MINUTES OF GREAT HASELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs C Groves, D Lindsay, C McGuirk, T Suter (Chairman), J Webster, A Oughton

(Clerk) and seven members of the public.

21/94 Public Discussion and Public Questions

The editor of the Haseley Updates reported he will soon need to purchase email credits and asked the Parish Council if it wished to continue with the Haseley Updates or set up a parish WhatsApp group? The editor suggested contact via a WhatsApp group where residents could post their own content may become more frequent and annoying. It would be a shame to lose the link with the contact list already signed up to receive the Haseley Updates.

Cllr McGuirk reported Great Milton operated a WhatsApp group which was effective and used respectfully. After a short discussion the Parish Council agreed, as a compromise to continue to run the Haseley Updates and set up a WhatsApp group to run alongside. Further email credits will be purchased. The Haseley Updates will become less frequent and if the WhatsApp group is successful the Haseley Updates will stop when the new batch of email credits has been used.

Cllr Suter will approach a resident who has shown an interest in administering a parish WhatsApp group to see if he will take it forward.

The editor of the Haseley Magazine reported that both editors intended to finish at the end of 2022 and will ensure advertisements for the following year are invoiced before they step down to aid a smooth handover to a new editorial team.

The Chairman thanked the editors for their superb management of the magazine.

21/95 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Woodrow (Personal).

21/96 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations.

21/97 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2021 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

21/98 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

21/99 Planning Applications

P21/S4143/HH - 34 Thame Road

Demolition of existing single storey side extension and replacement with new single storey side extension.

Resolved to Support the application

P21/S4206/HH & P21/S4207/LB - The Manor House, Thame Road

Two-storey extension to west side to provide annexe

Resolved to Support the application but to add a comment regarding potential overlooking of the cottages on Thame Road from two first floor windows

The following amendment was noted:

P21/S2009/HH – 21 Little Haseley Amendment No. 3

New vehicular access to residential property (Additional information requested by Highways received 13-07-21 and further clarified with documents received 16-08-21 and 18-08-21 and Visibility Splays and Turning plan 15-10-21 and 20-10-21).

It was further noted the District Planning Authority has granted permission for the following application:

P20/S3244/FUL - Land to the North West of Stoke Talmage, Stoke Talmage

The construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic farm and associated infrastructure, including inverters, substation compound, security cameras, fencing, access tracks and landscaping (as clarified by information received 26 October 2020, 11 November 2020, 22 January 2021, 1 and 9 February 2021, 20 May 2021 and 13 September 2021 and amended by plans received 4 October 2021).

21/100 War Memorial

It was noted that a resident is progressing grant funding to undertake work to restore clarity to the names on the war memorial. Initially only those names that had faded were to be restored but it was now intended to restore all the names. County Councillor van Mierlo has been approached for funding and is very supportive of the project.

21/101 Financial Report

Copies of bank statements to 29 October 2021 had been circulated. The balances were noted as follows: Current Account - £18,961.10 and Business Reserve Account - £39,411.28. The Clerk reported income as follows: Current Account – £366.53 made up as follows; £296.80 - 2^{nd} Qtr. Vat reclaim, £25 - sale of Book of Walks and £44.73 – credit for overcharge on annual insurance premium.

The Clerk further reported Oxfordshire County Council had mistakenly paid the grant for the new goalposts into the Business Reserve account. The Clerk will transfer the sum of £319.90 to the Current Account.

21/102 Payments

The following cheques were approved: £618.00 Ridgeway Rural Services, £118.80 Andrew Deptford (defibrillators), £52.00 Shield Maintenance Ltd, £628.20 Wheatley AG Services (bulbs).

21/103 Faster Broadband

Cllr Suter confirmed a sufficient number of residents had pledged their vouchers for the village to qualify for inclusion in the DCMS scheme the supply of faster broadband to the village. The next step is for engineers to scope the work checking roads and wayleaves. Openreach will then invite those who pledged vouchers to get a connection. Residents who have not signed up will get the opportunity to connect at a later date.

21/104 Casual Vacancy

The Chairman reported it was with great regret Caroline Pickett had decided to step down from the Parish Council. Caroline will be sorely missed and the Council and residents owed her a great deal of gratitude for her dedication and work she has done for the village.

The Notice of Casual Vacancy had been posted on the noticeboard and electors had until 19 November 2021 to request an election after which if no poll is called the Parish Council can move to co-option. It was agreed to prepare the advertisement for a Casual Vacancy ready for publication on 22 November with a view to co-opt a new member onto the Council at the next meeting.

21/105 20mph Zones and Parking

It was agreed the Clerk will register the Parish Council's interest with Oxfordshire County Council to be considered in the first round of implementation of 20mph speed limits whilst evidence is gathered from residents. Cllr Lindsay will set up a dedicated email address to be used for consultations.

Cllr McGuirk will forward information on the traffic surveys carried out a couple of years ago.

21/106 The Maple Tree

The Maple Tree had sent their Annual Report of Accounts which had been circulated. A request had been received asking the Parish Council to consider making a donation.

All agreed the Maple Tree was a very worthwhile organisation providing a great deal of support to families in the village and surrounding area. **Resolved** to make a £100 donation.

21/107 Emergency Plan

Cllr McGuirk reported a small amount of work was outstanding before the Emergency Plan could be published. Discussion took place on what might trigger the Emergency Plan to be enacted. All agreed the Plan should only be put into action in a catastrophic emergency. It was agreed that following the recent power outage, part of the Emergency Plan must include the ability to communicate with residents other than via electronic means.

When the Plan is published it will need a preamble explaining how and when it works and that the Plan does not replace the need to be neighbourly.

21/108 St Peter's Churchyard Extension

It was noted that work on the extension of the churchyard had begun. The original railings have been taken out to allow access to the new plot of land. Some new fabricated railings have been installed to mark the new south-east boundary. The "new ground" is not very level, there is grass growing and nettles, etc. A meeting has been arranged with a landscape company to discuss the way forward.

21/109 Reports from Committees / County and District Councillors

District Councillor Newton had sent her apologies and her report had been circulated.

County Councillor Freddie van Mierlo added the following to his previously circulated report. A website link has been set up for parishes to register their interest in a 20mph scheme. There was no deadline by which to apply. Applications needed to be supported by evidence of need and resident's support.

Cllr van Mierlo further reported Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) had applied for £56m of government funding, if successful the money will be used to implement several rural bus services. In South Oxfordshire this will include a route from Wallingford to Thame running through several small villages. It will be a semi-flexible route where people need to call to request the bus to stop.

The funding for the new goalposts on the Recreation Ground had been approved and sent to the Parish Council. Cllr van Mierlo has been working with a resident who wishes to improve the clarity of the names on the war memorial.

The Chairman thanked Cllr van Mierlo for his support.

Reports from Committees:

Footpaths – Cllr Webster reported a tree had come down across land owned by three different farmers. Efforts were being made to have it removed.

Millennium Wood – Cllr Webster reported a site visit had taken place between members of the Parish Council and Nicholsons. Management of the Wood could be done at a local level. The Ash trees show signs of Dieback and further advice will be sought on whether the trees are safe to retain with regular monitoring or should be felled.

Playing Fields – Cllr Groves reported the funding application to OCC to purchase goal posts had been successful. The plan is to erect the goals and try and mark out a five-a-side pitch.

Allotments, Miss Cross Field, Communications, Environment, Village Hall – nothing to report

21/110 Correspondence

Items of correspondence and local parish magazines were circulated in the Correspondence Bag for November.

The Clerk reported an email had been received from the Planning Officer working on planning application P20/S3905/FUL Manana, Latchford Lane who was minded to recommend approval. The Officer asked that the Parish Council consider their recommendation to object to the application. After a short discussion it was agreed the Parish Council would continue to object to the application and write a statement to be read at the Planning Committee meeting.

21/111 Information Exchange

Discussion took place as to whether the Parish Council should organise a training on how to use the defibrillators. It was agreed the verbal instructions given by the defibrillator were simple and clear for anyone without prior experience to follow.

Items for next agenda: Allotment Association Millennium Wood Draft 2022-23 budget Co-option

21/112 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed the next meeting will be held on 13 December 2021 and the following meeting on 10 January 2022, commencing at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.12pm

Chairman
13 December 2021