**GARSINGTON PARIS****H COUNCIL – draft minutes**

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held as a virtual meeting on Monday 7th December 2020 at 7.30pm. The Chair was Cllr Chris Wright, present were Cllrs Paul Bolam, Mike Patrick, Ian Ashley, Matthew Dovey, Anne Eastwood, Judy Westgate, Richard Betteridge, District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie with L Stevenson in attendance.

No members of the public were present, representations had been asked for by letter or email

12/20/1 Apologies for Absence

County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale

12/20/2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Matthew Dovey and Ian Ashley declared an interest in the Community Benefit Society (item 10)

Cllr Ian Ashley and District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie declared an interest in the group funding an application for a judicial review against the Local Plan (item 17). Cllr Ian Ashley also declared an interest as a member of a group regarding bio abundance relating to the Local Plan.

12/20/3 Public Participation

None

12/20/4 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 2nd November 2020

These were agreed with a slight change to identify County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale by name.

12/20/5 Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

Cllr Matthew Dovey reported that a new battery for the speed camera had been ordered.

Cllr Paul Bolam stated that no progress had been made on the installation of the defibrillator at Kings Copse, the next step was to arrange for an electrical contractor. Cllr Paul Bolam or the Clerk to action.

Cllr Paul Bolam also reported that the meeting with the Sports & Social Club regarding parking had not yet been arranged.

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie offered to send copies of the planning enforcement letters relating to the Three Horseshoes.

Cllr Anne Eastwood stated that the wildflower seeds had been sown at Parsler’s Piece.

12/20/6 County Councillor’s Report

previously circulated

12/20/7 District Councillor’s Report

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie reported that there would be a vote of the Local Plan at the full council meeting this week.

Cllr Anne Eastwood asked where the 2 or 3 Gypsy and Traveller sites mentioned in the Local Plan would be. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie stated Didcot and Berinsfield.

12/20/8 Finance

The Clerk had circulated a bank reconciliation to 30th November which was agreed and signed by the Clerk

The Clerk had circulated a budget monitoring report for the current budget with a forecast. It was agreed to go ahead with the purchase of the speed device as listed in the current budget. Cllr Matthew Dovey will obtain a revised quote.

The Clerk had circulated the proposed budget for 2021/2022 with projects. Cllr Chris Wright thanked Cllr Ian Ashley for his help in producing the document.

Following a discussion, the proposed income and expenditure for the 2021/2022 budget was agreed, non-grant, non CIL projects were agreed, CIL income expected and projects were ranked and agreed assuming matched funding from the County Council. The proposed budget for 2021/2022 was agreed in total.

Cllr Chris Wright made the suggestion to list the projects in the next newsletter which were to attract County support. This was agreed. Cllrs Richard Betteridge and Ian Ashley agreed to take the projects forward. Cllr Anne Eastwood thanked Cllr Ian Ashley for his work on the budget proposal.

The Clerk had circulated the Notice of Completion of Audit from the External Auditor. This will be put onto the noticeboards and the website.

The Clerk had circulated the CIL report for SODC for 2019/2020. This will be put onto the website.

The Clerk had received precept papers for 2021/2022. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council had no reason to increase the precept in the next financial year. It was therefore agreed to set the precept at the same level as the current year. This will be formalised at the next meeting.

The Clerk stated that Grundon had notified the parish council of a small increase in charges for St Mary’s waste removal to begin on 1st January 2021

The Clerk had received a request for a meter reading from SSE for the electric supply to The Green. Cllr Richard Betteridge will take the reading when connecting the Christmas lights to the tree.

Balances and invoices for payment

Barclays Current Account at end of November - £71,895.37

To note DD to Grundon of £50.02

Receipts

Wayleaves from SSE (Cheque) £492.44

Advertising income £100.00 (bank credits)

The following invoices were approved for payment online

£587.94 – Wel Medical for replacement batteries for defibrillators

£680.00 – Inhabit (A Bower) for repair to church wall by footpath

£100.00 – To Wheatley Park School donation for prizegiving – s137 Local Govt Finance Act 1972

£337.94 – to reimburse Cllr Richard Betteridge for orchard expenses (CIL) and pea shingle for church path (CIL)

£33.54 – Earth Anchors for bin stickers and bin key

£743.34 – Clerk’s salary November including backdated pay award from 1/4/2020

£66.43 – HMRC PAYE

£14.39 – to reimburse Clerk for Zoom fee November

£13.34 – to reimburse Clerk for printer ink

£240.00 – Moore for External Audit fee

£450.00 – BGG for verge cutting in October (£542.40) for grass cutting under query as work not completed, so not paid)

All payments agreed apart from the grass cutting payment to BGG.

Cllr Judy Westgate will set up the payments and authorise and Cllr Chris Wright will authorise them as well.

Cllr Chris Wright raised the matter of investment of our balances. He offered to investigate this to see if this was an option for the parish council. This was agreed.

12/20/9 Planning

P20/S4171/HH – 44 Poplar Close – front porch extension, part single, part two-storey rear extension.

The Parish Council had no objections to this application

P20/S3540/FUL – Amendment No1 Land N of Oxford Road amendments to proposed cart shed and parking layout re P17/S2749/FUL, received 12/11/2020. Approved 3/12/2020. Clerk to write to Planning Officer regarding non-compliance of planning conditions set out regarding traffic management.

P20/S4283/LB – Garsington Manor – structural repairs and alterations. Removal of part of a low-level 20th century bookcase so that a new radiator can be installed in front of a window at first floor. To note.

P20/S4331/T28 – notice of intention to install a pole at Garsington Primary School. To note.

P20/S4360/FUL – development work at Land to South West of Cowley sub-station – works re solar farm.

The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

12/20/10 Correspondence to Chairman and Clerk

The Parish Council had received an email from the Community Benefit Society – circulated – containing a proposal for debt repayment to the Parish Council for money provided during the course of the (unsuccessful) application to buy the Three Horseshoes. Following a discussion, the proposal was accepted. It was agreed to use some interest earned from the money towards the debt and the Parish Council would also give a donation of £260.00 towards the debt amount. The donation would be under s137 Local Govt Finance Act 1972.

The Clerk had received an email from an artist offering a sculpture to the village relating to a visit made by Pablo Picasso to Garsington Manor. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the artist to ask the size of the sculpture, whether it could be displayed inside or outside and what type of fixings would it require. It also needed to be established if this was a gift offered free of charge to the Parish.

Cllr Ian Ashley had sent round an email from the 20s plenty campaign (20MPH in villages).

The Parish Council offered support to this campaign.

12/20/11 – Parish Council website

Cllr Judy Westgate informed the Parish Council that she had contacted other parish council websites and will place a statement onto the website to say that the Parish Council is working towards being compliant with the new regulations that came into force in September regarding disability access.

Cllr Matthew Dovey stated that the handwritten statement of audit was of concern as it was handwritten. Clerk to note.

12/20/12 Parish Newsletter

Cllr Judy Westgate stated that she was using new desktop publishing software to produce the copy for the Newsletter and was able to approach other printers. Cllr Judy Westgate remains happy to continue to produce the copy for the present. Cllr Judy Westgate had also spoken with the current printer regarding costs of printing.

Cllr Mike Patrick asked for an apology for the poor print quality of the last newsletter to be put into the next Newsletter.

12/20/13 – Playground and Sports & Social Club

Cllr Paul Bolam reported that the defibrillators had been checked.

Cllr Richard Betteridge reported that an oak tree had been planted in the playground by the new picnic table.

12/20/14 Village Maintenance

The Clerk reported that the application for permission to cut the ash trees opposite the village hall had gone into the SODC Conservation Officer.

Cllr Chris Wright notes that the hedge boundary on the North side in Parsler’s Piece needs more trees of stature to replace the ash trees that might die. It was agreed to inspect the site at Parsler’s Piece for tree planting.

Cllr Richard Betteridge proposed removing dog bins where they are next to or near to ordinary litter bins. Stickers will be put on all litter bins to say dog waste can go into these. This was agreed. Cllr Richard Betteridge offered to speak to the officer responsible for the placing of litter bins to discuss the need for extra litter bins.

Cllr Chris Wright raised the matter of the village Neighbourhood Plan and SODC queries. SODC believe there is a biodiversity action plan in existence for one site identified for possible housing, and SODC also asked for an explanation of the reasoning related to the plan as to why sites were rejected for development and to show compliance of these decisions related to policies within the plan. SODC will hold a workshop to try and resolve these issues with the NDP group to move the plan forward.

12/20/15 Village Bus Service

Cllr Matthew Dovey agreed to pursue the replacement bus stop sign opposite the Red Lion.

12/20/16 Burial Ground

Cllr Richard Betteridge reported that the Church will pay 50% towards the cost of the pea shingle for the path.

12/20/17 Oxford-Cambridge Expressway/Northfield Update/SODC Local Plan/2050 Local Plan for Oxfordshire

Cllr Ian Ashley reported that the SODC Local Plan was being examined by pro bono legal experts to see if there were sufficient grounds for a judicial review.

Regarding Northfield, Cllr Chris Wright raised the matter of collecting traffic data, but expert help may be needed to interpret this data.

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie noted that the County Council had done no transport assessment.

At the public enquiry the Inspector noted that it was ‘unlikely that conditions in Garsington would be affected by the allocation’. In effect the impact of the allocation was acknowledged by the Inspector in that ‘there would be harm arising from the removal of the site from the Greenbelt’, but this was disregarded.

It was agreed that Cllr Chris Wright would approach a transport consultant for their view of the impact and ask how could the Parish Council mitigate that impact.

Cllr Ian Ashley brought up the matter of 2050 Oxfordshire Local Plan and the vision statement of the Oxfordshire Growth Board now out for consultation. Their vision states that there will be massive bio diversity by 2050, the environment will be left in a much better state than it is now, there will be social equality, etc. But the vision misses out on the massive congestion that will ensue following the doubling of the housing stock which will also contribute significantly to the climate emergency. Cllr Ian Ashley wishes to encourage all to respond to the vision statement.

12/20/18 Any Other Business

Cllrs Richard Betteridge stated that the Christmas Tree lights would go up on Sunday

The next Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday 4th January 2021 at 7.30pm using Zoom.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm