

HORNTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE PAVILION ON
MONDAY 20 JULY 2015 AT 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Burden, Griffiths, Hewlett, Jarrett and Wain.

Also in attendance: Clerk & RFO Katherine Mills

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Offord and these were accepted. In the absence of Cllr Offord Cllr Hewlett agreed to chair the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

3. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING - to confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 15 June 2015 and any matters arising from those minutes.

Minute 5.1 Pavilion – Cllr Wain reported that the communication issue regarding grass cutting that had been reported at the previous Parish Council meeting was being resolved.

Minute 8.2 AOB – Councillors felt that the parking situation along West End had improved slightly and it was agreed to review the situation again in six months' time.

The minutes were confirmed as an accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

4. FINANCE REPORT

4.1 Cheques agreed for signature:

Payment	Amount	Cheque no.
Hornton Playground donation cheque	£202.50	447
K.Mills salary August	£238	448
K.Mills salary August	£238	449
Tax Assist	£234	450
K.Mills expenses April – July 2015	£38.82	451

4.2 Account balances:

PC Main	£6,214.82	30/06/15
PC Reserve	£6,119.73	30/06/15
Playground main	£17,855.08	30/06/15
Playground Reserve	£28,891.63	30/06/15
Pavilion Main	£20,709.14	30/06/15
Pavilion Reserve	£3,152.11	30/06/15
JUMPA Main	£4,020.85	30/06/15

4.3 The RFO reported that the query from the external auditor regarding the high levels of Parish Council reserves had been cleared and the accounts would be signed off by the external auditors in the next few weeks.

4.4 The RFO reported that the VAT refund form had been sent to HMRC and once the refund had been received refund cheques would be sent to the subcommittees.

4.5 The RFO reported that the subcommittees would be sent an invoice in August for the insurance payment split. It was noted that, as previously agreed, this would be the final insurance split invoice for the subcommittees and the Parish Council would fund the total insurance cost in future years.

5. PLANNING

5.1 The Parish Council is currently considering:

Pending Consideration

15/00827/F Manor Farm Bungalow, Hornton, Mr Scott

Permission granted

15/00655/CLUE Mrs Gadd, Blenheim Cottage turning curtilage granted
11/06/15

15/0012/TCA Canada Cottage, West End Fell 2 x Lawson

15/00705/F Land adjoining Bankside, Millers Lane, erection of new
double garage

Permission refused

14/00016/F Mr & Mrs Gadd Land to rear of Blenheim Cottage

5.2 Cllrs discussed the planning applications and considered if it would be appropriate to have occasional focused planning meetings to give cllrs the opportunity to discuss planning applications in more detail. The Clerk advised that if the meetings were carried out by a working party they would not need to be open to the general public but if they were carried out by a committee they would need to be open to the general public and an agenda would need to be published in advance of the meeting.

It was agreed that due to deadline time constrictions future planning application paperwork should be sent from Cherwell District Council (CDC) to Cllr Hewlett; Cllr Hewlett would advise the Clerk of any planning applications received and would notify the Parish Council if he considered an additional planning meeting was required. If an additional meeting was not necessary the planning documents would be sent around to cllrs for their consideration and Cllr Hewlett would send the response to the Clerk for submission to CDC.

The Clerk would send details of new planning applications to James Prentice who would put them on the village website. **ACTION: KM & TH**

5.3 Cllrs discussed applications 15/00655/CLUE, a parking curtilage for Blenheim Cottage and 14/00016/F, the construction of a dwelling, the former of which had been given planning permission and the latter which had been refused by the Secretary of State. The Parish Council considered that the refusal of application 14/00016/F was positive for the village and it was noted that Cllr Hewlett had drafted a comprehensive and detailed response to the application. Cllrs were also impressed with the response from the Planning Officer and also noted that several village residents had objected to the application and had been fully involved in the planning response procedure. However, the Parish Council queried the implications of the permission given for the parking curtilage for Blenheim Cottage. The Clerk would contact Planning Officer Rebekah Morgan to clarify. **ACTION: KM**

6. WEBSITE

6.1 Cllr Wain reported that the new village website was now up and running and positive feedback had been received from residents. There was still work to be done to the site including the addition of a contacts page for clubs and societies. Planning applications would be added to the website as well as the Parish Council minutes.

