**GARSINGTON PARIS****H COUNCIL**

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 8th January 2018 at 7.30pm. The Chair was Cllr Chris Wright, present were Cllrs Anne Eastwood, Mike Patrick, Richard Betteridge, Judy Westgate, Ian Dickinson, District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie (left 7.50pm), with L Stevenson in attendance.

6 Members of the public were present.

1/18/1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Matthew Dovey – work commitments

Cllr Paul Bolam – personal

County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale – attending another meeting

1/18/2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Mike Patrick – ramp

Cllr Chris Wright – playground

1/18/3 Public Participation

A resident asked about the roadworks on Oxford Road near to Combewell, An update from County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale was given by Cllr Chris Wright – 2 storm water drains had been repaired and 2 spring catchers installed. Patching would be done and further work at the entrance of Elm Drive. Finally, road resurfacing is needed which will entail road closure and diversion during these works.

An update on Kiln Lane was given by District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie, one planning application is likely to be refused and enforcement process would begin. Cllr Chris Wright asked of the Parish Council would be notified formally of this. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie confirmed that formal notification would be sent. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie also confirmed that the cutting back of vegetation was not a breach of planning, and also confirmed that Emma Turner of Planning Enforcement will attend the next Parish Council meeting on 5th February.

A resident also brought up the continued use of Kiln Lane by HGV vehicles which are damaging the lane which has previously been brought to the attention of SODC. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie will pass this concern onto Emma Turner.

1/18/4 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 4th December 2017

The minutes were agreed and signed, along with an insert.

1/18/5 Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

Item 12/17/7 – An application had been sent in to apply for a personal grant amount of £1,000 from District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie.

Item 12/17/12 – Cllr Anne Eastwood reported that there was still rubbish by the shop in Elm Drive to be moved onto the public footpath for collection. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie will arrange for removal when ready.

1/18/6 County Councillor’s Report

The report had been circulated.

1/18/7 District Councillor’s Report

The report had been circulated.

1/18/8 Finance

Balances and cheques for signature –

Barclays Current Account at end of November 2017 - £39,756.04

To note DD payment to Grundon of around £46.00 – no paperwork had yet been received.

Receipts – £198.23 from Oxfordshire County Council for grasscutting services

The following cheques were approved and signed

£471.22 – BGG Grass cutting November

£879.48 – Colourplus for Newsletter Dec/Jan

£19.87 – SSE electricity supply for The Green

£80.00 – Positive Tree Care for removal of fallen tree branch in Combewell

£200.00 – Positive Tree Care for felling and removal of cherry tree in Combewell

£465.40 – Clerk’s salary December

12/17/9 Planning

P17/S4404/FUL – Lower Farm House Lower Road Garsington – Replacement Stables

The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

P17/S3942/HH – 25 Wheatley Road – Remove wooden porch and outhouse cloak. Internal renovation to include new cloak, two storey side extension Eastern aspect to increase useable floor area ground floor with bedrooms to first floor.

The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

P17/S4265/HH – 36 Elm Drive – Demolition of existing rear extension and erection of new single storey rear extension.

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

P17/S4216/FUL – Plot 9 Kiln Lane – Change of use of land as a private gypsy and traveller caravan site of 1 no mobile home, 1 no touring caravan, 1 no amenity block and associated development.

The Parish Council had the following objections to this application

1. The application was in the Green Belt and therefore incompatible with current planning policy,
2. There were no exceptional circumstances,
3. A refusal on Highways grounds was sent 25/10/2017 ref P17/S3211/PEM to Mr David Clarke
4. Temporary planning permission was not an option since i) in practice temporary planning permission became evergreen and ii) investment in civil works on the site were most unlikely ever to be reversed, and
5. Planning Committee has no authority to create a de-facto traveller site without public consultation.

P18/S0012/HH – 130 Southend – single storey rear extension.

The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

1/18/10 Correspondence to Chairman and Clerk

The Clerk had received a request for a donation from Oxfordshire Association for the Blind who currently support 10 people in Garsington. The Parish Council agreed to donate £100. Clerk to prepare a cheque for the next meeting.

The Chairman had received an email from a resident concerned over the path on the hill on Oxford Road near Fox Close. Cllr Chris Wright asked if the work party could clear the hedge along this part of the path. Cllr Richard Betteridge agreed to look at this.

The Clerk had received an email from the Oxford Mail local government reporter asking to go on the mailing list for notification of meetings. The Clerk will inform them that all the meetings are on the Parish Council website.

The Clerk had received an email from The Maple Tree Centre asking for a financial contribution. The Parish Council agreed to look at this request at their next meeting.

The Clerk had received an email from the Internal Auditor offering a service to cover the new general data protection regulations. The Parish Council decided not to take up this offer.

1/18/11 Playground/Sports and Social Club

Cllr Mike Patrick reported that a member of the Sports and Social club who runs a landscaping business offered to cut and strim the playground and football kickabout pitch 15 times a year for £2,000. Cllr Mike Patrick noted that the Sports and Social club were cutting the football pitch for no charge, so would ask for a price for just the playground area. The Parish Council agreed to consider this offer when the reviewing the current grass cutting contract.

Cllr Paul Bolam had circulated a quote for replacement of bark and associated works for £5,425.00 plus VAT. Cllr Chris Wright had obtained a quote from a family member operating a business, which was substantially less at £3,400.00. Cllr Anne Eastwood stated that an alternative might be to use the same surface as around other play equipment. Cllr Richard Betteridge volunteered to get a quote for that to enable comparison. This was agreed.

Cllr Mike Patrick asked if anything had been heard from the hedge contractor re cutting the extra part of the hedge behind the playground. Clerk to contact him to request the hedge be cut.

1/18/12 Village Maintenance

Old wall behind Old Stone Cross – Cllr Paul Bolam had received a substantial quote for the removal of the wall, previously circulated. The Parish Council agreed to wait until Cllr Paul Bolam could report back.

1/18/13 Policing/Speed Monitoring

Nothing to report.

1/18/14 Village Bus Service

Nothing to report

1/18/15 Burial Ground

Cllr Chris Wright noted that when the land was transferred to the Parish Council it was done under covenant to be used for burials. Cllr Chris Wright proposed a planning application to inter ashes, put in a ramp between both burial ground areas and a fence and gates for the footpaths to comply with the covenant. This was agreed.

Cllr Paul Bolam had previously circulated revised burial ground rules for the meeting to consider. This document was discussed, Clerk to amend and circulate a draft to Councillors.

1/18/16 Neighbourhood Plans

Cllr Chris Wright advised the meeting that he had written to Paula Fox of SODC Planning Committee regarding the adverse comments made about Garsington’s lack of action regarding their Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Chris Wright pointed out that any delay had been caused by the inaction of SODC. The Clerk stated that she had written yet again to SODC requesting a purchase order for the agreed Neighbourhood Plan grant. SODC could not locate the paperwork, so this was sent again.

Cllr Chris Wright will convene a meeting of local organisations and Parish Councillors to create a steering group towards the end of January.

1/18/17 Any Other Business

Cllr Richard Betteridge reported that the Christmas lights were now down from the tree. Cllr Anne Eastwood thanked Richard Jeffries for his ladderwork.

Cllr Judy Westgate will contact District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie regarding applying for finance for the ramp from the leader grant.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm