

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT HASELEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 14 MAY 2018 AT 7.30PM 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 6 members of the public.

18/17 Election of Chairman

Cllr Simcox called for nominations for the position of Chairman. It was proposed and duly seconded that Cllr Sheppard be elected Chairman. On put to the vote it was agreed unanimously.

Cllr Sheppard signed the Declaration of Office of Chairman.

Cllr Andrews stated that Cllr Sheppard was the first female Councillor to have held the office of Chairman since the formation of the Parish Council in 1894.

Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Sheppard called for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman. It was proposed and duly seconded that Cllr Simcox be elected Vice Chairman. On put to the vote it was agreed unanimously.

Cllr Simcox duly signed the Declaration of Office of Vice Chairman.

Election of Representatives

Planning – Cllr Simcox
Footpaths – Cllr Lindsay
Allotments – Cllr Andrews
Millennium Wood – Cllr Spencer
Cross Field – Cllr Andrews & Cllr Spencer
Playing Fields – Cllr Harvey & Cllr Spencer
Village Hall – Cllr Mann

18/18 Public Discussion

A member of the public raised the question as to the criteria for the allocation of affordable housing. Eighty applicants had applied for the affordable housing that was available in Great Haseley and out of the eighty applicants it was understood that only one of the current occupants has a local connection to the area. The residents had fought hard for affordable housing in the village and found it hard to believe that only one applicant could demonstrate a local connection.

Cllr Simcox had a copy of the District Council's Housing Allocation Policy and read out the criteria. Members of the public felt the District Council needed to demonstrate that out of the 80 applicants only one met the criteria and could demonstrate a local connection.

The Parish Council agreed the situation was very frustrating and suggested that District Councillor Caroline Newton is asked to investigate the situation and report back to the Parish Council.

18/19 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

18/20 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest.

18/21 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

18/22 Matters Arising

Cllr Simcox reported there had been no time to investigate the possibility of generic email addresses for Councillors, this action would be carried forward.

The Parish Clerk reported that following investigations she had obtained a quotation for printing 30 x A3 posters for display on the A329 as part of the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway Action Group's poster campaign. Cllr Simcox reported that Great Milton and Little Milton did not wish to join in with the poster campaign. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would get a further quotation for printing 10 posters.

Cllr Sheppard and Cllr Lindsay had attended the briefing on the Oxford-Milton Keynes-Cambridge Expressway at Beckley Village Hall on 3rd May 2018. Iain Stewart MP, was the main speaker for the evening, he had been invited by the Government to be the Champion for the Expressway and to gather views and information from key stakeholders, towns and parishes. The meeting did clarify some things, however, there were lots of different factors which were not joined up and a cause of some confusion.

18/23 Planning Applications

P18/S1313/FUL – Land between A418 and The Bungalow, Weston Lane

Erection of a dwelling

Recommend Refusal – Overdevelopment, ref policy CSR1 – In the absence of any buildings between The Bungalow and the A418 this development cannot be classified as infill. The District Council can demonstrate a 5.4yr land supply which affords current planning policies protection.

P18/S0084/FUL – Land South of Rycote Lane Amendment No. 1

Closure of existing access onto Rycote Lane and formation of new access together with access track (as amplified by drawing nos Access a, Vis 1, Vis 2 and CML to demonstrate visibility splays for the new access received on 27 April 2018).

Recommend Refusal – The Parish Council are supportive but the amendment does not alter the original views of the Parish Council that Highway issues must be considered across all three application sites on Rycote Lane.

P18/S1199/HH – 2 London Road, Milton Common

Single storey side extension to west elevation, single storey side extension to east elevation, single storey rear in-fill extension to north elevation, raise roof over garage with installation of dormers to front and rear roof-slope.

Recommend Refusal – Overdevelopment and unneighbourly

P18/S1196/FUL – Land at Corner of Standhill Lane and Stony Lane, Little Haseley

Variation and/or removal of conditions 2(use),3(lighting),4(landscape maintenance),5(planting scheme) of planning permission P06/E0717. To revoke/remove conditions 2,4,5, and revise condition 3. Alteration to orientation of manege. Amendment to planning permission P05/E0690 (erection of 4 stables, tack room and feedstore and a manege area).

The Parish Council supported variation of condition 3 (lighting) providing no more lighting than that shown on the plan was provided. However, the Parish Council did not support the removal of condition 2 (use) which should remain personal to the owner of the property. The highly restrictive conditions were imposed for reasons that were still relevant, the rural nature of the

situation of the land, it is adjacent to a Byway, it is approached by a single-track lane which is highly unsuitable for commercial activity and an adverse effect on neighbouring amenity. The Parish Council did not support the removal of condition 4 (landscape) – the hedging and trees which had been removed must be replaced.

P18/S1242/LB & P18/S1153/FUL – The Old Bakery, Rectory Road, Great Haseley
Subdivision of the site into two dwellings. Extension and alterations to The Cottage.
Recommend Approval

18/24 Responsible Financial Officer's Report

The balance on the Current Account was £16,715.12 and the Business Reserve Account £15,391.51. Income for the month of £7,861.25 had been received made up of a portion of the Precept received from the District Council, advertisements in The Haseleys and the annual allotment fees.

The following cheques were written: NALC (LCR Annual Subscription) £17.00, NCH Software £42.16, Spring Clean £51.85, ColourPlus £496.26. The following cheques were written at the meeting; NCH Software £30.45, stamps for The Haseleys £27.84.

18/25 Standing Orders

The Parish Clerk had reviewed the Standing Orders. It was agreed that this item would be put on the agenda for the next meeting to give Councillors time to review and consider the suggested amendments.

18/26 General Power of Competence

The General Power of Competence was brought into force through the Localism Act 2011 as part of the Government's move towards the decentralisation of powers down to town and parish councils. The Power gives local councils the power to do anything that individuals generally may do as long as it is legal.

To be eligible to act under the General Power of Competence a council must pass a resolution at which time at least two thirds of the members of the council must hold office as a result of being elected and the Clerk must hold the Certificate in Local Council Administration.

It was resolved that the Parish Council met the eligibility for the General Power of Competence.

18/27 Schedule of Meetings

The Schedule of Meetings for 2018-19 was approved.

18/28 Insurance Renewal

The Clerk reported that the Insurance was due for renewal on 1 June 2018. AON the current insurance provided had contacted the Clerk earlier in the year to advise that it would no longer be providing insurance cover to local authorities after the current policy expired. The Clerk had obtained two quotations; one from Zurich Municipal of £982.69 and one from BHIB of £384.24. A further quotation was expected from WPS.

It was agreed that unless the quotation from WPS was less than £384.24 BHIB should be instructed to provide the insurance cover for the following year.

18/29 General Data Protection Regulations

The General Data Protection Act comes into force on 25 May 2018. A discussion took place on what data the Parish Council currently held. The Information Commissioner's Office document – Preparing for General Data Protection Regulation – 12 Steps to Take Now and the SLCC's checklist would be circulated to Councillors.

The Clerk confirmed that she would undertake an audit of information held by the Council, begin work on drafting a privacy notice and policies for Data Protection, Document Retention and Freedom of Information requests which would be brought to Council for approval.

18/30 School Garden

The Clerk reported that she had received an email this morning from the County Council asking if the Parish Council would be prepared to pay £100 per annum for the School Garden Lease provided the Parish Council was the sole occupier of the site.

It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would respond to confirm the Parish Council were agreeable to the suggested terms of the Lease.

18/31 South Oxfordshire District Local Plan

This item was reported under item 18/33 – District Councillor's Report.

18/32 Reports from Committees

Footpaths

Cllr Lindsay reported the rotting wood at the bridge on Bridleway 15 (as reported at the April meeting) had been repaired along with the fencing. The irrigation system blocking Footpath No. 6 had also been moved allowing enough room for people to use the footpath. The landowner had raised concerns about Mountain Bike riders not keeping to the footpath and requested that the Parish Council put up a notice to footpath users. It was agreed that an article would be put in The Haseleys.

Village Hall

Cllr Mann reported there was some damage to the ceiling of the ladies' toilets caused by a leak in the roof. The Village Hall Committee continued to apply for funding for the installation a new heating system.

Playing Fields

Cllr Spencer reported two windows in the pavilion were going to be replaced. There were plans to tidy the overgrown area of the playing fields. The AGM would take place later this week and the accounts reported to the next meeting.

Cross Field

Cllr Andrews reported a complaint had been received regarding the long grass and bird mess on the swings. The slide had finally been installed to complete the new piece of play equipment and the contractor was arranging for the security fencing to be taken down and collected.

Following a number of issues, including the delay in completing the installation it was agreed the Council would write to the contractor to voice their concern once the completion certificate had been issued.

Millennium Wood

Cllr Spencer reported the hedging and pathways had been cut.

Allotments

Cllr Andrews reported he had been approached by an allotment holder seeking permission to trim the common areas of the allotments and had requested the Parish Council consider giving £50 towards the purchase of a strimmer.

Councillors referred to the Allotment Policy in which each allotment holder was responsible for keeping the area around their own allotment tidy. It would have to be by private arrangement if allotment holders wished to take this offer forward.

18/33 Reports from the District and County Councillor

County Councillor Steve Harrod had circulated the Annual Parish Report and picked out some key highlights. The Oxfordshire Growth Board had provided support for an application to the Government's Housing Infrastructure Fund for £500m as part of an investment package to delivery infrastructure to support major strategic developments.

The Oxfordshire Growth Board had also reached an outline Housing and Growth Agreement with the Government which would see an additional £215m of investment over the next five years to build infrastructure, support the delivery of new homes and boost economic productivity across the county. This would support councils to achieve the ambition of 100,000 new homes across the county over the period 2011-2031, as identified through the 2014 countywide Strategic Housing Market Assessment and Local Plans. Recent changes at the District Council could impact the Growth Deal and it was understood the District Council were proposing to ask Government for an extension of time in which to submit the new Local Plan.

The County Council were facing problems with the rising costs of social care for adults and children. 52% of the budget was spent on the statutory social care services.

Pot holes were another big issue, the Highways team was doing its best to keep up with repairs. The recent winter which saw a constant freeze / thaw had resulted in an exceptionally high level of pot holes. The cost of repair was estimated to be £150m however the County Council only had a budget of £14-£15m. Cllr Harrod asked for patience.

A new contract had been secured enabling the seven household waste recycling centres in the County to remain open with no change to current open hours. The waste plant at Ardley had reached the milestone of having transformed 1 million tonnes of rubbish into energy.

The County Council was concerned about the plans for the proposed Oxford to Cambridge Expressway and had called for a Public Enquiry, this had been rejected by the National Infrastructure Commissioner (NIC). NIC had recommended the most logical corridor for the expressway would be to closely align with the East-West rail project, broadly to the west and north of Oxford. Highways England will announce the choice of 'corridor' later in the summer.

Unitary plans had been developing well but the general election, Brexit and the move of Sajid Javid to the Home Office had delayed any further decisions. The County Council had formally terminated its contract with Carillion and it had been possible to absorb a lot of staff into employment with the County Council.

After answering a number of questions, the Chairman thanked Councillor Harrod for his report.

District Councillor Caroline Newton reported that at the Council meeting to be held tomorrow night members would discuss a proposal to request the Government to consider a delay in the

submission of the Local Plan. The delay would enable a review of sites; those identified in the emerging Local Plan as it stood, those considered for inclusion but rejected during the preparation of Plan e.g. Harrington and those which were submitted by developers before the end of the consultation phase last year but which were not assessed e.g. North Weston. If the proposal was agreed, a decision by Government was expected in July.

The District Council could now demonstrate a 5.4-year land supply although not completely secure. If the Local Plan is revised new calculations for housing would see housing numbers significantly reduced.

After answering a number of questions, the Chairman thanked Cllr Newton for her report. The Parish Council congratulated Cllr Newton on her appointment to the Cabinet.

18/34 Correspondence

The Clerk reported a letter had been received from Mr Abbott regarding the Parish Council's approach to planning applications and a recent application he had submitted. It was agreed the Chairman would agree a response in conjunction with the Parish Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council.

18/35 Any Other Business

Cllr Spencer reported a Memorial Service to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the passing of Dale Gostik would be held on Friday 25th May 2018, 2pm at St Peter's church to which everyone was welcome.

Cllr Simcox reported he had spoken to John Gostik about the repair to the wall by No. 1 Horse Close Cottages and was waiting for a quotation.

18/36 Next Meetings

It was agreed the next meeting will take place on 11 June 2018 and the following meeting on 9 July 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.05pm

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Chairman