6.2 Cllrs Wain and Hewlett reported that fast broadband had now been available in the village for a month and some internet providers had written to residents to inform them of the new service. It was noted that packages offered by providers varied and some charged for the installation and connection. Websites www.fasterbroadbandforoxford.com and www.youswitch.com provided details on provider options; faster broadband operates at 40 megabits per second and fibre broadband operates at 80 megabits per second. The service was still not available to residents in Quarry Road and this was unlikely to change until the necessary technology was available.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1 Cllr Hewlett reported that correspondence had been received from EE regarding a pilot scheme to improve mobile phone coverage in the village. Cllrs discussed the scheme and agreed that it may be positive for the village. Cllr Hewlett would contact EE to discuss further. **ACTION: TH**

8. REVIEW VILLAGE SURVEY RESULTS

- 8.1 The cllrs considered a number of issues raised by residents' survey responses and agreed on those issues to be addressed by the Parish Council.

Village green - In light of the survey results, which did not have a strong majority in favour of the removal of the posts on the village green, it was decided that no action was required at present. Cllrs agreed that future repairs of the existing posts were the responsibility of the Parish Council.

Defibrillator – the survey results had a strong majority for the purchase of a defibrillator. Location options and the method for acquiring the code to use the defibrillator were discussed. It was noted that whilst training was not a legal requirement (the defibrillator has detailed instructions on the method of use) it was a possibility. The clerk would investigate the purchase and installation of a defibrillator and would report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting in September. **ACTION: KM**

Other comments – the Parish Council appreciated the other comments and concerns voiced on the survey responses. Following advice from CDC, road speeding/traffic measures were unaffordable for the Parish Council. It was agreed to add the plan of the village green areas to the village website and a notice to this effect would be put on the Parish Council notice board.

ACTION: TH & KW

9. ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Burden reported that whilst the allotments were very dry there had been a good yield of fruit but vegetables had not done as well this year. Martin Hemmings continued to mow the allotment grass areas on a regular basis. A couple of plots had not been planted this sseason. Cllr Burden would ask the Parish Council for permission to build a green house on the end of his plot in the autumn. The Open Gardens event had seen good attendance and had raised funds and the efforts of all allotment holders and those who had visited were appreciated.

10. PLAYGROUND REPORT

Cllr Jarrett reported that the new rocking horse would be installed on the 10 August and a grand opening and coffee morning would be held in the morning of the 22nd August. A new playground sign was also due to be installed. There were few moles on the playground at present and the area was being mown regularly and was well maintained.

11. PAVILION REPORT

Cllr Wain reported that there had not been a Pavilion committee meeting since the last Parish Council meeting. Cllr Wain requested feedback from cllrs regarding the proposed changing rooms which would either be an extension on the end of the pavilion or a porta cabin in the far end car park. A document listing pros and cons for both options was tabled. Cllr Wain reported that a donation of £5,000 had been received from Mr.Keller with the possibility of an additional donation from another source. Funding for both options would be similar and the porta cabin would have an approximate life expectancy of 25 years. Concerns raised about the porta cabin option were that the football club may not necessary still be meeting at the Pavilion in the future and the cabin may be more vulnerable to vandalism. It was noted that the porta cabin was likely to have a good resale value in the case that the football club closed down. The extension option would use up valuable parking spaces but may be more useful for other clubs and events taking place at the Pavilion such as the pantomime, gardening club and tennis. The porta cabin would be up and running quickly whilst the extension option would involve more disruption whilst under construction. It was agreed that Cllr Wain would seek clarification on the life expectancy of the porta cabin and the costs involved for both options.

ACTION: KW

Cllr Wain suggested that having broadband in the Pavilion may be beneficial when considering the poor/non-existent mobile reception in the hall. It was agreed to see how the EE pilot scheme progressed as this may provide 3G coverage and mobile phone reception at the Pavilion. Cllr Wain would report back to the Pavilion committee.

ACTION:TH/

KW

12. JUMPA

Cllr Griffiths reported that another croquet match would be held by JUMPA. Cllr Burden gave the Christmas tree sponsor money, totalling £50 for 10 sponsors, to the RFO to be banked. Robert Freeman had kindly finished the flagpole for the village and the Parish Council gave their thanks for his time and effort.

13. ROADS AND HIGHWAYS REPORT

Cllr Hewlett reported that areas along Quarry Road and Millers Lane had been white lined and so maintenance work was imminent. An error in the publicised bus time table had been corrected and the double shuttle service on Thursdays was running as advertised. It was noted that the service no longer stopped at Horley and Hanwell. A county wide consultation on subsidised bus services was under way and may lead to changes in the service provided in Hornton.

14.AOB

Cllrs had noticed an old sign for the Dun Cow pub in the playground which was in a state of disrepair. The Parish Council agreed it was appropriate to remove the sign.

(The meeting closed at 9.30pm)

John Offord, Chairman

2015