GARSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council, held in the Village Hall

Monday 4th December 2023 at 7.30pm.

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| **Members of the Parish Council In attendance:** | Cllr Matthew Dovey (Vice acting Chair), Cllr Ian Ashley, Cllr Judith Westgate, Cllr Anne Eastwood, Cllr Adrian Townsend, Cllr Richard Betteridge, Cllr Paul Bolam and Cllr Sam James-Lawrie |
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| **Public attendance:** | 1 member of the public was present. |
| **Minutes:** | Elaine Small (Parish Clerk). |

# 12/23/1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Claire Green (prior engagement). Cllr Chris Wright (previously arranged appointment), Cllr Robin Bennett (ankle injury)

# 12/23/2 Declarations of Interest

# None.

# 12/23/3 Public Participation

# No comments.

# 12/23/4 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 4th December 2023

Minutes adjusted as Cllr Townsend did not attend November meeting (due to prior engagement). In 11/23/8 it was clarified that payment for the Pickett fencing was a reimbursement for Cllr Bolam for a purchase from Plumstone Picket Fencing of panels for the playground. Minutes then approved and signed by Cllr Dovey.

The bench at the church had been replaced by a member of the public as discussed and agreed at last meeting.

# 12/23/5 Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda

Electricity contract with SSE – Clerk working to get paperwork confirming the cancellation of electric to the Green for January 2024.

Parking enforcement on no “named road” - discussed and again confirmed needs input from County Council Highways (Cllr Robin Bennett).

Pinch point along Garsington past the Hill - Cllr Robin Bennett to report back to GPC where he is as regards this and when will this happen.

Guydens Farm and speeding past this point along the road - Cllr Dovey has been investigating if a speed camera could be placed to monitor (but not display) the speeds of cars (between Garsington towards Guydens Farm). He hopes to put a camera in place in a week or so time.

Registering Pettiwell Green - Cllr Wright, in correspondence, for information from when in 1972 it was registered as a Green.

Verge along Southend - Cllr Richard Betteridge is liaising as regards the crumbling verge.

# 12/23/6 County Councillor Report Cllr Robin Bennett.

Report has been circulated with GPC and will be accessible via the website. Charter update comments due by 10th December. Cllr Dovey agreed to take this on.

# 12/23/7 District Councillor’s Report Cllr Sam James-Lawrie**.**

GPC had requested a meeting with SODC and Cllr James-Lawrie to resolve ongoing need for traveller site. GPC asked again to be invited to a meeting with SODC to discuss the plan for proposed sites. Cllr James-Lawrie to action and to take forward with Cllr Ashley

Enforcement of Pettiwell parking restrictions - GPC still awaiting an update as regards possible options such as camera, although general consensus was that regular policing was required.

Cllr Bolam had submitted a funding application for Solar powered lights for the Christmas tree. The GPC thanked him for his hard work.

Cllr James-Lawrie reported there were still funds available suggested GPC could apply for stiles and footpath funding. Cllr Bettridge agreed to work on an application.

# 12/23/8 Correspondence to Chairman and Clerk.

A BBC reporter had contacted Cllr Wright about various rumours that Greenwoods such as cars being services receiving parking tickets without the customers knowledge. GPC discussed this and the comments on faceboot, but had no direct knowledge so could not advise. Cllr James-Lawrie will look into this and see if there is anything that can be done to stop this.

Resident Marion Gunter sent an email re the erosion of verges on Pettiwell and the need for safer pathways. Residents have also voiced concerns of the risk whilst walking along this road for children going to school and walkers. This has been discussed and generally agreed that this was a need for safety. Cllr Richard Betteridge is working on a design for this and will be presenting a risk assessment to the next PC, with a gravel path. This does not need a traffic order so GPC can do work on this.

Bulk litter Pettiwell left again found by a resident, GPC will look into this.

12/23/9 Planning

P23/S3866/LB Hill Farm 18 The Green Garsington OX44 9DF - Single storey flat roof extension to rear elevation. No objection, subject to planning officer’s opinions due to this being within the conservation area. However, it was noted that the location of the boundary was not clear enough in the application.

P23/S3952/LB - Stone House 14 Southend Garsington OX44 9DH

Gable end oak timber and brick infill panel repairs: removalof all cement pointing between the bricks and oak beams on the gable end, dismantling the centre two brick panels to allow the replacement of blown and crumbling bricks, along with the removal and replacement of the damaged bricks on the adjacent panels with identical bricks. Partial dismantling of the timber-cladded extension roof will be needed to undertake this repair. The roof tiles will be re-installed and sealed to the newly re-built gable end brick panels. No objection.

P23/S3952/LB. Stone House 14 Southend Garsington OX44 9DH. Gable end oak timber and brick infill panel repairs: removal of all cement pointing between the bricks and oak beams on the gable end, dismantling the centre two brick panels to allow the replacement of blown and crumbling bricks, along with the removal and replacement of the damaged bricks on the adjacent panels with identical bricks. Partial dismantling of the timber-cladded extension roof will be needed to undertake this repair. The roof tiles will be re-installed and sealed to the newly re-built gable end brick. Resident attended the meeting and spoke she is aware of the work that needs doing and will abide the issues that might crop up. No objection.

# 12/23/10 Finance

Note that Cllr Chris Wright had undertaken appraisals taken place for the Clerk and Burial Ground Manager. Further training had been discussed as the Clerk was eager for any further knowledge, GPC supported this and asked the Clerk to think about this for to the most appropriate training in discussion with Cllr Wright.

GPC proposed and agreed to increment salaries in line with the NALC Proposals and to back date this to the beginning of the financial year.

The following invoices were agreed and passed for payment by the PC:

* Salary Parish Clerk and BGM salary and expenses £704.04
* ROSPA £136.20
* HMRC income tax £135.80
* Grundon (DD) Waste £38.82
* Parchments Prints Nov-Dec 2023 £535.00
* Homebase hinges for the playground £ 15.50 to reimburse Cllr P Bolam
* TOE Grant £438.00 £119.97 Wyvale to reimburse Cllr Paul Bolam

Standing Orders for salary - agreed to implement this from January 2024

Precept discussed and the increment suggested by Cllr Wright via e-mail of 4.6% reflecting the latest CPI was agreed with no objections.

Budget discussed – this needs to be set before 15th January, and it was agreed to use 4.6% as the inflation uplift adjustment. Grass cutting contract year runs out Oct 2024. This will be put out to tender and agreed going forward after October. Defibrillators and pads had been checked. The list of project was discussed and Cllr Ashley asked for updates to be sent via e-mail. Newsletter increase discussed and was agreed to leave as it is at present.

**12/23/11 Northfield**

Cllr Wright has been in conversation/meetings with all concerned. Cllr Wright is following up on a list of proposed S106 investments to Nicola Smith, but has received no further material from the GPC. This is to be presented to a “stakeholder” meeting in January.

Cllr Townsend asked for a declaration of interest from the Guydens Farm representative on the stakeholder group as regards if they are supporting the Parish or Guydens Propery Management. General feeling with the GPC was that they wanted input on the proposals as they would be immediately surrounded by the Northfield development. However, it was agreed that the membership of the group needed clarifying in its terms of reference – making it explicit as regards the interests and remit of the members. It was also noted that it appeared that the Guydens Farm representative was privy to plans not available to the GPC representatives. Cllr Townsend was asked to follow up and ask to see these plans.

It was noted that sewage treatment works and flooding etc needs to be properly considered and mitigations agreed at these stakeholder meeting.

It was noted that SODC were proposing to remove the Chalgrove strategic allocation in future revisions of the Local Plan which sets a precedent which should also be applied to the Greenbelt allocations.

12/23/12 Village maintenance

Stiles at Manor to get people walking.

Outstanding Playdale Invoice – it was agreed to make one last attempt at a discount on this. Cllr Bettridge to pursue this one more time and GPC members agreed to pay in January 2024 if still now progress..

SSE Supply for Christmas Tree - GPC signed a contract in June 2023, but the monthly amount is significantly higher than the indicative sum in that contract. Clerk chasing this up with SSE albeit with poor responsiveness from SSE.

Gigaclear updates - Cllr Dovey to liaise with company to arrange a meeting for explanation of poor workmanship and lack of communication. Apparentlythe work has been outsourced and no letters of communication were posted to affected residents. Areas of Garsington which have not been impacted by the work (e.g. Oxford Road) are due to there either being infrastructure already in place (e.g. fibres already exist from the exchange to the cabinets by Parsler Piece and in Elm Drive), or the infrastructure will run across the telegraph poles rather than underground.

Request for street lighting along the Oxford Road - walking and cycling are high on the priority list for the council and the need for personal safety, however, any changes would be part of the Northfield Development plans.

12/23/13 Neighbourhood plan update

Cllr Wright has been liaising with SODC to revise the built-up area boundary to provide stronger protections against excessive infill development.

12/23/14 Any Other business

Clerk to order new battery for defibrillator.

Parking on the road opposite the Manor Pub was discussed once more and the consensus was to apply for 4 hour parking notice to be placed. It was noted that although the Manor Pub allows School parents/carers to park in the pub car park in the morning (as there no staff on site), this is not the case during the afternoon as there are staff on site at that time, and allowing public parking would cause problems with their insurance.

Footpath along the road leading to Wheatley from Garsington - This will benefit an active lifestyle, wellness, access for schools and workplace. A resident has been to meetings with Horspath and Wheatley and both Parish Councils agreed this was a good idea and wish to proceed with a committee/group to plan this and are awaiting a formal letter agreement. A Garsington to Wheatley Footpath Committee has been set up, consists of Annalisa Miler, Annie Winner, Cllr Richard Betteridge and Cllr Ian Ashley. Action is with Cllr Bennett to liaise and Cllr Jame-Lawrie advised that Tim Bereder is a good person to speak to and can give good guidance on pursuing this.

Asset of Community Value registration for the Manor Pub - Cllr Ashley working on this with South &Vale and OCC and the housing plan. It has been looked at and further work needs to be actioned re the correct plan of this. This has an 8 week process for this to be signed off.

# Meeting closed at 9.10pm.

# Date of forthcoming meeting: 8th January 2024