#### Garsington Parish Council

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 2nd February 2004 commencing at 7.30 pm

1. The Chairman, Councillor Godfrey Eden, presided; present were Councillors Anne Eastwood, Cliff Moss and Ann Tomline with G Russell in attendance. Also present were 8 residents of the Parish.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Paul Bolam, John Goodey, Gurdip Saini and from County Councillor David Turner.

3. Public Participation

(i) Monica Waud said that it was her understanding that when councillors declare that they have an interest in a particular matter it is important that the nature of that interest is also declared and minuted. The Chairman confirmed that this will be done in future and that he would take advice from the Monitoring Officer as to whether this needs to be done retrospectively.

(ii) Mr Tipping said that there had been a break-in at the Sports Club and asked what the Parish Council would do about this as it is the Council's property.

(iii) Mr Tipping said that the gulleys along Horspath Road have been cleared out and said that this needed doing in Oxford Road and Southend. He also asked the Parish to provide more salt bins.

(iv) Mr Baker stressed that it is important that the Parish Council attends the forthcoming hearing of the planning appeal concerning the expansion of King's Copse. He also pointed out that the Newsletter wrongly states that the March meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 8th March. The Chairman commented that there were a lot of errors in the new issue of the Newsletter and that these were not the fault of the editor. The date of the March Parish Council meeting would be manually corrected on those copies of the Newsletter that had not yet been distributed.

(v) Mr and Mrs Luckett asked if any progress had been made regarding the flood prevention scheme that was intended to protect their property. Cllr Mrs Tomline confirmed that she had been advised that the original builders were no longer liable. She had asked the District Council to provide a contribution of £2,000 from its 2004/5 budget and the Clerk was asked to confirm this request. Cllr Moss asked about the responsibilities resting upon the owner of the land from which the flood water was coming and the Clerk was asked to seek clarification of this matter.

4 Declarations of Interest

None

5 Minutes of the Meeting of 5th January 2004

The Minutes, as circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record

6 Matters Arising from the Minutes

i). The Clerk confirmed that he has written to Mrs Osborne about trees in Pettiwell.

ii) The Clerk has written to County Highways about a direction sign for Garsington from the Cowley roundabout and the possibility of moving the telegraph pole from the narrow pavement in Wheatley Road.

iii) Mr Sellar has now passed away and a plot for his widow has been reserved in the burial ground next to that of her late husband.

iv). Cllr Moss said that in the matter of dogs barking at 26 Wheatley Road the SODC Environmental Health Department has asked for a diary to be kept listing the times/dates of when the incidents took place. Cllr Moss said that he understood that the nuisance was more or less continuous.

v) The graffiti near the school has not yet been removed because of recent bad weather but the Chairman said that this would be done soon.

vi) Cllr Moss asked the Clerk if Cllr Goodey had returned the Council Minute Books that he had borrowed. He was told that Cllr Goodey has not done so.

vii) Cllr Mrs Eastwood said that she and Cllr Bolam had had a first meeting to progress the survey on the need for affordable housing.

viii) Cllr Moss said that he had reported the sports club break-in to the local police. He said that he was not clear about who was supposed to be the local beat officer and asked if this could be clarified before the next meeting.

7 County Councillor’s Report

County Cllr David Turner had sent his apologies for absence from the meeting. He had asked if the 30 mph signs had been re-located as requested by Mr Patrick and he would be told that they had not.

8 District Councillor’s Report

District Cllr Mrs Tomline explained some of the changes that will soon be made to the system of licensing for entertainment etc. Details of the new scheme would be made available soon and Cllr Tomline feared that it would prove more complex and possibly more expensive than the present one. She said that she reported on other matters through the Newsletter.

9 Finance and cheques for signature

The Council's bank balances were as follows:

Bank of Ireland 14th January £109,433.88 (Interest in month £301.23)

Barclays Community Account 30th January £7,204.62

Barclays Base Rate Tracker Account 10th December £8,182.48

The following cheques were approved for payment

SODC Planning application fee £990.00

Edward Pilling & Co re land in Oxford Rd. £11,000.00

Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association sub. £35.00

Clerk Salary & Expenses £248.64

Cllr Mrs Eastwood (expenses) £67.75

Oxfordshire Association for the Blind £50.00

An appeal has been received from Oxfordshire Education Business Partnership to support its residential week in May. The details would be circulated so that a decision could be made at the next meeting.

Burial ground receipts £249 in the month.

The Clerk circulated a list of the annual precepts that have been set by all other Parish Councils in the District.

In connection with the planning application for the Community Hall, Cllr Mrs Tomline said that she would ensure that the full Planning Committee discussed this, although she is no longer a member. The Village Hall Committee is organising a campaign of lobbying members of the Committee to vote in favour of the scheme.

10 Planning Applications

Cllr Mrs Tomline took no part in any part of the discussions about planning

i) P03/W1101 27, Oxford Road

Erection of side two storey extension.

It was recommended that this application be approved

ii) P04/W0024 78, Oxford Road

Erection of side two storey extension

By a majority of 2 votes in favour with 1 against it was recommended that this application be approved

Planning Decisions

Garsington House, 38-40 Oxford Road

Relocation of pedestrian access with replacement of existing gate. The removal of a door to the rear elevation to be replaced by a new window to match existing.

Planning permission and listed building consent have been granted

87, Oxford Road

Two storey front extension with two dormer windows to the west elevation

Planning consent has been refused as the proposal is considered to be an unacceptable form of development out of keeping with the existing building.

Other Planning Matters

It was agreed that the Council would be represented by the Chairman at the hearing of an appeal against the refusal of permission to expand the King's Copse Park commencing on 23rd February. The Chairman would seek permission to speak against the development.

11 Correspondence to Chairman and Clerk

i) There was no objection to the granting of a Public Entertainment Licence to Basil Townsend on behalf of the Village Hall

ii) The Garsington Society had set a programme of work in and around the Village in a letter sent by e-mail on 11th January. This programme was approved. It was noted that 'kissing' gates will be installed where appropriate. Cllr Mrs Eastwood will report at the next meeting.

iii) A resident of Sadlers Croft has written to the Chairman saying that the road surface is in urgent need of repair and that the Parish Council had been responsible for laying the original surface. It was thought that if this was the case the work had been done at least 23 years ago. The Minute Books would be consulted.

iv) BBC Radio Oxford is looking for Garsington people who will agree to be interviewed for a Sunday morning programme called the 'Blue Badge Guide to Oxfordshire'. Cllr Moss agreed to take part and Cllr Mrs Eastwood said that she would ask if the School and the Garsington Society would each provide someone.

v) Details of a one-day road closure of Southend on 27th February have been received and would be advertised as widely as possible.

vi) Details of proposed changes to the boundaries for County Council elections; rural bus services; a re-cycling survey; school travel action plans; the village of the year competition; and arrangements for meetings to discuss the future of the County's Fire& Rescue Service would be circulated.

vii) A letter has been received saying that membership of the freemasons must now be disclosed in councillors' declarations of interest. This was noted and will be circulated.

vii) SODC has asked for details of all sports clubs in the Village and Cllr Moss agreed that he would supply this information on the form supplied.

12 Village Maintenance

It was agreed to pay for 2 more salt bins and 2 more litterbins. The Newsletter would be used to confirm the correct dates for putting out rubbish for the regular kerbside collection.

The Chairman said that he was meeting with two contractors who have agreed to supply quotations for grass cutting for the purpose of comparison with the quote supplied by the existing contractor.

13 Street Lighting

It was agreed to carry this matter forward

14 Purchase of land off Oxford Road

The Chairman signed the contract. This will be returned to the Council's solicitor together with the cheque for £11,000 to cover the purchase price.

15 Parish Council Vacancies

It was agreed that Mr Shuker should be invited to fill one of the two vacancies. The Clerk will supply Mr Shuker with information about the Code of Conduct. The Chairman will try to meet Mr Wheeler in the near future.

16 Footpaths - provision of handrails

Cllr Mrs Tomline said that she will mark up a map with all the places where handrails are required for discussion at the next meeting.

17 Traffic Calming

The Clerk said that Highways Department has confirmed that the work is in hand.

18 Report from Parish Remuneration Panel

It was agreed to carry this matter forward.

19 Horspath Parish Council's bridge campaign

It was agreed that the Clerk should write in support of this campaign.

The Meeting closed at 9.20 pm