**GARSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL (DRAFT MINUTES)**

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 9th January 2017, commencing at 7.30pm. The Chairman Chris Wright presided, present were Cllrs Anne Eastwood, Mike Patrick, John Hieatt, Richard Betteridge, Judy Westgate, Paul Bolam and Matthew Dovey, District Councillor Elizabeth Gillespie, with L Stevenson in attendance. Also present were 6 members of the public.

1/17/1 Apologies for Absence

County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale

1/17/2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Mike Patrick – ramp at Elm Drive

1/17/3 Public Participation

A member of the public asked about 12 Kiln Lane. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie replied that SODC were still waiting for more information. Cllr Anne Eastwood outlined some of the complaints received from parishioners and incidents reported to the police. Cllr Anne Eastwood requested that District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie ask the Enforcement Officer to serve a breach of condition notice.

Cllr Chris Wright has drafted a letter from the Parish Council to John Cotton, Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council stating areas of dissatisfaction which he will send.

Cllr John Hieatt suggested that the Parish Council ask to meet with the leader following the sending of the letter.

1/17/4 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 5th December 2016

The minutes were agreed and signed.

1/17/5 Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

12/16/10 Cllr Chris Wright reported that the streetlight had been repaired.

Cllr Matthew Dovey reported that he was still looking into some sort of timed lock for t/he playground carpark.

Cllr Anne Eastwood Can there be a request put into the Parish Newsletter for a volunteer to lock and unlock the gate for a small remuneration. Cllr Chris Wright agreed to do this.

1/17/6 County Councillor’s Report

The report was circulated.

1/17/7 District Councillor’s Report

Cllr Matthew Dovey asked about the unitary status, District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie replied that at the moment all was on hold, but she believed that the proposal for 3 councils was the best option.

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie gave an update on proposed developments in the area. SODC had not received applications for ‘Science City’ near science park, Northfield Brook area or the Grenoble Rd area. The flyers that had been received by householders asking for comments are misleading in her opinion, and advised anyone returning them to say ‘do not build in the greenbelt’. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie also stated that SODC have enough sites for housing without having to build any in the greenbelt. Cllr Chris Wright stated that from the Parish Council’s position, there needs to be a planning application in before comments can be sent in.

1/17/8 Balances and cheques for signature

Barclay’s Current Account at end of December 2016 - £29,948.49

To note DD payment to Grundon for £43.03

Receipts – none

The following cheques were approved and signed

Hopethruhorses – contribution towards rent for the period October 1st – December 31st 2016 (less one week – Dec 23rd – Dec 30th) - £172.50

Cllr Chris Wright stated that under the original agreement, the horses were to be allowed in to graze the rough in the winter to aid butterflies and wildflowers.

Newsletter for Dec/Jan 2016 - £956.40

BGG – Urban verge maintenance - £420.00

BGG – Grasscutting in October - £471.22

SSE - electrical supply to gardens adjacent to war memorial £16.61

Clerk’s salary December - £449.06

Garsington Village Hall Hire for October – December - £51.00

An amended invoice was received from BGG for grasscutting in November (£360.00), following a query about Parsler’s Piece not being cut. The Clerk was requested by councillors to renegotiate to a lower amount no cheque was signed.

The Parish Council confirmed an increase in the Clerk’s contracted hours to 10 per week.

The revised budget for 2017/18 was approved by the Parish Council. Cllr Chris Wright signed the precept form which the Clerk will return to SODC. At the next audit, Clerk to clarify whether any items of expenditure are subject to S137 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1972, as amended.

1/17/9 Planning

P16/S4265/FUL – permanent change of use for the Tyrell Barn at Garsington Manor to form staff dwelling, including alterations to the existing building.

The Parish Council had no objection to this proposal.

1/17/10 Correspondence to Chairman and Clerk

The Clerk reported she had responded to SODC with the suggestions made at last month’s meeting for the Big Clean Up Project, this request has been sent on to the waste team for action as far as possible.

The Clerk had received an email from the new landlady at The Three Horseshoes asking how to get a brown heritage sign for the pub. The Clerk found out the procedure and responded to the landlady.

The Clerk had received information from BT about the consultation process for the removal of public payphones, along with a list of those in the area identified for removal. The latter was circulated, the Garsington phone box was not on the list.

Cllr Chris Wright confirmed that he and Cllr Anne Eastwood would attend a neighbourhood planning meeting on 20th January.

Cllr Chris Wright had become involved in a burial ground dispute which he was dealing with.

Cllr Chris Wright had been approached by CPRE asking for support from the Parish Council for a leaflet drop to Greater Leys and Blackbird Leys regarding developments in the greenbelt. Agreed to support in principle Greater Leys, but not Blackbird Leys. Clerk to write to CPRE to ask them to print more leaflets which the Parish Council will help distribute in Garsington.

1/17/11 Playground

Cllr Paul Bolam advised the Parish Council that the claim for the SODC grant would be applied for before the next meeting.

1/17/12 Village Maintenance

Cllr Richard Betteridge distributed a volunteer policy asking for comments.

Disabled ramp at Elm Drive shops – Cllr Richard Betteridge reported that as yet, no detailed drawings had been made.

Cllr Matthew Dovey said detailed drawings were needed before arranging for the post box to be moved.

Old wall behind stone cross – Cllr Paul Bolam confirmed he would be able to give an update at the next meeting.

Defibrillator at Willow Close – Cllr Richard Betteridge reported this was on-going.

Parsler’s Piece – The parish council discussed further details of a tenancy agreement to a parishioner. Agreed to issue a 3year tenancy agreement at a nominal rent of £1.00 per annum with no fees to a parishioner already gardening the land. The Clerk will proceed with the documentation and send onto Cllr Chris Wright.

The Parish Council discussed the brambles and tree thinning quotes already received. Cllr Richard Betteridge suggested asking for 2 further quotes as the quotes already received were for differing work in that one was compliant and one not. Agreed Clerk to ask for 2 further quotes from other contractors.

The Parish Council discussed grasscutting at Parsler’s Piece. Cllr Matthew Dovey offered to write a piece for the next newsletter about scything in wildflower areas.

Cllr Chris Wright reported that the double yellow lines in Pettiwell are in progress.

Cllr Richard Betteridge had previously circulated a volunteer policy. Cllr Chris Wright suggested all to review this and send comments to Cllr Richard Betteridge for amendments to agree at the next meeting. Agreed.

1/17/13 Village Bus Service

Cllr Matthew Dovey reported that the new timetable began 8th January with an earlier morning bus and no through service to the train station.

1/17/14 Policing/Speed Monitoring

Cllr Matthew Dovey and Cllr Richard Betteridge will move the traffic sign to Oxford Road.

Cllr Matthew Dovey is looking into the cost of a solar sign.

1/17/15 Broadband Cabinet – The Green

Cllr Matthew Dovey brought up a wayleave request from BT giving two options – to have another smaller cabinet on the green, or use high density cards in the existing cabinet until all the lines were used. Agreed option two to use high density cards in the existing cabinet.

1/17/16 Land adjacent to St Mary’s Churchyard

Cllr Chris Wright reported that the parties were close to a resolution, and the boundary line was agreed.

1/17/17 Neighbourhood Plans

Cllr Chris Wright has completed and signed the application form, Clerk to send off to Ricardo Rios along with an OS map showing the outline of the parish.

1/17/18 Any Other Business

Cllr John Hieatt reported that the grass verge outside 1 Birch Road was being churned up by builders vans whilst working on the property. Clerk to write to the householder to say this is public land.

Cllr Paul Bolam asked about the church wastebin. Clerk will send round new dates for volunteers.

Cllr Judy Westgate reported that the badgers were back in the burial ground. Cllrs Chris Wright and Richard Betteridge will investigate.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm