

HORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of the Council
held in Champney Hall at 7.30 pm
on Tuesday 12th October 2010

Present: Councillor D. Burkin (in the Chair), N. Bell, Mrs. F. Bovingdon, D. Davies, Mrs. M. Hodgson, C. Rayner (from minute 10/120), Ms. A. Young and the Clerk.

One member of the public was present.

10/116 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N. Cole and P. Manning.

10/117 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council discussed the following planning application and made representations to the local authority as shown.

10/02132 80 COPPERMILL ROAD, HORTON:

Objections - overdevelopment in the Green Belt and area liable to flood.

Notices of results and an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness as detailed on the agenda were noted.

10/118 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 7th September 2010 were agreed without amendment and signed accordingly.

10/119 MATTERS ARISING

10/103 Dog Fouling

Councillor Ms. Young stated that although the Housing Association had written to tenants reminding them that dogs were not permitted on the recreation ground they were still being brought on to the area in large numbers together with two horses. She also reported that rabbits were being killed, given to dogs for tearing up and the remains deposited in Champney Close and surrounding area. Although she had yet to report the incidents, the Chairman stated that the matter had been discussed at the last meeting of the NAG. Borough Councillor Lenton undertook to report to the Housing Association if he is provided with full details together with photographs.

10/108 Tree Planting

The Chairman reported that he had received a response from the Royal Borough stating that the verge in Horton Road was not of a sufficient width to allow additional tree planting. However a cherry tree will be planted at Pickens Piece to replace the tree recently felled.

10/110 Lighting on Village Green

The Chairman reported that a light had been installed and was now working.

10/120 **CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman had no further communications to place before the Council.

10/121 **REPORTS FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLORS**

Borough Councillor Rayner asked that consideration be given to roads requiring re-surfacing during the coming year. The Chairman undertook to action. Referring to the 'Big Society', Councillor Rayner stated that plans were still at an early stage. Volunteers are required to assist with the maintenance of Poyle Poplars.

Borough Councillor Lenton reported that a state visit by the Emir of Qatar would take place on Tuesday 25th October 2010.

Councillor Lenton also reported on the latest proposals for a doctor's surgery at Wraysbury. Despite claims by the PCT that no suitable site is available, Wraysbury Parish Council is preparing an outline planning application for a doctor's surgery in the village

10/122 **PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk reported that the accounts of Horton Parish Council up to 31st March 2010 had now been audited by the External Auditor. This report stated that in their opinion 'the information contained in the annual return is in accordance with the Audit Commission's requirements and no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met'. The Clerk stated that the fee was in excess of last year as the council had received a grant of £16k for work to the recreation ground and fees were based on income for the year. It was proposed by Councillor Bell that the report of the External Auditor be accepted. This was seconded by Councillor Mrs. F. Bovingdon and agreed without dissension.

10/123 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The following accounts were notified to members of the Parish Council, proposed, seconded and accepted for payment:

Date	Cheque	Payee	Memo	Category	Gross Amount	Net Amount
	366	Cancelled				
12.10.10	367	Mr. R. Marlow	Salary	ADMIN.	381.27	381.27
12.10.10	368	Mr. R. Marlow	Office	ADMIN.	29.25	29.13
12.10.10	369	Mazars	Audit	ADMIN.	334.88	285.00
12.10.10	370	Garden Designs	Grass cutting	OPEN SPACES	487.63	415.00
12.10.10	371	Mr. R. Marlow	Boradband	ADMIN.	97.85	83.28
12.10.10	372	Champney Hall	Hall hire	ADMIN.	350.00	350.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS					1,680.88	1,543.68

All Councillors were provided with a statement of Management Accounts with actual expenditure up to 30th September and estimated from October to March with a comparison against budget. The Clerk reported that the financial position appeared to be very positive but reports suggest that the play area was in need of some attention and this could be costly.

10/124 **RECREATION GROUND – PLAY AREA**

The Clerk reported that he had received three items of correspondence all commenting adversely on the condition of the play area with one email drawing attention to a number of other alleged problem areas in the village. Whilst rejecting the adverse comments regarding the general appearance of the village the Chairman stated that in his opinion the latter message contained many valid remarks which should not be ignored despite the request for confidentiality.

The Clerk reported that he had received a quotation in the sum of £7,345 for the replacement of safety surfacing and repairing the play equipment. This was considered to be excessive and further quotations will be sought. The Clerk will also investigate the possibility of using wood chippings as a safety surface. Despite the need for attention it was agreed that the play area remain open. Councillor Rayner stated that it should only be closed if specific instructions to that effect are received.

The Chairman will request that the Fete Committee remove the wood from the recreation ground without delay as this has been on site for over two months and is becoming an eyesore and a hazard particularly as some has now been moved into the play area. The Clerk advised that when agreeing to any future application for the use of the recreation ground a condition should be imposed requiring that the area is restored and all materials removed from site by the date after the event. The Chairman also stated that sight of the audited accounts of the Fete Committee would be required before consideration of any application for a further grant.

10/125 **MAINTENANCE OF GRASS VERGES**

In response to comments made in correspondence referred to in minute 10/124 above it was agreed that the flower beds would look better if the black plastic was removed and replaced with wood chippings

There was nothing further to discuss except to acknowledge that if the maintenance of grass verges is undertaken as part of the Big Society, this will be a major task.

10/126 **CONSULTATION ON SCHOOL EXPANSION**

Prior to the meeting all Councillors were provided with a copy of the relevant consultation paper. This sought views on proposals to expand a first school in Windsor and a primary school in either Datchet or Wraysbury. It was agreed that no comment would be made.

10/127 **2011 CENSUS**

It was agreed that the Parish Council may be able to assist with the census by making deliveries.

10/128 **WRAYSBURY STATION**

The Clerk reported that South West Trains intended to improve drainage on the station approaches and to demolish the shelter on the up platform and replace with a structure similar to that already sited on the down platform. Upon completion the intention was to charge for car parking. It was agreed that no response would be made.

10/129 **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

The Clerk reported that road closure orders are in place and a full complement of police officers would be in attendance on the day. The wreaths have been ordered and the Scouts, Guides and Brownies would be present. As this will be his last year as a resident of the village it was agreed that the Chairman will lay a wreath on behalf of the Council. Mr. Peter Damms will be asked to lay a wreath on behalf of residents. The Chairman will arrange for Champney Hall to be open on the day and for tea and coffee to be made available.

10/130 **CHRISTMAS TREE/LIGHTS**

The Chairman reported that the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead had kindly agreed to switch on the Christmas lights at a ceremony to commence at 6.30pm on 9th December 2010. Arrangements for the purchase and erection of the tree have been made.

10131 **PARISH WEB SITE**

In the absence of Councillor Cole there was nothing to report. However, following the receipt of correspondence as referred to in minute 10/124 above, the Chairman undertook to ask that Councillor Cole brings the web site up to date. The Council thought it desirable that the publicity for the village fete be removed before the Christmas lights are advertised.

10/132 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Councillor Davies reported that he was in receipt of an application from Mr. John Tanner asking that a small brass plaque be placed on one of the bench seats in Stanwell Road in memory of his father. It was agreed that these seats were unsuitable due to their construction but permission would be granted if a new seat were to be provided on the village green. Councillor Davies will notify Mr. Tanner accordingly.

A press release was received giving details of a solution that enables all residents to benefit from recycling rewards.

The AGM of the Berkshire Association of Local Councils will be held in Grazeley Village Hall at 10.30 am on Saturday 6th November 2010.

The next meeting of the Planning & Development Stakeholders will be held in the Town Hall at 6 pm on Wednesday 20th October 2010.

Receipt was acknowledged of the Planning Obligations & Developers Contributions Supplementary Planning Document including formulae and list of projects.

10/133 **ITEMS FOR PLACEMENT UPON FUTURE AGENDAS**

There were no additional items for placement upon future agendas.

10/135 **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & MOTIONS SUBMITTED TO THE MEETING**

There were no questions from the public nor were any motions submitted to the meeting.

10/136 **DATES AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING/S**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 16th November 2010. No meeting will be held in December unless required for planning applications.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date