**GARSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 8th April 2013 commencing at 7.30pm. The Vice Chairman Cllr Anne Eastwood presided: present were Cllrs Paul Bolam (left meeting at 8.30pm), Matthew Dovey, Ian Dickinson, John Hieatt, Mike Patrick, Judith Westgate with J Eden in attendance. Also present were three members of the public and County Councillor David Turner who joined the meeting at 8.20pm.

4/13/1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Chris Wright (Chairman) who was away on business.

4/13/2 Declaration of Interest

None

4/13/3 Public Interest

Resident asked why the tankers had been in Combewell for the last week. Cllr Mike Patrick advised, there had been a problem with the drains in Combewell, this had resulted in the tankers being used to pump away the foul waste whilst the problem was located and resolved.

Speed Survey- the outcome of the survey was raised by a resident, some figures were available but it was inconclusive. To be discussed with County Councillor David Turner.

4/13/4 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 4th March 2013

The minutes had been circulated and were approved and signed as a true record with one amendment

3/13/9 item C) Community Led Plan, Cllr Matthew Dovey asked for the item to be amended to read that no separate account would be set up, any receipts or expenditure would be processed via the Parish Council bank account and shown as separate heading in the accounts.

4/13/5 Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

None

4/13/6 County Councillors Report

Speed Survey, County Cllr David Turner reported that the survey had shown that many vehicles were exceeding the speed limit,(85% being around the mid 30’s) however, the survey showed that the problems in Garsington were much the same as other areas in the County. The amount of traffic at peak times was very high, caused by drivers using the Village as a cut through to the Science Park and other areas rather than using the ring road. Cllr Matthew Dovey raised the problem of the speed monitoring box being placed at the top end of the hill on Oxford Road when it had been requested that it should be placed at the bottom of the hill. Cllr Mike Patrick asked about signs, like the ones in Chislehampton, County Cllr David Turner thought the cost was around £400 for this type of sign. The question was also raised about chicanes like the ones in Horsepath, County Cllr David Turner reported that despite the chicanes the accidents have gone up in this area. County Cllr David Turner said he would try and get a further survey done in Oxford Road as the speed monitoring box had not been installed in the correct place.

Southend – County Cllr David Turner reported that Gordon Hunt had informed him that no further work would be undertaken by the Council following the installation of an additional gully, in respect of the water problems by Mr Rothery’s property.

County Cllr David Turner confirmed that he had received the email regarding the flooding on B480 raised by a resident and this would be looked into.

County Cllr David Turner confirmed he had received a copy of the email from resident regarding the state of the Oxford Road between Unipart and Village.

County Cllr David Turner reported that the County Council were doubling the Highway repair gangs to repair the potholes in the County, it was hoped to achieve 3000 repairs per month throughout the Spring. It was important that the public continued to report problems using the pothole hotline 0845 3101111 to assist the County Council Highways Department.

Cllr Paul Bolam raised the problem of lorries continuing to park by Unipart, although double yellow lines and a bus stop designated area had been painted on the road it had not stopped the vehicles parking.

Scrap Bikes, County Cllr David Turner reported on a scheme to repair bicycles, thrown away at one of the council’s Household Waste Management Sites. Oxford based charity Trax had teamed up with the Council to give discarded bikes a new lease of life through a training programme to teach young people repair skills.

Cllr Anne Eastwood extended the Councils thanks to David for all the help, assistance and advice he had provided to the Council during his time as the County Councillor and wished him well in his retirement.

4/13/7 District Councillors Report

The District Councillor was not present at the Meeting.

4/13/8 Balances and cheques for signature

Barclays Current Account 31st March 2013 £29,140.27

HMRC refund of VAT for Year End March 2011 & 2012 £ 7019.99

Newsletter advertisments £120

Council to note the DD payment to Grundons in March amounting to £56.06

The following cheques need approval for payment:

Final salary to Geoff Russell £187.84

Clerks Salary £344.62

SODC Dog Bin Emptying £ 47.86

Colourplus April/May Magazine £930.78

Garsington Village Hall Hire £102.00

Cyril Tomline – Newsletter Honorarium £1150.00

Mrs Hodson – Key Holder Parslers Piece £200.00

Mr Tipping Village Maintenance March 2013 £74.28

4/13/9 Planning

a) P13/SO521HH 45 Wheatley Road

Proposed New Outbuilding

The Council had received an email from a resident wishing to object to this plan, the resident had concerns about the entrance to the property on a very narrow part of this road and the increased volume of traffic to and from the property. After taking the resident’s concerns into consideration and noting the Highways Department report, it was decided that the Council had No Objections providing all the recommendations required by the Highways Department were adhered too.

P13/SO614/LDP College Farm Cottage, Lower Road

Proposal to replace the partly pitched roof, with a new hipped roof, with reconstructed slate roof to match the existing house roof.

This was noted by the Council.

