

HORNTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE PAVILION
ON MONDAY 10th February 2020 AT 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Hewlett, Burden, Mckenzie, Offord, Tilling, Woodcock and Wain

Also in attendance: Clerk & RFO Cindy Koberl, Mrs. Woodcock and Mr. Abbott

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were given by Cllr. Overton and these were accepted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Mrs. Woodcock would participate in item 12 and 14.

4. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING - TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 11TH NOVEMBER 2019 AND ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES.

4.1. The minutes were **approved** as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

4.2. Matters arising:

Minute 7.4 Neighbourhood Plan –

Cllr. Woodcock explained a neighbourhood plan (NP) is for a parish to have a plan sits within Cherwell local plan so when a planning application comes in, we have a set a guidelines and rules specifically to the village. Most of the villages within Cherwell which had done their NPs were significantly bigger than us. There was one group of 7 or 8 villages included Duns Tew came together made a conglomerate plan. Having spoken to a couple of people who were involved in Bloxham plan and Adderbury plan, NP would clearly be a significant undertaking, both plans took several years and were tricky to pull together. Some NP required £8,000 to kick it off. Cllr. Woodcock advised there were funding available to apply on a website called “locality”, a government website specially for NP. It was suggested to Cllr. Woodcock that Hornton, due to the size of it, could look at “Parish Plan” instead - it does not carry the same weight as NP, nevertheless, it looks at broader issues such as education, schooling and anti-social behaviour issues. Cllr. Woodcock suggested it is worthwhile to have a look on the Cherwell District Council Website for the existing NPs to see what is involved: It would be very formal processes to tie in the local plan which provides a 15 year forward looking plan for the village. Those villages had done NP put significant pressure on new planning applications. However, Parish Plan could be a more sensible approach given the resources we have.

Cllr. Tilling advised from the last CDC training he was aware a council was quoted £20,000 to have NP. There was a strong message came out of that meeting that NP would provide parishes protection against unwanted development although it did not necessary work.

Cllr. Woodcock further advised he had some print outs from Stratford district council would be an interesting comparison between NP and Parish Plan that he would circulate them around.

Action: SW

Minute 8 BT Phone Box Removal –

BT confirmed the removal would not include the removal of the concrete base. Cherwell District Council will keep us informed once the removal date is known.

Minute 9 Welfare of Vulnerable Parish Residents –

A notice had been put on the notice board to encourage the parishioners to contact Cllr. Mckenzie to make the council aware if any vulnerable residents require assistance.

Minute 10 Dog Fouling –

The clerk contacted dog warden from Cherwell District Council who would be happy to make a visit if the parish could provide more inform on the usual offenders. Cllr. Woodcock wrote an article in the Gossip to remind owners their responsibilities.

Minutes 18.1 Christmas Tree Fund –

The signatories of the Christmas tree fund was under process to be transferred from the previous pub owners to Paul Burden and Adrian Horsley.

Minutes 18.4 Pavilion Salt Bin –

Cllr. Overton tried his contacts to provide a salt bin for the pavilion driveway and was told it was only available through Highways. The bins from Highways were quoted £250 each plus VAT which would cover supply, installation and first fill. The council **approved** to order one from the Highways.

Action: CK

5. FINANCE REPORT

5.1. The following payment was **approved**:

Details	Account	Payment
StackaStage - Avocet Engineering Services Ltd.	Pavilion	£ 6,312.00
J. Silva Pavilion Window inv. 180	Pavilion	£ 25.00
Bruce Hopkins Mower Service	Jumpa	£ 134.99

5.2. Payments made since the last meeting:

Date	Details	Account	Payment
12/11/2019	K. Preston village trees felling and maintenance	PC	£ 840.00
29/11/2019	J. Silva Pavilion Window inv. 177	Pavilion	£ 25.00
20/12/2019	A. O'Driscoll Cleaning December	Pavilion	£ 40.00
30/12/2019	C. Koberl Allowance	PC	£ 9.00
30/12/2019	C. Koberl Salary	PC	£ 309.00
06/01/2020	Castle Water	Pavilion	£ 36.33
13/01/2020	Shower Rail and curtains	Pavilion	£ 33.50
28/01/2020	C. Koberl Allowance	PC	£ 9.00
28/01/2020	C. Koberl Salary	PC	£ 309.00
30/01/2020	Community First Annual Subscription	Pavilion	£ 55.00
30/01/2020	P. Lemon electrical items for sockets and lighting	Pavilion	£ 104.26
30/01/2020	A. O'Driscoll Cleaning January	Pavilion	£ 90.00
05/02/2020	Castle Water	Pavilion	£ 36.33

5.3. Bank balances as of 10th February 2020

Bank Statements

PC Main	£42,860.95
PC Business	£26,198.32
Total	£69,059.27

Committee Balances

	HPC	Jumpa	Pavilion	Playground	Grand Total
Balance B/F (as of 11/11/19)	£23,320.69	£5,591.38	£8,427.95	£32,964.53	£70,304.55
Total Payment	£2,094.00	£0.00	£836.48	£0.00	£2,930.48
Total Receipt	£13.20	£0.00	£1,672.00	£0.00	£1,685.20
Balance (as of 10/02/20)	£21,239.89	£5,591.38	£9,263.47	£32,964.53	£69,059.27

5.4. Third quarterly bank statements review as part of internal control

October, November and December bank statements were presented to the chair to review, sign and return to the clerk to file.

Action: JO

6. PLANNING REPORT

6.1. The Parish Council was considering:

Reference No.	Location	Proposal/ Description
19/02800/F	Bankside Millers Lane Hornton OX15 6BS	New double garage.
19/02607/TCA	Blenheim Cottage Millers Lane Hornton OX15 6BS	FIVE DAY NOTICE T1 x Ash - Dead tree removal

6.2. Application Permitted:

19/02454/TPO	The Green Hornton Banbury OX15 6BZ	T1 (Willow) - crown raise over road to 5.5m, crown raise over footpath to 3.5m
19/01942/DISC	Hornton Grounds Quarry Street From Stratford Road To Hornton Grounds Quarry OX15 6HH	Discharge of Condition 3 (Landscaping) of 16/00752/F
19/01686/F	Proffitts House Millers Lane Hornton Banbury OX15 6BS	Single storey extension reinstating a previous building to rear
19/01687/LB	Proffitts House Millers Lane Hornton Banbury OX15 6BS	Single storey extension reinstating a previous building to rear

6.3. Enforcement 19/00502/ENF No. 5 Bell Street
Clerk continued to chase CDC enforcement team for an update.

7. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS REVIEW

Financial Regulations were reviewed and **approved**.

8. DONATION TO VILLAGE GOOD CAUSES

An anonymous donation of £5,000 was given to the Hornton Parish Council presented by Cllr. Burden. The council appreciated such a generous donation and the clerk would draft a letter on behalf of the council to show our gratitude. It was agreed by the council the donation would be allocated to several village good causes. Cllr. Hewlett would draft a proposal of allocation for the council to review in the next meeting.

Action: CK/TH

9. PAVILION STAGE

The pavilion committee agreed to purchase a new stage for village events and requested parish council's approval to fund excess for £4,000 of pavilion funds already set aside for this purpose. The council **authorised** the payment and **approved** to cover the excess from the donation.

10. VILLAGE GREEN BOLLARDS REPLACEMENT

Cllr. Woodcock presented the council with three quotes for bollards replacement from Secure-a-field, Parkland and Jackson Fencing. The council **agreed** to use Parkland fencing based on material (hard wood), past experiences and locality of the company. The clerk would arrange this to be carried out during school half term and would send email around to notify villagers of the disruption.

Action: CK

11. PLAYGROUND FUNDS INVESTMENT

The playground committee would discuss this in their next meeting in spring and report back to the parish council of their decision.

Action: PB

12. HUNT AND THE HOUNDS

Cllr. Woodcock said he was around when the hounds came through the village. The huntsman had clearly lost control of several hounds, to such an extent that two parents of school pupils reported this to the police. A hound was also involved in a traffic accident. Cllr. Woodcock reported that hounds passed through his garden and worried his sheep. He had subsequently received an email from Mrs. Hester, the master of Warwickshire Hunt, who was not present when the hounds were in the village and out of control. She apologised and said that she would avoid this from happening again. Cllr. Woodcock thought it was a serious incursion and it could have been much worse for children, pets and animals. There was a similar incident in Horley a couple of weeks before. Furthermore, it was not the first time it had happened in Hornton.

Cllr. McKenzie noted that horses had also used a footpath they should not have been on. The chains on the gates were off and the gates were wide open the next day. This was not acceptable.

Mrs. Woodcock, who walked her dog daily a quarter a mile in every direction from the village, stated that it would be extremely intimidating if the hounds appeared without warning with/without the riders, followers on foot or on quad bikes. This is particularly true when you are on your own

in the field with a small dog. She suggested that the Hunt should notify the PC where and when the future hunts take place.

Cllr. Woodcock thought it is imperative for the parish council to: 1) express our concern about the behaviour of the hounds; 2) ask the Hunt to accept an exclusion area around the villages; 3) ask the Hunt to confirm that a similar incident would not happen again and; 4) request that the Hunt informs the PC of future meets in the vicinity of the village.

The Council agreed that a letter should be sent to the Hunt to address our concerns. Cllr. Woodcock would draft the letter.

Action: SW

13. WINDMILL

Cllr. Hewlett explained the lights on the windmill we all love sits on the top of the hill were lit for 5 hours a day for three weeks over Christmas. Although the lights were LEDs which do not use much electricity, the motor drove the windmill was a Kilowatt, old, industrial, heavy duty electric motor, the costs all came off Mr. & Mrs. Harris' electricity bill. He wondered if the parish council would contribute to the bill. The council agreed to contribute £50 as a gesture to show our appreciation.

Cllr. Woodcock also mentioned that the costs of village Christmas tree lights came off Mr. & Mrs. Higgins' electricity bill. The council agreed to present them a gift to show our appreciation.

Action: CK

14. MOTOCROSS

Mrs. Woodcock advised that the "NoiseApp" is an app to download to mobiles and it is free to use. The readings would be sent to CDC straight away. It would be good if the parish council could promote the use of it before the start of the season as agreed in the last meeting. She would keep being in touch with the CDC enforcement department to see if they had the feedback from the survey sent to the land owner in January.

The parish council had not received the list of dates of this year's events.

15. COUNCILLORS' CONTACTS

Councillors' contacts were passed around and councillors confirmed they were current and correct.

16. PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Oxfordshire County Cllr. Reynolds contacted the clerk to inform that there was a grant available to have public transport in Hornton. The service would be provided by ABILITY community. It could provide the village a bus to Banbury once a week and would be free to bus pass holder. All passengers would have to register with ABILITY as part of GDPR and all journeys had to be booked in advance subject to availability. The route and time table had not been established until the grant went through. The clerk had applied the grant and would update the council with the progress.

Action: CK

17. FOOTPATH BRIDGE BETWEEN JUMPA AND PAVILION

Oxfordshire County Council Countryside Access Officer suggested Cllr. Woodcock to replace the removed foot bridge with a gate for pedestrian because it would be cheaper in costs and a quicker solution due to staff shortage. Cllr. Woodcock expressed this would be a sensible solution as long as the area where the bridge was would be made safe. The council agreed to replace the bridge with the gate. Cllr. Woodcock would contact OCC to have this arranged.

Action: SW

18. CLIMATE CHANGE

Cllr. Overton contacted the chair to express his concern of what the parish could do to help the environment. Several of his idea such as solar farm and wind turbine were discussed with no conclusion reached. More research would be required on this issue so it would be carried forward to the next meeting.

19. LABURNUM AND CHERRY TREE REPLACEMENTS

The Clerk received an email from Mrs. Higgins with the suggestions to replace Laburnum with a Pyrus calleryana "Chanticleer" outside Holloway Cottages. She and Mr. Higgins offered to pay for this. Various trees such as native trees and cherry tree to replace Laburnum were discussed, the council agreed at the end to accept Mr. and Mrs. Higgins' offer to replace it with a Pyrus. The replacement for cherry trees would be discussed in the future meetings. **Action: CK**

20. SPRING CLEAN

Cllr. Wain volunteered to lead this year's spring clean which would be on Saturday 28th March 2020.

21. PAVILION REPORT

Cllr. Wain read the report prepared by Cllr. Overton:

"The Pavilion is now has a balance of approx £9,000 in its account, with May Day now well prepared which will bring in further funds. May Day is confirmed for the 25th of May.

The new Activities set up by Jo Langton have been successful with good attendances for Tia Chi, Latin American Dancing and Yoga. Keep fit continues to be well attended and all this bolsters regular rental income. Jo Langton has now resigned from the committee as she feels she has done enough for the time being, but she will still be helping Isabelle on computer literacy.

There is now a plan to investigate the possibility of attracting more weddings which yield more highly but this will take time. Jo and I are planning some new photography, investigating the use of a licensed celebrant, which might mean the building needs to be licensed as well. So we would like the PC approval of this venture, which we believe might take the overflow from Hadsham farm which is booked a year in advance. This would still be strictly controlled."

The Parish Council required more information on license and costs before it could be approved. Cllr. Wain would speak to Cllr. Overton to provide information in the next meeting.

Action: AO

Mrs. Woodcock left the room 8.55pm.

Cllr. Wain continued to read Cllr. Overton's report:

"As you can see the committee decided against the Cloud system for reducing noise levels and Kevin has been kind enough to offer a curtain solution which is thought to make a significant difference. This will involve more appropriate curtaining in the near future.

The stage has now been ordered and the committee are grateful to the Parish Council for picking up the costs in excess of £4,000.

The next area of concern is the parking area by the changing rooms, which is muddy in wet weather and less than satisfactory. We intend to devise a plan to improve this in the near future and will share the plan with the PC as soon as it is ready."

22. ALLOTMENTS REPORT

6/7

Cllr. Burden presented a letter received from Mr. Furneaux and Mr. Abbott to request approval to erect a shed on their section. The council approved this as long as the new shed would be in keeping with the other sheds. Cllr. Burden advised all the allotments were taken at the moment, he would ensure instructions and rules are issued to the new takers.

23. ROADS & HIGHWAYS REPORT

Cllr. Hewlett was under the impression it had become more difficult for Oxfordshire County Council to fix in and around the villages - the responding time on fix-my-street had been delayed. He had 28 reports on fix-my-street and around 15% of them had been actioned. It was possible that OCC rejected some due to the amount of issues Cllr. Hewlett reported hence he wrote an article in Gossip to encourage the villagers to report highways issues using fix-my-street.

Potholes around the green had been recently fixed. Cllr. Hewlett took some pictures yesterday showing water cascading down Millers Lane and water flow straight over the blocked drains. He reported this again with photo evidence and OCC was investigating. The trench at roadside of Horley Road to avoid standing water overflow down Millers Lane was discussed, however, it was agreed the blocked drains had to be fixed by OCC first.

Cllr. Hewlett continued to report that the condition of the road from Bell street to A422 was diabolical, he was told by OCC this stretch would be fixed without being advised when. Cllr. Wain asked if Wroxton could also log this issue as part of the stretch belongs to Wroxton. The clerk would contact Wroxton Parish Council. **Action: CK**

24. JUMPA REPORT

Cllr. Woodcock said the mower had now been serviced. There would be a spring clean some time so Jumpa would be ready for people to use.

25. PLAYGROUND REPORT

Cllr. Wain reported there were still a few maintenance works to do at the playground. There were no mole holes but there were a few little holes appeared. Cllr. Burden said rats were reported to be seen and he had done his checks always ensured the bins were emptied. He would try to deter the rats by pouring soap fluid down the holes.

26. AOB

Cllr. Hewlett wished to clarify if further action need to be taken regarding email "Oxfordshire County Council Mineral and Waste Site Drafts Plan Consultation" circulated by the clerk: Alkerton waste site was not one of the preferred sites at the moment. It was too early to say it would not be part of the plan hence no action to be taken at this stage.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next meeting will take place on 16th March 2020 7.30pm in Chapel.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed