**GARSINGTON PARIS****H COUNCIL (DRAFT MINUTES)**

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 3rd July 2017 at 7.30pm. The Chair Chris Wright presided, present were Cllrs Richard Betteridge, Judy Westgate, Anne Eastwood, Matthew Dovey, Paul Bolam and District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie, with L Stevenson in attendance.

4 Members of the public were present.

7/17/1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mike Patrick – family anniversary

Cllr Ian Dickinson – work commitments

7/17/2 Declarations of Interest

None

7/17/3 Public Participation

None

7/17/4 Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 22nd June 2017

The minutes were agreed and signed.

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 5th June 2017

The minutes were agreed and signed.

7/17/5 Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie not yet checked the council tax position re wheelie bins

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie is unable to give her personal allowance towards the double yellow lines in Pettiwell as those were the duty of another council, but will be able to give half of her allowance (£2,500), towards the badger protection scheme in the burial ground.

7/17/6 County Councillor’s Report

None received for this meeting, this being the third month County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale had not attended.

7/17/7 District Councillor’s Report

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie informed the Parish Council that Mark Stone was now the Interim Chief Executive of SODC. Applications to the Leader Fund (£1.55M) can still be made for capital projects and there is money available. Cllr Chris Wright wondered if solar panels for the Village Hall might be a project and agreed to ask Cllr Mike Patrick to look at this. Cllr Matthew Dovey suggested paths and Cllr Anne Eastwood suggested signage for circular walks. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie said these would be acceptable. Details have already been circulated about the Leader Fund, and these will now be explored.

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie advised that the Enforcement Officer was due to visit Kiln Lane in the next week with the Building Inspector. The next date for a planning committee meeting was likely to be August.

7/17/8 Finance

Several points were raised following the visit of the Internal Auditor on 22nd June 2017.

* A suggestion to review burial charges – Cllr Chris Wright will speak to Rev Emma Pennington to ascertain levels of charges in other local villages.
* A suggestion that the Parish Council adopt the NALC standard financial regulations adjusted for our circumstances. (These were previously circulated.) The Parish Council felt that the NALC standard regulations were more suited to Town Councils, the Parish Council agreed to keep to the current format of financial regulations.
* Concerning the Asset Register, the Internal Auditor asked about the insurance values for the War Memorial and Old Stone Cross. The Parish Council felt that the level for the War Memorial was representative, but asked the Clerk to arrange the same level for the Old Stone Cross.

The Annual Return was sent on 23rd June 2017 to the External Auditor. A VAT refund claim was sent to HM Customs and Excise on 25th June 2017.

Balances and cheques for signature –

Barclays Current Account at end of May 2017 - £35,578.64 (bank statement for June not received at the date of the meeting).

To note DD payment to Grundon for £61.96

Receipts –

Petty Cash balance of £2.80 banked and the account closed as advised by the Internal Auditor.

Cheques received – Newsletter advertising - £48.00 Crazy Bear

Cheque from Sports & Social Club Annual rent for 2016/17 of £119.00, representing £1 for each member over 18years.

The following cheques were approved and signed

Waterperry Gardens - £120.00 for refund of double payment for advertising

Cllr Richard Betteridge - £40.88 to reimburse for timber for badger gates and a marker post

BGG Garden and Tree Care - £471.22 for Grasscutting in June

Clerk’s salary June - £498.08

Clerk’s stationery expenses - £40.05

7/17/9 Planning

P17/S2048/FUL – Waysend 39 Southend – demolition of existing house, erection of new house with associated drainage. Following discussion and a vote (3-2 in favour), the Parish Council agreed to support this application.

P17/S2071/HH – 100 Wheatley Road – dropped kerb to allow for householder parking in front of house. The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

P17/S1790/HH – 21A Wheatley Road – demolish existing timber frame structure, replace with brick and block as to permitted development. The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

7/17/10 Correspondence to Chairman and Clerk

The Clerk had received a phone call from a resident concerned about a trade waste bin left outside the shop on Elm Drive after the tenant had departed. The bin was now overfull and attracting vermin. The Clerk had contacted the company – Veolia – twice about this situation. Cllr Matthew Dovey found the email of the Chief Executive of the company, Clerk to photograph the bin, put it on our website, say what action the Parish Council is taking and then contact the Chief Executive.

The Clerk had received a phone call from a resident objecting to a political poster put up in the bus shelter opposite their house. The Clerk advised them that it would only be up for a short time. Clerk reported that the Labour poster has now gone.

The Clerk had received a letter from Wheatley Park School to ask for a donation towards their October prize giving. The Parish Council agreed to donate £100 as before and asked the Clerk to prepare a cheque for the next meeting.

The Clerk had received a letter from Community First Oxfordshire to ask if the Parish Council would like to become a member again. The Parish Council agreed not to renew their membership and asked the Clerk to write to the organisation.

The Clerk had received a letter form Guideposts asking for a donation towards their local work. The Parish Council agreed not to donate to this organisation and asked the Clerk to write to inform them of this decision.

The Clerk had received a letter from The Maple Tree Children’s Centre giving an update of their work and to say they are now in the position to accept donations following their presentation to the Parish Council in December 2016. The Clerk will circulate their letter.

The Chairman had received an email from the Chair of the Governors of Garsington Primary School to ask for an annual meeting with the school and the Parish Council to encourage greater participation in local government. Agreed, Clerk to respond and agree a tdate.

The Chairman and other Cllrs had received emails and phone calls from a resident over noisy building work in Oxford Road, ignoring the rules for considerate working. The resident has been in contact with SODC regarding this matter and feels progress is being made.

The Chairman reported about the proposed development opposite Combewell. The developers have been in touch with Highways and are speaking to the neighbours.

7/17/11 Newsletter

Following their resignation, the current Editor intends to produce the next issue of the Newsletter, but would like some form of handover. Cllrs Judy Westgate and Ian Dickinson are willing to help as is the Clerk.

7/17/12 Playground/Sports and Social Club

The Clerk confirmed that BGG had been notified not to cut the kick a bout area as the Sports & Social Club were now responsible for the upkeep. Also, to note that the ROSPA safety inspection was booked for July.

Following a complaint by a resident about the condition of the play area, including a broken bar on the gate, Cllr Paul Bolam agreed to find quotes for weeding and replacing the bark as the task is too large for a working party.

7/17/13 Village Maintenance

Pettiwell double yellow lines – The lines have now been painted, Cllr Chris Wright will complain to the County Council about the gap in the lines where a car had not been removed prior to painting. Cllr Chris Wright will also ask about sign posts informing the road user of the restriction.

Old wall behind Old Stone Cross – Cllr Chris Wright will complete the required consent form for Historic England. Cllr Anne Eastwood suggested putting the wall by the wooden fence at the end of the old school land. Cllr Paul Bolam agreed to explore where to re site the wall.

Parsler’s Piece – Cllr Anne Eastwood informed the Parish Council that the wildflower area was very successful this year. Cllr Richard Betteridge reported that there was still a couple of fence posts needing replacing and will contact BGG as another round of weedkilling was required.

Clearing of Combewell – Fox Close. Cllr Richard Betteridge reported that a working party cleared the area recently, but the footpath was a hazard with loose gravel. Cllr Anne Eastwood reported that the County Council had been asked 3 years running to sort this out. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie accepted that the original problem was caused by SODC, but the County need to repair the footpath.

Cllr Richard Betteridge also brought up the state of the Oxford Road near Combewell. Despite the Clerk contacting County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale and the Police, nothing has been done. Cllr Chris Wright agreed to contact both again in a stronger fashion and contact Highways.

Cllr Paul Bolam informed the Parish Council that there was a dead silver birch tree near Combewell. Cllr Chris Wright suggested this be monitored and be put on the agenda in a couple of months.

7/17/14 Policing/Speed Monitoring

No report received.

Cllr Matthew Dovey will consider where to move the speed monitoring sign.

7/17/15 Village Bus Service

Cllr Matthew Dovey reported that following the introduction of the new timetable, with changes to bus times, he would be late for Parish Council Meetings and gave his apologies in advance.

7/17/16 Burial Ground

Clerk reported that the licence from Natural England had been received and operates from 1st July 2017 to 30th November 2017. Cllr Richard Betteridge informed the Parish Council that 1 non-return badger gate has been installed

The Parish Council had received an application for a black granite memorial stone to be laid in the burial ground. The Parish Council asked the Clerk to respond to this application to say that dark granite is acceptable, not black.

Regarding the archaeological excavation, 3 quotes have been received – John Moore -£37,100, Oxford Archaeology South - £21,675 and RSK Group Abingdon - £50,000+. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie informed the Parish Council that the County Archaeologist suggested the Parish Council could identify an area specifically for cremation ashes and that area would not need to have an archaeological excavation. Cllr Matthew Dovey noted that the status of the planning permission for the whole site would need to be clarified. Cllr Chris Wright had contacted the County Archaeologists who explained that Garsington was required to have an excavation because Roman remains had been found in the exploratory survey. Cllrs Chris Wright and Richard Betteridge requested to meet with the 2 lower quote companies to try to reduce the quotes. Clerk will arrange 2 separate meetings.

Cllr Chris Wright also suggested raising the height of the land so that a normal single grave could be dug without disturbing the layers that may contain items of archaeological interest. The Parish Council could present this idea to the County Archaeologist with a rough topographical sketch.

Cllr Anne Eastwood suggested marking out the burial ground then leaving it as it is until the time came for the land to be needed, and applying for planning permission again.

7/17/17 Neighbourhood Plans

The Clerk had circulated the grant form information, Cllr Chris Wright agreed to bring an updated spreadsheet back to the next meeting for discussion.

7/17/18 Any Other Business

Cllr Anne Eastwood informed the Parish Council that the drains were blocked in Oxford Road from 69 down. Clerk to contact County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm