

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT HASELEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY 12 DECEMBER 2016 AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

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

The Chairman said he was saddened to hear of the death of Terry Coles. Although he had only served one term on the Parish Council, he always played an active part and will be missed by all those who knew him in the village.

16/128 Public Discussion

There were no public present at the meeting.

16/129 Apologies for absence were received from S Harrod due to ill health of his wife. The Parish Council sent their best wishes.

16/130 A Sheppard declared a personal interest on item 16/135 of the agenda.

16/131 The minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2016 were confirmed and signed.

16/132 Matters arising

Sylvatrees had applied on behalf of the Parish Council to undertake the work agreed at the November meeting. They had also put in a quote for pruning of the trees on the Millennium Wood. It was slightly more than the one received from Nicholsons but both quotes said that the arising would be left on site. It was agreed that we did not want this as it would be impossible to keep the area tidy so the Clerk was asked to find out how much it would be for the removal of this.

A letter of thanks had been received from Wheatley Park School for the money given for end of year prizes. The clerk had invited a representative from Scottish and Southern to come to the monthly coffee morning and leaflets and samples were delivered. The representative explained what they hoped the parish would do and the clerk had then made a list of "vulnerable" people in the village and was ensuring that they were registering for the service. A further note would be put into the Haseleys to try to catch those who the clerk may not be aware of.

A tentative training session for using the defibrillators had been arranged (7 January at 2.00pm) but the clerk could not contact the person responsible to get final confirmation of the date. She would put a note into the January Haseleys if she had managed to speak to them, otherwise the date would have to be postponed until February.

16/133 Planning

No new planning applications had been received but SODC had granted permission to Walnut Tree Cottage, Whistlers Barn and Highway House.

16/134 Responsible Financial Officer's report

The current account currently stands at £8,061.37 and the Business Reserve account stands at £15,386.36 The following cheques were written: Stamps for The Haseleys £26.40; Heating £6.00; Colourplus £335.49; SODC (Dog Bins) £50.23; Windmill

Landscapes (2) (Concrete base and new post) £227; Mears Estates £120.00; Carmellamedia (website hosting) £70.00; Reimbursement of D Simcox for fittings for new seats on playing fields - £74.96. No other cheques were written It was agreed that the clerk should order Spares for Defibrillators and a figure of £100 was agreed and she would get them ordered. The clerk had received the following income during the month: £163.29 (Advertising in The Haseleys) and £50.00 Donations for the Defibrillators from the Haseley charity. She pointed out that the cheque from the Pumpkin Show had not been deposited as the change of signatories had not been sorted out. She had also spoken to the Bank Manager asking what was necessary she the Parish Council wish to move money from the Reserve account to the current account and was informed that a letter from the Parish Council with two signatures was required.

16/135 Possible contribution in support of HBAG

A Sheppard outlined the need for supporting this group and said that Chalgrove were putting up £10,000 towards the Chalgrove airfield site. She said that she had spoken with various people in the village to gauge their opinions and all felt it would be money well spent. She then left the meeting.

Discussion then took place as to whether money should be set aside and the Chairman pointed out that the budget for 2017-18 was already stretched having already raised the precept by £1,000. The Parish Council was unsure whether the monies to support this would have to come from their S137 money in which case the amount was very limited. The clerk was asked to find out from OALC and once this information was to hand, a further draft budget would be sent out and ratified at the January meeting.

A Sheppard rejoined the meeting.

16/136 Draft budget 2017-18

A Sheppard asked why some of the expenditure items had been reduced and the clerk said that looking at the figures for the current year, this appeared to be more in line with what was being spent. As stated in 16/135 an updated budget will be circulated once the information has been received from OALC. It may be necessary to have a brief meeting to agree it in order that the final version can be ratified at the January meeting.

16/137 Update on the SODC Local Plan

A Sheppard had attended an HCA Drop in meeting where various “new” roads were hinted at. The Chairman had received a letter and a telephone call from Magdalen College, Oxford putting the case for the Grenoble Road site. It was agreed that a reply would be sent stating that the Parish Council was not in favour of new developments in isolated rural locations where infrastructure was at best poor. The Chairman and A Sheppard were to attend a meeting of the combined Parish Councils affected by the Chalgrove site on the 22 December and would report back after the event.

16/138 Update on the future of the bus service in the parish

The Chairman and J Andrews had attended a meeting in Horspath to try to see if there was any way of running a bus service now that the regular one had ceased. The meeting was poorly attended and after discussion, it seemed impossible to do this as the parishes had insufficient money and knowledge to undertake this task. It was with regret that there seemed little that could be done.

D Mann then said that she was trying out various taxi companies and a group had managed to get to Thame at a cost of £3.50 each way. She was thanked for her initiative of trying to get people out of the village to places where they needed to go.

16/139 Report by sub group on possible play equipment for the Cross Field

A meeting had taken place with E Spencer, J Andrews and J Simcox to discuss what sort of equipment was required and whether some of the current equipment could be repaired. It was agreed by the group that they felt that traditional wooden equipment would fit in better into the rural location but would ask the Parish Council for their views. The Parish Council agreed that traditional wooden would be best but the Chairman pointed out that there had been a problem in the past with the swings where the wood had shrunk and thereby making them rock slightly. The group had agreed that immediately after the Christmas break they would get a company to come out and advise them of what they could do with the budget that they had and would report back to the Parish Council once they had some firm details.

16/140 Reports from Committees

Footpaths – The stile has been repaired between Great and Little Haseley.

Village Hall – D Mann reported that the ball had been a great success as had the Farmers Market. Two trees as well as the central Christmas tree had now been decorated and the Village Hall Committee wished to thank the Parish Council for their continued support.

Playing Fields – The two seats were now in place (one as seen on TV Weatherwatchers report). It was now necessary to either get a plaque made for one of the seats or H Harvey agreed to talk to a contact to see how much it would be to have it engraved.

Allotments – K Sentance was updating the allotment tenancy agreement and would be putting it out to all tenants and collecting money. She would also send a copy to the clerk to put on the webpage.

16/141 Report from the District and County Councillor

As S Harrod was not present nothing was discussed although his reported had been circulated to the Parish Council in advance of the meeting.

16/142 Correspondence

The usual bag of correspondence was given to the Parish Councillors.

16/143 Any other business

The Chairman thanked the “Tree Gang” for their efforts of putting up the annual Christmas Tree. Parking in Back Way was mentioned and it was becoming a regular event for vehicles to park on the edge of the allotments and the Millennium Wood. It was agreed that the only way to stop this happening would be to put a row of short wooden posts in with a lockable removable one to allow the grass cutting team into the area. This would be organised once the work on the trees had been undertaken.

The Chairman then went on to talk about a growing problem of dogs out of control with some sustaining quite serious injuries from other dogs. A note would be put in The Haseleys reminding dog owners of their responsibilities and to not allow their dog to

attack others, to be under control where there are horses, pheasant and other wildlife. K Sentance asked if the Community Plan could be put on the agenda for the January meeting.

The Chairman then wished the Parish Councillors a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

16/144 It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on 9 January and the following one on 13 February 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

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