GARSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 2nd September 2013, commencing at 7.30pm. The Chairman Chris Wright presided: present were Cllrs Anne Eastwood (Vice Chairman), Paul Bolam, Matthew Dovey, Ian Dickinson, John Hieatt, Mike Patrick, Judith Westgate with J Eden in attendance. Also present were District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie, County Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale and 3 members of the public.

9/13/1 Apologies for Absence

None

9/13/2 Declarations of Interest

None

9/13/3 Public Participation

None

9/13/4 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 5th August 2013

The Minutes were approved and signed as a true record

9/13/5 Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

There were no matters arising

9/13/6 County Councillor’s Report

County Councillor Lorraine Lindsay- Gale had emailed a report which had been circulated to all the Councillors.

County Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale said that she would continue to send a monthly report but would not always be at the meetings. Chairman Chris Wright asked if the Parish Council could be notified if she did not intend to come, there needs to be a way of communicating concerns and problems to the County Council, residents have been told that coming to the Parish Council meetings is a way for them to speak directly to the County Councillor, if this is not the case, then we need to amend this information. District Cllr Lorraine Lindsay- Gale said that many of her colleagues do not attend Parish Council Meetings, it was not in there remit to do so, she has a large number of Parishes and with her other Council work it is not always going to be possible, but did agree to send apologies if she is not going to attend. The County Cllr also pointed out that she would attend the meeting if there was an issue of County Council policy that needed open discussion. She can always be contacted by phone or email, all contact details are shown on the County Council website

Speed Survey – Oxford Hill, County Cllr Lorraine Lindsay-Gale said she had not yet seen the speed survey, she had been away on holiday in August and had only just returned. This would be chased.

Speed Survey – Southend, County Cllr Lorraine Lindsay-Gale said she would action this request, the cost was approximately £200 which she will pay from her budget.

Pettiwell – following receipt of the email, County Cllr Lorraine Lindsay-Gale will contact Anthony Kirkwood to establish what can be done regarding the traffic problems raised.

Cllr Matthew Dovey said that he had concerns that the Better Broadband for Oxfordshire included Garsington Village but it did not appear to include the Kings Copse. After looking at the map County Cllr Lorraine Lindsay-Gale said she would get clarification on this.

Mr Inch brought the meetings attention to an issue that had arisen when he was litter picking in Oxford Road recently, a gentleman had pulled up in his car and told him that he should not be doing this as it was dangerous. The person who stopped was Keith Stenning , Area Steward. County Cllr Lorraine Lindsay- Gale asked where this was taking place, Mr Inch advised that he was beyond the end of the village in Oxford Road, he was wearing the high visibility clothing issued by SODC for the big litter pick that had been carried out. This particular area had been regularly cleared of litter for a number of years by local residents. Mr Inch said he was in communication with Mr Stenning and would be following this up.

All the other matters outstanding would be chased up and reported on as soon as possible, County Cllr Lorraine Lindsay-Gale suggested that as there were a number of issues in Garsington, she would try and get Keith Stenning to attend the next parish council meeting.

9/13/7 District Councillor’s Report

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie apologised for her absence in August.

Main issue is the City Deal, there has been progress on this, the outline proposal is currently being prepared and a final proposal will be submitted to Government in the next few weeks, District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie said she is doing everything she can to protect the Green Belt, although Grenoble Road has been taken out of the plan, it is still indirectly mentioned and this is a cause for concern. A full proposal will need to be approved before anything is finalised.

Cllr John Hieatt raised the planning application for 27 Elm Drive, District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie said she had spoken with the Planning Department, the application had been granted for conversion of the rear of the premises to residential accommodation. No decision had yet been made on the Hot Food Takeaway, the Agent working for the owner had, however, advised the Planning Officer that similar applications in the locality had in the past been granted permission, one being in Berinsfield. It was likely that this application would go to a full planning committee for a decision. It was agreed that Cllr John Hieatt would speak to Tom Allington at the Planning Department. Following this, the Clerk in conjunction with the Chairman would also send an email to the Planning Department to reiterate the Council’s views when the original application had been received and the concern of the residents adjacent to the premises.

The County Councillor and the District Councillor left the meeting at 8.10pm

9/13/8 Finance

Barclays Current Account at 31st July 2013 £34,112.61 (August Statement not yet received)

Payments received in August

£904 received for Newsletter Advertising

Council to note DD payment to Grundons in July amounting to £61.28

The following cheques were approved for payment

Dog Bin Emptying £75.35

Information Commissioners Data Protection- renewal of registration £35

Village Hall Hire for Parish Council, Community Plan and Crime Reduction Meetings £85

Clerks Salary for August £344.60

Newsletter Editor August/September £119.29

Audit – The approved audit and report had not yet been received.

Insurance - War Memorial, Chairman Chris Wright advised that this was in hand

- Gates at Memorial Playing Field, Blacksmith from Chalgrove had still not responded with a valuation, although the Clerk had chased him, Cllr John Hieatt suggested that a price be obtained by looking at similar gates online, he undertook to research this. Cllr Paul Bolam said that he would speak to the owner at Guydens Farm to see if he could help.

9/13/9 Planning

a) P13/S1761/HH

12 Southend, replacement and alteration to first floor window, amendment to original plan. Information only, no action required.

9/13/10 Correspondence to Chairman and Clerk

The Hill – Waste Bins – A problem has arisen between some residents of The Hill and the parking of vehicles on bin collection day. Residents had agreed with SODC that instead of waste sacks they would have waste bins which would be placed at the entrance to The Hill off Oxford Road for the weekly collection, this is proving to be a problem, due to a vehicle regularly being parked on the only flat area by the entrance to The Hill on Sunday night, this has led to angry exchanges and the police being called. Chairman, Chris Wright had visited the site and spoken to some residents. Cllr Judy Westgate said she had looked up this area and it appears to be common land and not owned by anyone. Chairman Chris Wright said he would write to the resident concerned. Parking is a problem for residents in this area but hopefully this would be resolved.

27 Elm Drive – email from Faye Adams regarding the activity at these premises. Clerk had responded and advised the resident of current situation as per the details in 9/13/7

Wheatley Park School – request for donation for prize giving in October – Clerk to find out how much was given in previous year and raise cheque for next meeting.

9/13/11 Playground Safety

Inspection had taken place, Cllr Paul Bolam reported that the playground was in good condition, the inspector thought there was a good selection of equipment, and he was not concerned about the stones which appear in the bark. Full report not yet received.

9/13/12 Village Maintenance

Litter Bin Kiln Lane – Clerk reported that this is in hand.

Parslers Piece – Wild Flowers – Chairman, Chris Wright said he would speak to Earth Trust/BBont regarding the management of a wild flower meadow and when it should be cut. Cllr Paul Bolam said he did not feel the entrance to Parslers Piece from the Oxford Road was very people friendly. Cllr Anne Eastwood said there is an alternative entrance via Combewell.

Burial Ground – Cllr Mike Patrick raised the problems with the gravestones being out of alignment. It was agreed that Cllr Mike Patrick and Chairman Chris Wright would meet at the burial ground to look at and discuss the problems that have been raised.

Trees on bank alongside High Footpath Oxford Road – Cllr Mike Patrick will look at this and speak to the County Council Tree Officer.

9/13/13 Village Bus Service

Thames Travel service is reasonable, no particular problems had been reported.

9/13/14 Community Assets

Old School Garden – Mr Palmer had advised the Chairman that he had decided not to go ahead with a possible lease of this area to the Parish. It was decided that a letter would be sent regarding the need to reduce the width and height of the Leylandii Trees which are overshadowing the piece of land owned by the Parish and also to advise that the Parish Council would be seeking to register this piece of land as a Community Asset.

9/13/15 School Transport

No update on Consultation.

9/13/16 Policing/Speed Monitoring

Police report for August had been circulated.

Speed Survey for The Hill still not been received, this had been dealt with in 9/13/6

9/13/17 Annual Parish Meeting- Threshers Type Fair

Council agreed this was a good idea. Cllr Matthew Dovey would start the planning, it was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting would need to be held on a different night to the Parish Council Meeting. Suggested date was end of May. Details need to be included in the Newsletter as early as possible.

9/13/18 Any Other Business

Community Plan - Cllr Matthew Dovey requested that this be listed as an item in the Agenda for future meetings. He reported that all the Clubs and Societies in the village had now been contacted. Chairman Chris Wright said that he had set out a plan from the Parish Council which had been circulated to Councillors, response needed by end of week from Councillors.

Southend Speed Survey – Cllr Judy Westgate requested that in future all decisions are recorded in the Minutes regardless of the decisions that be taken.

Cllr Anne Eastwood said she still had a quantity of Jubilee Mugs, it was agreed that these would be taken to the Family Fun Day at the Sports and Social Club on 8th September. Cllr Mike Patrick will collect them.

Transport Meeting – Cllr Mike Patrick said he would not be going. Issues raised rarely included anything for this area.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm