 2018