P13/SO293/LDP 75 South End

Proposed outbuildings with new pool with walled enclosure.

This was noted by the Council

P13/SO269/HH Lanesra Cottage, Pettiwell

This application had been withdrawn.

b) Planning Enforcement and Appeals

No matters arising

c) Community Led Plan

Cllr Matthew Dovey requested that Steve Inch (Chair of the Steering Committee) be allowed to address the meeting.

Steve Inch outlined the plans providing Councillors with a copy of the 9 step process which had been drawn up by the appointed committee, it was hoped this process could be achieved in an 18-24 month period. A budget document was presented to the Council and the Committee asked if the Parish Council could fund the project. Those councillors present agreed that the Council would fund the project to a figure of £1970 over a two year period. The Steering Committee would also look at what other sources of funding might be available.

4/13/10 Correspondence to the Chairman and Clerk

Rookery House, Denton Lane

The Chairman had received an email from SOHA Housing regarding the proposed demolition of the existing building and rebuild of suitable accommodation. The existing accommodation consisted of mainly bedsit flats and these were very difficult to allocate.

Two meetings had taken place with the current residents, some residents had agreed to accept temporary accommodation whilst the rebuild took place and others would move permanently to alternative accommodation.

No formal plans has been submitted at this stage, however, SOHA would be happy to meet with the Council to outline the new plans and hear any comments that might be put forward.

Clerk to write to SOHA stating that Council would like to be included in any future meetings that take place with residents.

4/13/11 Fields in Trust

This item was deferred until the next meeting as the Chairman was not present.

4/13/12 Playground

Cllr Paul Bolam requested that a meeting of all Councillors takes place at the Play Area to review the site. Date to be arranged, it was suggested that prior to a Council Meeting might be a good time.

Safety Report Inspection, Cllr Paul Bolam will advise clerk of dates he would be available as he would like to be present at the inspection if possible. Date for this years inspection not yet agreed.

4/13/13 Village Maintenance

Damaged Verges – Wheatley Road/Denton Lane Junction

County Council had quoted £200 per post to provide and install and accept any liability, Council felt this was very expensive and not a feasible option. Cllr Mike Patrick commented that the Parish Council had liability insurance so any incident that might occur should be covered. It was agreed that the Clerk would seek alternative quotes and obtain the recommended post dimensions from the County Council.

4/13/14 Village Bus Service

Cllr Matthew Dovey had attended the Bus Forum and reported on the new bus service route due to start in May, this would go back to the old route from Watlington to Oxford and include Southend and Cowley Centre, it would be called the T1 Service. Concerns had been raised that no consultation had taken place and some of the bus times had been changed, particularly in the morning and evening rush hour periods, in both these periods the service had been reduced. Concerns were raised about the problems that might occur with overcrowding and the possibility in the mornings of insufficient spaces being available by the time the bus reaches Garsington. At the latter end of the day the problem of no bus between 16.42 and 18.42 would mean people either having to leave the workplace early or wait around. This was not satisfactory.

County Cllr David Turner said he did understand all the concerns that had been raised, it was hoped that the early and late buses that had been removed would be reinstated, but a decision on this was not likely for some months. Cllr Matthew Dovey said it was imperative that double deckers were programmed to be used in the morning and evening rush hours to ensure capacity seating was available.

County Cllr David Turner would request confirmation of the full timetable and pass this to Cllr Matthew Dovey for circulation.

County Cllr David Turner also raised the issue of the £21,000 subsidy, he would check that this was still in place and how it was being utilized.

Cllr Mike Patrick said it was very important that residents used all the bus services and they needed to be reminded that if the service was to continue it needed to be fully supported throughout the day. A great deal of effort had gone into ensuring that the bus service was retained.

4/13/15 HGV Nuisance parking outside Unipart

See item under County Councillor’s Report.

4/13/16 Grass cutting contracts for 2013

It was agreed that the quote from Ian Young would be accepted. Clerk to put this in writing to Mr Young.

4/13/17 Community Assets

Awaiting confirmation that registration of the Three Horseshoes Public House has been accepted.

Other possible assets to be registered, deferred to the next meeting.

4/13/18 Register of Members Interests ( amendments)

Cllr John Hieatt provided the information requested.

4/13/19 Policing Matters

No issues arising.

4/13/20 Any Other Business

Cllr Mike Patrick asked County Cllr David Turner if details were available of candidates standing for election. County Cllr David Turner thought a list was being published in the Oxford Mail.

Cllr John Hieatt raised the issue of the salt currently stored at 52 Elm Drive, it was agreed that this should be distributed between the salt bins, but not the one in Combwell which is due to be replaced. Cllr John Hieatt will speak to Robert Surman about this.

County Cllr David Turner asked is the Dial a Ride service was being used. The Council understood this service was being used.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

The next meeting will take place on Monday 13th May 2013 this will be proceeded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm