#### Garsington Parish Council

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 1st September 2003 commencing at 7.30 pm

1. The Chairman, Councillor Godfrey Eden, presided; present were Councillors Paul Bolam, Anne Eastwood, John Goodey, Cliff Moss, Gurdip Saini and Ann Tomline with G Russell in attendance. Also present were County Councillor David Turner and 11 residents of the Parish

2. There were no apologies for absence.

3. Declarations of Interest: None

Councillor John Goodey declared an interest in respect of planning application P03/W0662/LD Land rear of 159 & 161 Oxford Road

4 Public Participation

a) Mr Baker noted that an appeal had been lodged from Kings Copse about the rejection of an application for change of use of agricultural land and said that he hoped that the Council would continue its opposition.

b) Mr Baker also commented that he thought that the new 50 mph signs would be ineffective unless the limit is enforced. County Cllr David Turner said that the Police had been fully supportive of the introduction of the limit and it would be reasonable to expect that they would enforce it.

c) Mr North complained about heavy goods vehicles using Lower Road. County Cllr David Turner said that there is a County strategic review of introducing more weight restrictions and the Five Parishes Group is pressing for such restrictions in this area.

d) Mr Townsend pointed out that it had been Cllr Goodey who had asked the Clerk if he had any information on file about the sewers etc in Oxford Road and not Mr Townsend as stated in the Minutes of the last meeting

5 Minutes of the Meeting of 4th August (circulated)

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record after Cllr Goodey's name was substituted for that of Mr Townsend and it was explained that the Clerk had written to Mr Akerman about Cllr Moss's presence at the Equestrian Centre appeal following an enquiry which had been made of Cllr Mrs Tomline by Mr Akerman. The District Councillor's report was amended at the request of Cllr Mrs Tomline.

6 Matters Arising from the Minutes

a) It was agreed that the whole question of traffic calming would be discussed at a special Council meeting to be held before the visit of Mr Brian Short on 6 October. On a proposal made by Cllr Bolam and seconded by Cllr Mrs Eastwood, it was agreed by 5 votes to 2 that the proposals for traffic calming in Ladder Hill, Wheatley should be supported. The whole Council agreed with the imposition of the Garsington to Great Milton 50 mph order

b) Letters about the proposals in the new County Draft Deposit Structure Plan for new housing south of Grenoble Road have been received from Oxford Green Belt Network, Oxford Preservation Trust and CPRE. Details about the consultation schedule and of the public meetings will be given publicity within the Village.

c) The RoSPA Report on the Play Area and the RoSPA Audit for disabled access would be discussed at the special Council meeting that would be arranged shortly.

d) The Clerk reported that there had been interest in filling the Parish Council vacancies from three residents so far (Fleming George, Angela Fowler and Sam Wheeler). It was agreed that the Council should consider possible co-option at its October meeting.

e) The Chairman said that he had not yet held his meeting with the Chairman of the Sports Club.

f) Cllr Moss said that he understood the District Council to be content at the outcome of the Appeal at the Equestrian Centre and the Clerk confirmed that Miss Randle had said that the terms of the appeal decision were now clear.

g) The Chairman has had an informal meeting with Mr Tipping about new maintenance routines and would be following this up.

h) The Clerk confirmed that the Conservation Officer at SODC had supplied him with a list of lime craftsmen and he was hoping that at least one of them would express interest in carrying out the repairs to the Village Cross.

i) The Council's solicitors are dealing with the purchase of the land off Oxford Road.

6 County Councillor’s Report

County Cllr David Turner said that he would attend the meeting on 6th October between members of the Parish Council and Brian Short the Area Engineer. He said that he understood that following earlier visits to the Village by Arshad Khan there is already a traffic calming scheme in development. It was suggested that Mr Short should view the speed sign near Unipart that has been wrongly located in order to progress a matter that has been outstanding for some years.

Cllr Turner reported on the County's new scheme to help residents deal with the problems of junk mail. The four-yearly review of local bus services will take place soon and Cllr Turner will represent the Parish Council's interest in this matter. He also confirmed that the County Council will continue to pay the running costs of new street lights, although the capital cost of the light has to be met by the Parish.

Cllr Moss said that he had recently complained to the Police that, although they say that they want the public to report incidents to them, they never seem to respond. Cllr Turner said that he would take up this matter if Cllr Moss does not receive a satisfactory reply to his complaint.

7 District Councillor’s Report

District Cllr Mrs Ann Tomline said that she is trying to do more for the residents of mobile home parks and asked for the Parish Council's support. She urged people to attend the next meeting of the Oxford 'Fringe' Forum at Marsh Baldon on 15th September. She said that Thames Travel had noticed the impact which concessionary fare passes and tokens had had on passenger numbers and had approached the District Council to renegotiate the payments which the bus company received under the scheme.

8 Finance and cheques for signature

Bank balances were as follows

Bank of Ireland (at 5th August) £108,024.53 (interest in the month £262.02)

Barclays Community A/c (at 31st August) £3,657.17

Newsletter advertising receipts in August were £275.00

The following cheques were approved for payment:

HHB Architects £1,810.97

Playground Management Ltd £123.38

Colourplus (Aug/Sept issue) £630.58

Clerk's salary and expenses £264.25

Edward Pilling & Co £102.00

Applications for donations had been received from Wheatley Park School, NSPCC, Age Concern, the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind, South & Vale Carers and Michael Sobell House.

It was agreed to pay Wheatley Park School £40, South & Vale Carers £40 and Michael Sobell House. £60.

The Clerk said he would circulate to all Councillors for their consideration a draft of financial regulations, which also included a requirement for the Council to undertake routine risk assessments.

9 Planning Applications

Cllr Mrs Tomline said that, as a member of the SODC Northern Area Planning Committee, she would not vote on these matters when they were decided by the Parish Council. She could not disclose to the Parish Council how she intended to vote on these matters when they were decided by the Planning Committee, as further information may be available at the planning meeting. During the Parish Council’s discussions prior to a vote, however, she was available to give advice and answer questions on factual matters if invited.

i). P03/W0640 126 Southend

Erection of a two-storey side extension

The Council unanimously agreed to recommend rejection of this application due its proposed scale and bulk and its impact on the surrounding area.

ii) P03/W0641 116 Southend

Extension at ground floor level to garage and at first floor above

The Council unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this application.

iii) P03/W0659 8 The Green

Rear, single storey extension

The Council unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this application.

iv). P03/W0662/LD Land rear of 159 & 161 Oxford Road

Application for Lawful Development Certificate; storage of materials including green waste, vehicles and scrap.

(Cllr John Goodey, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this application, left the room while it was discussed.

The Council is being asked for information about the occupation and the use of this land over the past ten years. It was agreed that the Council is not in a position to comment without research into the old minute books and files. The Clerk was asked to conduct this research.

v) P03/W0671 17 Elm Drive

Loft conversion; rear extension; changes to front elevation

The Council unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this application

vi) P03/W0690 57 Wheatley Road (Cllr Mrs Tomline said that the applicant is known to her and she will therefore take no part in the Committee's decision)

Erection of conservatory

The Council unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this application

vii) P03/W0696 68 Oxford Road

Erection of garden shed

The Council unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this application

Planning Decisions

Shepherds Cottage, PO2/N0433/RET

Retaining wall and fence

The application has been refused

66, Oxford Road - Erection of new dwelling, creation of new access PO3/W0515 withdrawn by applicant 27th August 2003

Cllr Goodey said that Mr Jennings had approached him and said that he did not feel that, when he had spoken to the Council about this issue at its meeting on 4th August, the Council had taken sufficient account of his views.. The Chairman pointed out that by that date the application had already been considered by the Council. The draft of a letter from the Clerk to Mr Jennings was approved.

16 Oxford Road, PO3/N0358/LB

Replacement of windows, floor etc

Listed building consent granted

5 Elm Drive, P03/W0579

Two storey extension

Planning permission refused

Applications for Certificates of Lawful Development

Thamesdown Nursery Garden Centre 155-157 Oxford Road

The application in connection with vehicle related activities has been granted but those for the sale of garden plants and stone garden ornaments have been refused

Appeal lodged re Kings Copse Mobile Home Park

Refusal to allow change of use of agricultural land

The Clerk was asked to write to the Inspectorate and confirm the Council's previous opposition to the proposals which were based upon the belief that this is an unsuitable location with dangers of access and excessive noise.

Enforcement notice

The Council has received a copy of the Enforcement Notice issued on 12th August against Thamesdown Nursery Garden Centre at 155-157 Oxford Road in respect of the garden centre use. It was noted that there is an opportunity for the operators to appeal in the period up to 22nd September 2003.

Other Planning Matters

Cllr Mrs Eastwood suggested that the magazine could be used to give residents a better understanding of the planning process. It was agreed that Cllrs. Bolam, Mrs Eastwood, Goodey and Saini would be put forward for places on the Parish Council Planning Training evenings in October.

10 Correspondence to Chairman and Clerk

## a). The Chairman has received a letter from Dr Cowen complaining about excessive traffic speeds in Southend. It was agreed that traffic calming measures for Southend will be considered at the special meeting.

## b) Promotional materials received from Thame Citizens Advice Bureau will be displayed.

## c) Information received from 'The Local Channel' a network of community or parish websites will be circulated.

## Notice has been received about the OPFA AGM to be held on 7th October at Radley Village Hall. Cllr Moss said that he would attend

## Publicity has been received from Crimestoppers about their promotional week commencing 15th September. This will be displayed

## It was agreed that the Council would consider entering the Best Kept Village competition, possibly in 2004.

## The Clerk will confirm to SODC that the Council would like to receive the recommendations on the level of allowances that should be paid to Parish Councillors, this scheme having come into force on 1st May 2003.

11 Village Maintenance

There has been no further news from Trevor Gwynne following the survey of possible anti-flooding precautions. Cllr Mrs Eastwood asked if the Christmas Tree could be replaced. The Clerk will obtain some information about types of litter bins available direct from suppliers rather than through SODC.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would pay the costs of replacing the manhole cover in the grass beside the Elm Drive shops. Cllr Mrs Tomline has arranged for this work to be carried out through the County Council.

The war memorial and the area around it must be tidied up before Remembrance Sunday and this should be discussed at the next meeting.

12 Street Lighting

It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting

13 Code of Conduct – Training video

Two councillors have not yet seen the training video so it was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

14 Housing Needs Survey

It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting

15 Village Youth Club

It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting

The next monthly meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 6th October.

Meeting closed at 10.15 pm