**GARSINGTON PARIS****H COUNCIL - draft minutes**

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 4th June at 7.30pm. The Chair was Cllr Anne Eastwood, present were Cllrs Mike Patrick, Richard Betteridge, Paul Bolam, Matthew Dovey and District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie, with L Stevenson in attendance.

6 Members of the public were present.

6/18/1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Judy Westgate – another meeting

Cllr Chris Wright – holiday

Cllr Ian Dickinson - work commitments

County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale – attending another meeting

6/18/2 Declarations of Interest

None

6/18/3 Public Participation

Kiln Lane – a group of residents wish to complain about the performance of SODC regarding the planning situation and had sent a suggested letter to the Parish Council Chairman. The matter needs to go through the SODC complaints process before going to the Ombudsman. The residents group would like the Parish Council to enter into this complaint and send a letter to the District Council on behalf of the residents. The Parish Council agreed in principle to send a revised letter on behalf of the residents.

6/18/4 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 14th May 2018

These were agreed and signed.

6/18/5 Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

Cllr Paul Bolam reported that he had filled in all forms regarding on-line banking. Clerk to send these to the bank. The Clerk had forwarded all the information from Historic England concerning the demolition of the old wall by the old stone cross. Cllr Paul Bolam also reported that the rogue wheelbarrow had gone from the Oxford Road.

Regarding the grit bin for Sports and Social club – This had been ordered and due for delivery today. Cllr Mike Patrick was keeping a look out for it. He also reported that the tree in Combewell had been taken down.

6/18/6 County Councillor’s Report

Previously circulated

6/18/7 District Councillor’s Report

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie reported that the Local Plan would now be held back for 2 years – within this plan were 2 sites identified for Gypsy and Traveller sites. All sites identified for housing in effect go back into the pot for discussion. Including Chalgrove which has a large ‘against’ group, so the result could be developers ‘cherry-picking’ the sites for housing. Cllr Paul Bolam asked if the only way to identify Gypsy and Traveller sites was through the Local Plan. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie stated that in the whole of the district only 7 pitches were needed. Cllr Matthew Dovey suggested that this be pointed out in our letter to SODC on behalf of the Parish stating that 20 years of inaction have gone by.

There are Community grants available and the officer to contact was Carol Cummings.

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie confirmed that the Police should be enforcing the yellow lines in Pettiwell. Cllr Richard Betteridge reported that the owner of Greenwoods wanted to meet with the Parish Council about the number of cars abandoned outside his business.

Cllr Matthew Dovey will investigate the use of CCTV cameras.

Cllr Mike Patrick asked District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie again about the Village Hall being charged for rubbish collection as a charitable organisation, District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie had not secured the answer yet.

6/18/8 Finance

The Clerk reported that the Internal Auditor was due to visit to look at the Parish Council accounts.

Balances and cheques for signature –

Barclays Current Account at end of April 2018 - £46,325.98

To note DD payment to Grundon of £37.84

Receipts

None

The following cheques were approved and signed

£471.22 – BGG for grass cutting May

£60.00 – Positive Tree Care – fell to the ground tree in Combewell

£30.00 – Mr Hopkins 1 Willow Close as a contribution towards electricity for the defibrillator

£879.48 – Colourplus for Newsletter printing June/July

£454.20 – Clerk’s salary May

£11.20 – PAYE due to HMRC

£103.91 – L Stevenson for reimbursement for purchase of grit bin (£89.99) for Sports and Social Club and stationery items

£102.50 – Village Hall hire April-June

6/18/9 Planning

P18/S1222/HH – garage converted to self-contained accommodation to include open plan kitchen and living room facilities, along with bathroom and one bedroom. Utilities not separate from the main house. 197 Oxford Road.

The Parish Council objected to this application, and noted that this conversion had already happened. They felt it was overdevelopment with a garage converted to housing with a detrimental impact on highways, also that it was out of character with the rest of the area.

P18/S1732/LDP – proposed erection of a two-storey rear extension and a single side extension to existing house – Hill Copse, Chiselhampton Hill.

The Parish Council noted this application.

6/18/10 Correspondence to Chairman and Clerk

The Clerk had received details of Merchant Navy Day on 3rd September with a request to fly the red ensign flag. Clerk will pass details on to the Churchwarden.

The Clerk had received a letter from the Churchwarden concerning a request from the architect who worked on the restoration of the church for burial in the church burial ground. The Churchwardens were in favour. The Parish Council agreed to this request. Clerk to write to the Churchwarden.

The Chair had received a letter from a resident in Larch End who was concerned about the overgrown tree at the junction of Elm Drive and Oxford Road. They felt the junction was dangerous for cars turning. The Clerk to contact Highways to ask for the tree trunk of this established tree to be trimmed of foliage to improve visibility.

The Chair had received an email from a resident who had just used the play area and found the grass to be over long and hoped the contractors would cut it more frequently than the previous year. Following a discussion, the Parish Council agreed to ask for 11 extra cuts from the Sports and Social Club contractor to be done at his discretion. The Clerk will arrange this.

6/18/11 Playground/Sports and Social Club

Cllr Paul Bolam reported that the gates were locked over the Bank Holiday weekend. Cllr Mike Patrick agreed to speak to the Sports and Social Club about other means to control entry to the car park to share the burden. Cllr Paul Bolam will speak to Cllr Chris Wright about the terms of the lease.

6/18/12 Village Maintenance

The Clerk had received an invoice from BGG for the urban verge cut which had been done, but not asked for. This yearly contract had not actually been renewed and the County Council highways had previously said that the Parish Council should not be cutting that grass. It was agreed Clerk to respond to BGG to say this and not pay the invoice. The Clerk also asked all to look at the grass cutting specification in advance of the process to renew the grass cutting contract in 2019. The specification and contract had previously been circulated.

It was reported the hedge was overgrown on the path alongside Combewell. Cllr Mike Patrick stated that this job was stopped as birds were nesting at the time. The Clerk will contact the County Council Highways with a view to an Autumn cutback.

6/18/13 Policing/Speed Monitoring

Cllr Matthew Dovey will gather more stats from the monitoring device in Southend. Cllr Richard Betteridge will help move it to Oxford Road.

6/18/14 Village Bus Service

Cllr Matthew Dovey reported all was generally fine apart from one recent Saturday with bus being cancelled and one bus diverting around the village due to a broken crane blocking Southend.

6/18/15 Burial Ground

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie reported that she was still waiting for a response to the fee charge query previously raised, and was meeting with the legal team the next day.

Cllr Richard Betteridge reported that wood for the badger protection was due to be delivered, and more walling stone was needed for the wall between the 2 parts of the burial ground.

6/18/16 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Paul bolam reported that it had been agreed to conduct a Housing Needs Survey and an initial step would be to have a table providing information/gathering responses and suggestions at the Church Fete on 14th July. Volunteers to man the stall were asked for. Cllr Paul Bolam was keen to involve King’s Copse. Cllr Richard Betteridge reported that a local landowner was interested in affordable/community housing and a site visit was pending.

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie reported that The Baldons NDP had been given the go-ahead. It being the first NDP able to identify sites within the Greenbelt. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie invited the Garsington NDP group to meet with them.

6/18/17 Oxford-Cambridge Expressway

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie reported that at a recent meeting, the decision for the new corridor had been brought forward to end of June. Highways England had a priority for cutting journey time which points to the route nearest to the village. The County Council maintains a neutral stance. The other districts and the city want the route to go the Grenoble Road way. In the end she feels it will be a political decision.

6/18/18 Any Other Business

The Clerk asked permission to investigate the cost of a storage unit recently advertised in the Newsletter for parish storage. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie stated that The Baldons have storage units on their land to store, tables, chairs, marquee, china etc for village events.

Cllr Richard Betteridge has circulated details about a heavy-duty hedge trimmer. Clerk has asked County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale about the process of claiming a grant and asked for a sum of £1,000. Cllr Matthew Dovey suggested this go onto the agenda for discussion/decision.

Cllr Mike Patrick asked if the church bin had been replaced. The Clerk had asked the waste contractor to change the bin.

Cllr Richard Betteridge asked Cllr Paul Bolam to discuss the old stone wall to begin the process of taking down.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm