

HORNTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE PAVILION ON
MONDAY 23 MARCH 2015 AT 7.30pm

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

Also in attendance: District Councillor Douglas Webb and Clerk & RFO Katherine Mills

1. Apologies

None.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda

None.

4. Minutes and matters arising – to confirm the minutes of the previous meeting on the 2 February 2015 and any matters arising from those minutes.

Minute 10 - APM – to discuss the agenda for the APM

ACTION: KM to send list of Parish Council areas of responsibility

Minute 11 - Parish Notice board and kissing gate repairs

Cllr Jarratt reported that David Miles had finished the notice board and timber for the kissing gate had been delivered and repairs would be carried out soon. David Miles had asked if the wooden post box next to the board was still in use; if so he would replace it. It was confirmed that this was the case and Cllr Jarrett would report this back to David Miles.

ACTION: Cllr Jarratt

Minute 12.1 - Village Green

Cllr Hewlett would attend a Village Green training session at the end of March and request information on the legalities of using stone on village greens and would also research cost implications.

ACTION: Cllr Hewlett

Minute 18 - Roads and Highways

Cost implications of introducing a 20mpg speed limit in the centre of the village were high and there was no guarantee of success. Therefore it was **AGREED** that no further action should be taken at present.

Minute 19.1 – Broadband

Cllr Wain reported that completion would now be in June 2015 due to an issue with Wayleaves and cross county boundaries. Residents in Quarry Close and Hornton Grounds would not be connected. It was noted that residents would be required to contact their internet provider in order to benefit from faster broadband once the facility was in place. This was an opportunity for residents to compare alternative providers.

ACTION: Inform residents of details nearer to the BT completion date

Minute 19.2 – Primary School update

Cllr Wain reported that the school newsletter was now distributed to all villagers. The issue of parking at school pick up times had been discussed at the last Governing Body meeting and the school was sending a letter to parents requesting considerate parking and to advise that persistent inappropriate parking would be raised with the police.

4.2 The minutes were confirmed and signed by the Chair

4.3 District Cllr Webb gave the following report:

- The local MP Victoria Prentis would be at the Moon and Six Pence pub on the 30 March from 7pm – 8pm and at the Butchers Arms on the 10 April from 7pm – 8pm to receive questions from members of the public.
- Complaints had been received regarding poor services from the Sanctuary Housing Association who had since taken on specialist engineers to deal with the oil fired central heating systems. Any problems should be reported to Cllr Webb.
- Cllr Webb advised that the PC could obtain a map from CDC detailing ownership of green spaces in the village. Cllr George Reynolds may be of assistance.
ACTION Cllr Hewlett
- Cllr Webb advised that the village support for the planning application by Mr Britton had been noted and carried weight at the appeal.
- Cllr Webb had mentioned the car parking issue in the village to NAG Sergeant Becky Fishwick.

The Chair thanked Cllr Webb for his report and Cllr Webb left the meeting at 8.15pm.

5 Finance Report.

5.1 Cheques agreed for signature:

Payment	Amount	Cheque no.
David Miles PC Notice board	£587.50	436
Katherine Mills Clerk & RFO salary April 2015	£238	437
Katherine Mills expenses Jan to March 2015	£34.40	438
OALC Annual Membership	£133.07	439

5.2 Payments made since the last meeting:

Payment	Amount	Cheque no.
Village Greens training	£42	435

5.3 Account balances:

PC Main	£5,338.28	27/02/15
PC Reserve	£6,118.90	27/02/15
Playground main	£18,400.23	27/02/15
Playground Reserve	£28,885.64	30/01/15
Pavilion Main	£19,554.45	27/02/15
Pavilion Reserve	£3,151.59	30/01/15
JUMPA Main	£3,453.22	30/12/14

5.4 The Parish Council AGREED to subscribe to the OALC membership for the financial year 2015/16.

5.5 The Parish Council AGREED to consider the annual membership of the ORCC to be resolved at the next FPC meeting.

5.6 Cllrs Wain and Hewlett reported that the Good Councillors Guide had been recommended at the recent OALC training day. The Clerk would liaise with other local clerks and if it was felt that the guide would be useful would purchase the latest edition.

ACTION: KM

6. Planning Report

The Planning report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted.

7. Spring Clean

The date of the annual Spring Clean was set for Saturday 18 April from 10am and villagers were invited to meet on the Green. Gloves, bags and high vis jackets would be supplied.

8. The Green and village benches update

Cllr Burden had carried out a survey of benches in the village and reported as follows:

- Bench by new bus stop required coats of oil to preserve
- Bench on the Green as above
- Bench opposite the school on the Green to be replaced
- 2nd bench on the Green opposite the school to be sanded down and oiled
- An additional bench on private land in Glebeland – to be investigated

ACTION: Cllr Burden would look in to the cost of benches for the proposed remembrance bench and would report back at the next PC meeting.

ACTION: Cllrs Burden and Jarrett to sand and oil benches at the Spring Clean on the 18 April.

JUMPA flagpole – The JUMPA committee had requested a new flagpole which could be purchased from Blenheim Saw Mills. The PC would ask Ian Donaldson to look in to the cost to be discussed at the next PC meeting in April.

ACTION: Cllr Wain to contact Ian Donaldson

9. Website – update on PC website

Cllr Wain had met with James Prentice and website updates and live pages were progressing. A calendar was being developed and it was hoped that the website would be live within a couple of weeks at which point comments would be invited from residents. Links would be added and the Pavilion and PC would have their own page and village clubs would be listed with contact details.

10. APM – questionnaire and village association reports

The Clerk would send a list of PC areas of responsibility to Cllrs who would then send 5 suggested questions for the APM to the Clerk by Friday 3 April. The Clerk would then compile a list for the proposed survey

ACTION: Clerk & All Cllrs

11. Correspondence

- The Clerk reported that a refund of £913 had been secured from Npower.
- Defibrillator – this would be discussed at the APM, the Chapel was a possible location site.
- Mr & Mrs King had contacted the PC with concerns regarding the hunt which took place in Hornton. Cllr Offord had been in touch with the Joint Master of the hunt, Simon Richards, who had confirmed that he would contact Mr & Mrs King directly.
ACTION: Clerk to ensure Mr & Mrs King had been contacted and advised of future hunt dates.
- Parish Notice Board & Kissing gate – David Miles had built and installed a new PC notice board which was ready for use and would be starting work on the kissing gate repairs shortly.
- Roles & Responsibilities training – Cllr Wain and Hewlett had found the training to be useful and good value. It was noted that the minutes should be in draft form and the Clerk would ensure this was clear on future minutes. Cllrs agreed to meet 30 minutes in advance of the next PC meeting to discuss a Clerk & RFO annual appraisal.
- Parish Liaison meeting – the Clerk had circulated details of the next Parish Liaison meeting to Cllrs by email.
- PC Dropbox – Cllr Wain would set up Dropbox for PC use.

12 Allotments Report

Cllr Burden reported that he would collect the annual allotment rent and would forward to the Clerk for banking at the next PC meeting. The land available for fruit trees needed to be cleared and may be a project for the future. The PC gave their thanks to Martin Hemmings who had taken over the mowing in the allotments. 3 placements had been given up and 2 had been taken on, leaving 1 vacancy.

13 Playground Report

Cllr Jarrett read the Playground report from David Miles. Neil Shadbolt had recently left the committee and would be sorely missed. Three options for the replacement of the rocking horse were being considered, a flying saucer, a rocking rockette and a rocking horse; the replacements varied in price from £6,700 to £7,200 plus VAT.

A meeting would be held to discuss the options. A narrow strip of land under the fence would be concreted to alleviate the weed problem and the handrails would be repainted. Shrubs along the front boundary wall would be trimmed back to prevent root damage to the wall. Grass would be cut on a weekly basis during growing season and weekly inspections were carried out and submitted to the PC for approval.

The weekly reports were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Thanks were given to David Miles for the report.

14 Hornton Pavilion Report

Cllr Wain reported that the Pavilion Booking Clerk, Liz Jeffs, was retiring after 30 years of service and the committee was looking for a replacement. An advert would be put in The Gossip. The committee had agreed to purchase a new gas BBQ. The purchase of new changing room facilities had been discussed at length and the cost of a portacabin was similar to the cost of extending the end of the building. The possibility of the primary school using the facilities was considered and Cllr Wain would discuss this with the Deputy Head. The committee had also discussed adding gravel to the bottom car park which was very muddy. It was unclear if the contractors had finished work in the second car park and the Clerk would seek clarification.

ACTION: Clerk and Cllrs Wain & Jarrett

15 JUMPA Report

Cllr Griffiths read the report from Ian Donaldson. The committee had had a very productive meeting and had plans for another croquet game. JUMPA were willing to donate part of their ground for the growth of Christmas trees but queried who would fund the purchase of the trees. Cllr Burden agreed to look in to the cost of Christmas trees and to report back at the next PC meeting.

ACTION: Cllr Burden

16 Roads and Highways

Cllr Hewlett reported that all requested repair work to roads in the village had been completed by Highways. Oxfordshire County Council has advised that the transport unit would operate a free minibus service in the village from 4th June. The service would run on Thursday and a second trip on the same day could be added if it would be beneficial to the village. The route would run by Tesco. The PC felt that a second service would open up options to residents and Cllr Hewlett would send a reply to OCC.

ACTION: Cllr Hewlett

19 AOB

- A resident had contacted the PC regarding parking in the turning circle in West End Street. It was agreed to send a letter to all residents in West End regarding the issue of parking.

ACTION: Cllr Hewlett & Clerk

- A resident, Mr Langton, had contacted the PC querying the increase in the precept for the financial year. The RFO ran through the budget for 2015/16 and reasons for the increase were discussed.

It was agreed to outline financial spending plans for the village at the APM. A letter would be sent to Mr Langton in advance of the APM.

ACTION: Cllr Offord & Clerk

(The meeting closed at 9.40pm)

John Offord, Chairman

2015