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

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held as a virtual meeting on Monday 1st February 2021 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, County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale, District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie with L Stevenson in attendance.

1 member of the public was present, representations had been asked for by letter or email

2/21/1 Apologies for Absence

None

2/21/2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Ian Ashley declared an interest in the Bioabundance group, this interest has been declared and registered with SODC

Cllrs Ian Ashley and Matthew Dovey declared an interest in the planning application P20/S4553/HH (friends)

2/21/3 Public Participation

A member of the public referred to the increase in traffic on Wheatley road and wished to be updated on the consultation regarding the path improvements and lowering the speed for traffic through the village. The resident also asked if the Parish Council could enquire if the County would look to supporting the village in becoming a low traffic neighbourhood.

Cllr Matthew Dovey reported that all of the topics raised had previously been discussed by the Parish Council. The Parish Council had recently hired a traffic consultant to analyse and give advice on collected traffic data. Consultation was on going with the County Council for pathway and road safety improvements.

2/21/4 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 4th January 2021

These were agreed

2/21/5 Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

Cllr Matthew Dovey reported that new batteries for the speed camera had arrived and quotes for speed devices obtained and circulated.

Clerk reported that stated that they had been in contact with the electrician regarding installation of the defibrillator at Kings Copse and details had been provided. Now waiting to hear back.

Cllr Paul Bolam also reported that the meeting with the Sports & Social Club regarding parking had been postponed for the present.

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie stated that the planning enforcement had written to the owner of the Three Horseshoes and had received a reply from the owner. The planning enforcement officer asked to be informed if further building work was happening or any other persons living there other than those allowed, evidence of this would be needed. Cllr Richard Betteridge stated that this problem was raised a long while ago. Clerk to look up when this issue was first raised and inform District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie.

Cllr Matthew Dovey will pursue the bus stop replacement sign for opposite the Old Red Lion with Thames Travel.

Cllr Ian Ashley reported that he had attended the meeting on 26th January with the school regarding school road safety and the school were keen to fundraise for a lighted crossing. At that meeting, County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale offered to look into 50% funding of the project. The next school meeting to be held on 9th February.

Cllr Richard Betteridge reported that he had spoken with the County Officer responsible for siting litter bins and dog bins, but had made no progress.

2/21/6 County Councillor’s Report

previously circulated

Regarding the school road safety, County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale reported that a speed survey been conducted and once the school was fully open there would be a people survey of those crossing the road. Following this there could then be a discussion with County of proposals

Regarding the pavement widening before the school and further along on the Wheatley Road along with other road safety aspects, County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale agreed to arrange a meeting whilst the drainage problem is being sorted in the half term week in mid-February (around the 16th/17th February). County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale confirmed that these pavement extensions would be on the work schedule after April 2021.

County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale also agreed to contact the Countryside footpath division officer regarding the very muddy path that runs around the edge of the school currently being used as a one-way route for pupils and parents to access the premises.

Cllr Ian Ashley asked if County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale could find out if the village could be considered for the Low traffic Neighbourhood Zone, the scheme for reducing road speed to 20MPH and asked what was the scheme for cleaning of roads. County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale agreed to find out the criteria for all of these.

Cllr Paul Bolam stated that these road safety problems had existed for generations and it would be good to finally have some action to resolve them.

Cllr Anne Eastwood asked if County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale could find out the progress, if any, of the resurfacing of the footpath on the hill on Oxford Road that had been asked for many times. County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale agreed to investigate this matter.

2/21/7 District Councillor’s Report

Cllr Chris Wright stated that District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie was attending this meeting to provide information and answer questions regarding District Council matters.

Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie reported that SODC was very busy attending to Covid-19-related matters

2/21/8 Finance.

The Clerk had circulated a budget monitoring report for the current budget with a forecast.

Cllr Judy Westgate reported that prices were being sought from alternative printers for the printing of the Newsletter.

Cllr Matthew Dovey presented details of different types of speed signs (previously circulated). It was agreed to purchase a speed sign for £3800.00. Cllr Matthew Dovey will order the sign.

Balances and invoices for payment

Barclays Current Account at end of January - £72,091.20

To note DD to Grundon of £58.57

To note DD to SSE of £28.90

Receipts

£2060.00 – Newsletter advertising

£428.00 – burial fees

£132.00 – church share for pea shingle for path

£1541.00 – CBS for debt repayment

The following invoices were approved for payment online

£500.00 – to OASAV CA donation under s137 Local Govt Finance Act 1972

£201.00 – to Westcotec for replacement batteries for speed device

£550.00 – to Positive Tree Care for cutting back ash trees opp Village Hall

£544.63 – Clerk’s salary January

£7.00 – HMRC PAYE

£14.39 – to reimburse Clerk for zoom fee Feb/Mar

All payments agreed

Cllr Paul Bolam will set up the payments and authorise and Cllr Judy Westgate will authorise them as well.

To note £542.40 to BGG for grass cutting October has been cancelled by BGG

2/21/9 Planning

P20/S4553/HH 116 Wheatley Road – single storey extension to bungalow: front porch and rear extension. Cllr Ian Ashley and Matthew Dovey did not comment on this application.

The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

2/21/10 – Residents legal challenge to SODC Local Plan 2035

Cllr Ian Ashley representing the Bioabundance Group gave details of the actions so far of the Group and aspects of their fundraising. The Group was seeking a statutory review of the Local Plan 2035 on the grounds that the housing need numbers were excessive and not cognisant of the 2050 Climate Emergency and the Councillors were placed under duress re voting and so voted unlawfully. The Group was currently waiting for the courts to decide if there is a case to be answered. The Group is now seeking to fundraise and would ask the Parish Council to join the Group and to donate an amount to the fund for the statutory review. Cllr Ian Ashley reported that 2 other Parish Councils in SODC had or were about to join.

Cllr Matthew Dovey declared that he hosted the Bioabundance website but had no other involvement with the Group.

Cllr Ian Ashley left the meeting and there was a discussion. The Parish Council agreed to join the Bioabundance Group and pay a joining fee of £25.00 and to make an initial donation of £1,000.00 to Bioabundance.

Cllr Ian Ashley re-joined the meeting and agreed to forward the paperwork to the Clerk.

2/21/11 Correspondence to Chairman and Clerk

Regarding the Picasso Peace sculpture, Cllr Richard Betteridge was in the process of obtaining prices for an alternative plinth to the one offered by the Sculptor. It was agreed to place this sculpture somewhere in the new burial ground, but further costs needed to be identified before a final decision.

Cllr Chris Wright stated that this would sit in with the proposals for an area of contemplation within the new burial ground, plans of which were still in development for further discussion.

The Clerk had received emails regarding fly tipping and litter along Pettiwell. Clerk will respond.

The Clerk had received a further email regarding the trees at Combewell outside 2 houses. This had been listed on Fix My Street but the Clerk was unable to locate this on the website now and the work had not been done. Cllr Mike Patrick offered to contact the resident.

The Clerk had received an email from SODC Climate Action Committee. Cllr Matthew Dovey attended a workshop on EV charging points and will share slides from the workshop once received.

2/21/12 – Playground/Sports & Social Club

Cllr Paul Bolam reported that all was well in the play area. A sign recommending hand washing before and after using the play area was suggested. This was agreed along with a ‘No Dogs’ sign. Cllr Paul Bolam agreed to look into the matter of the signs and will notify the Parish Council.

Cllr Paul Bolam reported that all the defibrillators had been checked.

2/21/13 Village Maintenance

Cllr Anne Eastwood reported that the ash and elm trees opposite the village hall had been cut.

Cllr Richard Betteridge reported that the removal of the duplicate dog bin/litter bins was in progress.

Cllr Mike Patrick reported that the noticeboard outside the Village Hall was drying out before the repairs were carried out. The Parish Council agreed to fund half the costs of the repair work.

2/21/14 Village Bus Service

Cllr Matthew Dovey stated that the service was little used at present.

2/21/15 Burial Ground

The Church of England Table of Parochial fees from 1st January 2021 (previously circulated) were adopted.

Regarding the administration of the burial ground, Cllr Chris Wright reported that the Vicar was looking into the legal obligations of transferring the responsibility of this administration from the PCC to the Parish Council. No volunteer had been found to perform this role. The Parish Council agreed that this could be a paid role. Cllr Chris Wright stated that Mrs Annie Wright had agreed to perform the administration role for a period of 5 months to ascertain the time taken and the tasks involved as the Parish Council still did not have a clear idea of this.

The Parish Council thanked Mrs Annie Wright for agreeing to undertake this role for a temporary period.

2/21/16 Oxford-Cambridge Expressway/Northfield Update/SODC Local Plan/2050 Local Plan for Oxfordshire

Cllr Matthew Dovey reported that maps had been sent to the traffic analysis consultant with data to follow.

2/21/17 Any Other Business

Cllr Anne Eastwood asked if the Green Gym could replace the tall stile at the back of the Manor with a kissing gate.

Clerk asked about the progress of locating our village assets whilst out walking to confirm their physical existence. Cllr Paul Bolam offered to look at the bus shelter opp Kings Copse and remove any ivy. It was confirmed that the rest of the assets were present. Cllr Anne Eastwood suggested adding the new trees planted at Parsler’s Piece.

The next Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday 1st March 2021 at 7.30pm using Zoom.

Meeting closed at 9.26pm