

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT HASELEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: D Simcox (Chairman); J Andrews; H Harvey; D Lindsay; D Mann; E Spencer; S Harrod, County Councillor; J Simcox, Clerk.

17/65 Public Discussion

Paul and Lynda Woodrow suggested that an owl box be put on the allotments. In principle the Parish Council felt that this would be a good idea and would support it up to £100. They also asked if they could take off some of the plastic tubes around the trees on the Millennium Wood. E Spencer said that this was a job that she had got down for the autumn and would not object to anyone taking them off.

Lynda also asked whether the Parish Council was agreeable to the shed that was proposed on the allotments. This was agreed and the clerk would write to confirm this and state the terms in which it was allowed and that there should be a review in 3 years time.

17/66 Apologies for absence - A Sheppard.

17/67 There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

17/68 The minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2017 were confirmed and signed.

17/69 Matters arising

J Andrews raised under 17/60 of the July meeting the matter of the 124 bus service. He informed the Parish Council that he had contacted Arriva to find out whether they were thinking of reinstating a limited bus service. He had received an acknowledgement of the email and had heard nothing since. E Spencer had spoken with Mrs D Pickett and it was agreed that the Parish Council would pay for a plaque to go on the stone placed at the bottom of Mill Lane in memory of Dale Gostick.

The Chairman reported that the clerk from Thame Town Council had been in touch with the Clerk regarding the piece of land next to Gregory's which is currently up for sale. Thame does not have sufficient employment land in its Neighbourhood Plan and they are supporting this site to be used for this purpose. The clerk had also received a telephone call from Bidwells, the agent for the Thame Cattle Market, stating that they wished to move the Cattle Market to the adjoining area and wanted to consult with the Parish Council in a pre-planning role. It was agreed that the only day that the Village Hall was available in the evenings was Monday and the clerk would try to arrange a meeting for the 2nd October and inform the Parish Council accordingly.

The Chairman said he noted with pleasure that there were to be a number of strips of wild flowers planted around the village, together with a beetle bank. This was being undertaken by John Hayward of Peggs Farm. The clerk had received an informal notification about a possible disabled parking bay in Lewington Close but subsequently, OCC realised that as it was an unadopted road, they did not have the authority to undertake this work.

17/70 Election of Footpaths Representative

D Lindsay was unanimously elected to represent the Parish Council on matters regarding footpaths. A Sheppard had some maps etc that she would pass on to him and he would be listed as the contact point in *The Haseleys* and on the website.

17/71 Planning

The following application was dealt with outside a Parish Council meeting and is now ratified:

P17/S2580/HH & P17/S2581/LB Dreamers Cottage, Little Haseley

Proposal to replace existing timber windows to northern elevation with new singled glazed timber casement windows, remove existing metal casement, insertion of new single glazed timber casement cut into existing mono-pitch roof. New window to match the style of the front elevation. Mono-pitch roof re-tiled with plain clay tiles to match existing

The Parish Council recommends approval of this application

P17/S3006/FUL The Bungalow, 2 Weston Lane, North Weston

The erection of a single dwelling

The Parish Council recommends refusal of this application for the following reasons:

1. North Weston is classified in the Core Strategy as an 'Other Village' and under policy CSR1 only infill developments are permitted. The view of the Parish Council is that the absence of any buildings between No 2 Weston Lane and the A418 means that this proposed development cannot be classified as infill. While recent planning decisions have used the lack of a five year land supply to override planning policies, the recent Supreme Court Judgement makes it clear that policies that are designed to protect settlements still stand.
2. The plans that accompany the application are, at best misleading as can be seen on the attached sketches. The bulk of the application site is not on un-developed farm land but in the garden of No 2 Weston Lane leaving it with little amenity space. This is particularly true since the property also lost land for the building of two houses granted permission under P14/S0707.
3. When No. 2 Weston Lane was itself granted permission it placed the septic tank for the property virtually under the location of this proposed development and so the Parish Council has concerns that the land may be contaminated.
4. The plans accompanying the application provide no details how vehicles or pedestrians will get from the lane to the property.
5. There is no allowance on the plans for refuse and re-cycling bins to be stored.
6. There is no allowance on the plans for bicycle storage.
7. The Parish Council has serious doubts that the setting out of the vehicle parking will allow vehicles to access the spaces and will not allow vehicles both to enter and leave the property in forward gear.

8. Based on the latest Ordnance Survey mapping it would appear that the size of the pond on the application plans is significantly smaller than on the map. There is nothing in the application that makes reference to infilling this or how it will be done and, more importantly, what environmental mitigation is proposed.

SODC has granted planning permission to Unit 10, Field Farm, North Weston (Proposed extension to industrial building) and 1 Wincey View, Great Haseley (Two storey extension to side).

17/72 Responsible Financial Officer's report

The current account currently stands at £10,477.27 and the Business Reserve account stands at £15,387.53. The following cheques were written: Mears Estates(2) £864.00; Stamps for The Haseleys £13.44; RoSPA £159.60; Open Spaces £45.00; Colourplus £282.30. Cheque written at July meeting but not on the agenda Mears Estates £348.00. Cheques written between meetings for Nicholson Nurseries £60.00; Local Council Review £17.00; SODC Dog Bins £62.80. No other cheques were written. Income during the months of July and August 2017 was advertising in The Haseleys £361.90.

The clerk reported that D Lindsay was now listed as a signatory for the Parish Council.

17/73 Grass cutting of the churchyard

The clerk had received notification from St Peter's that the total for the year 2016 for grass cutting and extra clearance was £2,532. The Parish Council agreed some years ago to pay one third of the cost of grass cutting. As there was an extra £600 in this year's expenditure for clearance of the bottom corner and the Parish Council had not put this in its budget, they felt that they were unable to pay for the extra work. A cheque for £644 would therefore be on the October agenda for the church.

17/74 Update on the SODC Local Plan

All the replies to the consultation were now available on the website and a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee was to take place on Wednesday 13th September to discuss these. Unfortunately neither the Chairman nor A Sheppard were able to attend. H Harvey agreed to go if he could. A press release had been put out by SODC stating "that the new housing sites in Culham, Chalgrove and at the Brookes University Wheatley campus are the best way to tackle the urgent need for houses". There are two more stages after the Scrutiny Committee and then, if passed, will go to the government planning inspector for Public Enquiry in Spring 2018.

17/75 Draft allotment tenancy agreement

J Andrews had updated the draft agreement and it was agreed that as there was a lot of business to conduct at this meeting, that Councillors should read the agreement and inform J Andrews of any amendments. The final document would then be discussed at the December meeting in preparation for the new growing season.

17/76 Reports from Committees

Footpaths – Nothing to report.

Village Hall – Nothing to report.

Playing Fields – There had been a flood in the Ladies toilet and Mike Howlett was sorting it out. H Harvey agreed to move all the rubbish on the playing fields and put in the skip at the allotments and then the areas would be grass seeded. E Spencer asked if some trees could be planted on the Playing Fields and it was agreed that a plans to where they are proposed to go should be drawn up. The clerk would send details to E Spencer of contact at Nicholsons.

Cross Field – It was agreed that the Cross Field group should get together over the next few weeks to sort out what extra equipment was needed and come to the Parish Council with a proposal.

Millennium Wood –E Spencer said that the plastic tubes needed taking off the trees as they were now pulling the trees over. She also said that there had been a new person cutting the wood and this was why the “rides” were not put in correctly. There were two dead trees and the clerk was asked to find out whether there was a replacement scheme. E Spencer had also arranged an extra cut of grass due to the growth.

Allotments – The rubbish is planned for removal on Saturday 16 September and a skip had been ordered. There is a chestnut tree that is diseased and the clerk was asked to find out whether it can just be taken down or whether an application for removal was necessary.

Transport – J Andrews reported that Great Milton were organising a COMET bus service on Wednesday for a trial period of one month. The first trip only saw four passengers and unless this increased, it would not be viable.

17/77 Clerk’s job advertisement and job description

As the clerk had informed the Parish Council that she wished to retire from the Parish Council at the latest at the end of April 2018, she had prepared a draft advertisement and job description for their discussion. It was agreed that the starting salary should be from £9.75 per hour for a minimum of 5 hours per week. Various changes were made to the job description and the clerk would make these changes for approval at the October meeting. The advert would go into the October issue of *The Haseleys* and on the website. If this did not bring any applicants forward, it would be advertised in the adjoining parish magazines and with OALC.

17/78 Advertisement for an Editor for *The Haseleys*

The clerk had produced a possible advertisement of the post and this was discussed. With a few alterations it was agreed and it would go into the November issue of *The Haseleys* and on the website. The clerk said that she was happy to show a new person “the ropes” for both the clerk’s position and the Editorship if they wished. It was agreed that the job of issuing invoices and ensuring payment for advertisement would stay with the clerk rather than the Editor. Both these positions could be undertaken by one person or two separate people.

17/79 Draft Standing Orders

Over the summer period the clerk had put together a set of Standing Orders. These had been circulated to the Parish Council and amendments were made. The clerk will update these and put them to the Parish Council for approval at the October meeting.

17/80 Response to the proposed Oxford to Cambridge Expressway (O2C)

The Chairman, A Sheppard and J Andrews had attended a meeting at Cuddesdon regarding this topic. The proposal showed two of the routes through Oxfordshire which would affect Great Haseley, one between Wheatley and Oxford and the other coming up the A329 to Junction 7 of the M40. Further information had come to light after the meeting and whilst there was still a threat of this happening, until further information was available it was agreed not to send anything out on the email alert system at the present time.

17/81 Hiring of a trolley for use on allotments and playing fields clearance

The Chairman had made enquiries about hiring a trolley to make it easier to clear the allotments at a cost of approximately £50 and it was agreed that this was a good idea. He will therefore hire it and put an invoice in at the next meeting.

17/82 Trees in Back Way

The Chairman had received an email from a resident of Back Way stating that trees were shading his house and garden. The Chairman said he believed that these were not the responsibility of the Parish Council, only the ones that are on common land and the ones that border the Millennium Wood. He also said that he believed that as with a normal road, householders are responsible to the middle of the road. He would therefore write to the resident and inform him accordingly.

17/83 Response to the Consultation on revised Draft Section 106 Planning Obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

As the deadline for this response was just after the October meeting, it was agreed that the Chairman would draft a possible reply which would be discussed at the October meeting.

17/84 Report from the County Councillor

S Harrod had stood down as a District Councillor due to lack of time and family matters. There would be a by-election to put someone else in place. He was however continuing as County Councillor and had sent a report that had been circulated to the Parish Council.

The Chairman said that the OCC drainage team had been in the village, first in Thame Road and then in Latchford Lane. They had found problems in both areas, marking the roads accordingly. However, they had not been seen since and the paint was disappearing. The clerk was asked to send details to S Harrod and he would forward it on to the appropriate person.

17/85 Correspondence

A letter had been received from John Howell regarding Neighbourhood Planning and this was circulated to the Parish Council. Information had also been received regarding the changes to DIY charging at recycling centres. The clerk would put something in The Haseleys warning people of this change.

The clerk had received a letter from AON stating that they were no longer offering insurance for Parish Councils but that our cover with them would continue until the renewal date. She had also received a letter from BHIB Insurance Brokers who were taking over the clients from AON.

A letter had been received from the Oil-Club.co.uk regarding delivery of oil. This was passed to D Mann to see whether it was of interest.

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

17/86 Any other business

H Harvey asked who had dug up Back Way as it had not been reinstated properly. E Spencer said she would have a word with the builders of the affordable homes and try to get it sorted. He also asked if the Parish Council could contact the builders working on the old school site to ensure that proper rainwater downpipes and drains are put in to stop the erosion of Back Way. The clerk would contact the builders to see what can be done.

J Andrews reported that he had uploaded the details of Great Haseley War Memorial on to the national website and that there were a few other memorials with the church and the churchyard that also needed to be listed. He was thanked for this.

H Harvey asked if we could replace the old phone box with a red one. The Chairman said he thought that this was unlikely as British Telecom wanted to remove it. It would be looked into to see if it was possible.

17/87 It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on 9th October and the following one on 13 November, both at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The meeting closed at 9.55pm.

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