

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF LITTLE HORWOOD PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE MEMORIAL HALL AT 8.00PM ON THURSDAY 20TH MARCH 2025		Action
Present: Chairman David Foster (DF), Vice Chairman Robbie Macpherson (RM), Cllrs. John Davis (JD), Andrew Kane (AK), Amanda Digne-Malcolm, Clerk Mrs H Kane (HK) Please note: to comply with new data protection rules, names (other than councillors or persons who have previously given their permission) will not be used in Little Horwood Parish Council Minutes.		
25/018	1) Apologies for absence Cllr Chris Hooper. It was resolved to agree his reasons for absence.	
25/019	2) To receive declarations of personal or prejudicial Interest and consideration of requests for dispensations - none	
25/020	3) The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th January were approved and signed	
	Public participation – no issues were raised	
25/021	4) Co-option of a councillor Mrs Karen Jones was co-opted to the Parish Council by unanimous vote. A declaration of acceptance of office was signed.	
25/022	5) Progress reports for information (Not covered elsewhere on the agenda) None	
25/023	6) Items deferred from previous meeting (Not covered elsewhere on the agenda). Grievance policy, trade account policy to do.	HK
25/024	7) Correspondence sent & received (Not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda) Sparkx have written to advise of a price increase from 1 st April	
25/025	8) To consider the Planning and Development Report Home farm access track (resent). The amended application has been approved. Abbeymills development awaiting decision. It is hoped that it will be called in, though the north Buckinghamshire planning committee are not thought to be meeting in April.	
25/026	9) Planning and Development matters arising if any An informal discussion has been held with a representative from Community Impact Buckinghamshire to discuss carrying out a Housing Needs Survey with a view to considering a Rural Exception Housing development.	
	At this point of the meeting (8.30 pm) Dist. Cllr. Sir Beville Stanier joined the meeting.	
25/028	10) Buckinghamshire Council News This was Cllr Stanier's last attendance as he is stepping down at the May elections. Council tax has risen by 4.9%. 2% of this goes towards social care, which takes up 75-85% of the budget across all ages. The number of district councillors will be reduced from 150 to 100 at the May elections, with there being one for Little Horwood & surrounding villages & Winslow having one separately.	

	<p>In his capacity as Chair of Whaddon Parish Council, Cllr Stanier expressed his concern over the traffic implications to the A421 in respect of the housing developments at Shenley Park and Salden Chase.</p> <p>Cllr Stanier said how pleased he was that LHPC received the Community Board grant for the green spaces project.</p> <p>He was thanked by David Foster for his many years as a District Councillor.</p>	
25/029	<p>11) To receive a report on meetings attended</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) North Bucks Planning Consortium – RM. Village is advised to ask for housing target. Callum Anderson will be invited to a meeting post council elections. The consortium is concerned about the rise in solar farm and battery storage developments and associated fire risk. They are keeping an eye on the Shenley Park and Oxford – Cambridge arc developments, and agreed there should be a concerted approach to the 20 mph campaign. It was noted that data is often not useful as it is too aggregated. Next meeting after council elections. b) Rural housing – as RM was the only attendee he was able to have a good discussion with the organizer, leading to the meeting noted in item 9. c) Planning forum – the slide deck from this and a brief note on items of interest was distributed. The planning portal is being updated and may be out of action for a while. d) Community Board – It was noted that board areas will soon double, with half the money available in order to meet spending cuts. e) Strategic plan – DF felt that it would be useful for the PC to draw up a Strategic Plan (not a village plan) outlining what they aim to achieve in the next 4-5 years. 	
25/030	<p>12) 20 mph campaign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) This is being tackled from dual angles, with Mursley working group leading and also how to gain traction. Callum Anderson has been contacted and confirmed that decision making on speed limits sits locally i.e. with Buckinghamshire Council, who haven't been positive to date. 20 mph zones are set in a fair number of places these days, and evidence presented by the 20's Plenty webinar shows an overall reduction in speeding and casualties. It was agreed that the PC would support & follow the suggestions made by Mursley working group. b) It was agreed that the existing MVAS would be retrieved and checked, and prices sought for new ones. 	<p>ADM</p> <p>AK, HK</p>
25/031	<p>13) Parish Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Update on Green Spaces Project: The spinney has been opened up to improve growth, 2 new bridges have been installed, and a very successful tree planting day has been held. The guide line for mowing the Recreation Field has been moved to allow creation of a wild edge and four stiles have been replaced. Still to do, there are ponds to be dug between the spinney and Wood End, and the path there needs work. Wild flowers are to be planted, and the Biodiversity Survey is to be carried out in April and July, which will help to inform future decisions.and create a management plan. 	

	<p>Any money still left on the grant could be spent on meadow cutting, additional tree surgery, interpretation boards and signs.</p> <p>DF will write an entry for the Little Horwood News and Pete's Post.</p> <p>b) the bus shelter library is nearly complete, just needs glass & final finishing. Thanks to CH.</p> <p>c) update on Winslow Road bank repairs – no news</p> <p>d) spring litter pick to be carried out on 23rd March</p> <p>e) Buckinghamshire Highways confirmed their responsibility for the ash trees along the verge by the new houses – thanks to Cllr Chilver for his assistance.</p>	DF
25/032	<p>14) City Fibre and Registration of Village Green ownership</p> <p>a) It was resolved that the Parish Council should pursue registration of village green ownership with the Land Registry</p> <p>b) City Fibre are aware the green is not registered with the Land Registry, and are awaiting what documentation the PC has in respect of ownership.</p>	
25/033	<p>15) Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and Annual Village Meeting</p> <p>a) It was agreed that the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 15th May 2025.</p> <p>b) It was agreed in principle that the Annual Village Meeting should aim to be more of a village get together. Need to sound out the village groups/committees involved and arrange some publicity once a date has been confirmed (tentatively 22nd May).</p>	DF, JD
25/034	<p>16) Elections</p> <p>HK confirmed the nomination procedure.</p>	
25/035	<p>17) Administration</p> <p>a) Parish Council information has been removed from the Village website and a link to the new website put on instead. A village resident with experience in website creation is willing to assist with photography, and personalization of the Parish Council website.</p> <p>b) Details of this year's maintenance Devolution Agreement were noted.</p>	
25/036	<p>18) Finance</p> <p>a) The bank reconciliation, receipts and payments were reviewed and ratified by councillors. The receipts and payments listed at the end of the minutes were reviewed and authorised.</p> <p>b) Budget actuals were received and noted.</p> <p>c) ADM agreed to follow up with the Memorial Hall committee regarding the rental agreement for post office hours. Given authority to negotiate.</p> <p>d) transferring banking from TSB to Unity to be done in next few weeks.</p> <p>e) spending from green spaces reserve 24-25 and purchase of football goals was approved.</p> <p>f) transfer of funds from general green spaces reserve to green spaces reserve 24-25 was approved.</p>	ADM

	g) transfer of funds from the interest (reserves) account to the current account was approved.	
	The clerk left the room for the next item.	
25/037	19) Clerk's Pay The clerk's position was confirmed as permanent from the end of the six month probationary period. An increase in the clerk's hours to 10 hrs/week from 1 st April was approved together with a 2% pay increase in anticipation of an increase in the national guideline levels.	
25/038	20) Items for the next meeting The PCC have sought Parish Council support towards maintenance of the churchyard.	
25/039	21) Date of the next meeting – The meeting closed at 21.56. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 15 th May 2025 at 8.00 pm in the Memorial Hall NB, further meetings will be held on 22nd May (tbc), 24th July, 18th September, 20th November 2025 & 22nd January 2026 Signed: _____ Chairman of the Meeting Date: _____	

Payments			
Reference	Date	Supplier	Amount
p54	14/11/2024	Denne Engineering Co.	106.08
p55	29/11/2024	3 Gen Fencing	480.00
p76	14/01/2025	Buckinghamshire Council	390.00
p79	30/01/2025	nPower	128.95
p79	30/01/2025	nPower	142.08
p79	30/01/2025	nPower	156.72
p78	30/01/2025	Buckingham Nurseries Ltd	847.93
p78	30/01/2025	Buckingham Nurseries Ltd	71.99
p80	31/01/2025	Staff	94.23
p81	31/01/2025	Staff	31.41
p86	03/02/2025	Staff	406.19
p85	03/02/2025	Scribe	27.60
p87	10/02/2025	Cheviot Trees Ltd	594.59
p88	10/02/2025	MKM BS Milton Keynes	-37.44
p89	10/02/2025	MKM BS Milton Keynes	145.97
p90	10/02/2025	MKM BS Milton Keynes	109.20
p82	10/02/2025	Chew Valley Trees	119.88
p83	10/02/2025	MKM BS Milton Keynes	1,090.39
p77	10/02/2025	Sparkx	1,206.00
p92	13/02/2025	TSB	-390.00
p91	19/02/2025	ICO	47.00
p84	25/02/2025	Green Trees (Bucks) Ltd	2,808.00
p97	03/03/2025	Staff	406.19
p96	03/03/2025	Scribe	27.60
p93	04/03/2025	SLCC	24.00
p98	04/03/2025	Little Horwood Rec Ground Trust	18.00
p94	04/03/2025	MKM BS Milton Keynes	43.20
p95	04/03/2025	Future Nature WTC	791.28
Receipts			
r34	09/01/2025	TSB	25.00
r36	10/01/2025	BIA Interest	26.95
r35	13/01/2025	TSB	100.00

r37	06/02/2025	Allotment rent	20.00
r38	10/02/2025	BIA Interest	26.06
r39	10/03/2025	BIA Interest	17.59
r40	12/03/2025	Allotment rent	90.00

Planning and Development Report - for meeting on 20th March 2025

Below are current and recent Planning Applications. The Parish Council is invited to ratify the comments made to AVDC on behalf of the Planning Committee since the last meeting.

CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Date Received	Application Number Respond by	Site Address	Details of Application	Parish Council Response	AVDC Decision
Determined					
30/10/2024	24/03276/APP 27/11/2024	Harefields Winslow Road Little Horwood Buckinghamshire MK17 0PD	Conversion of garage into annex accommodation	No objection	Approved
15/01/2025	25/00117/AGN 29/01/2025	Home Farm Mursley Road Little Horwood Buckinghamshire MK17 0PG	Erection of an agricultural farm access track	No objection (necessity queried)	Refused
14/02/2025	25/00438/AGN 10/03/2025	Home Farm Mursley Road Little Horwood Buckinghamshire MK17 0PG	Erection of an agricultural farm access track	No comments	No objection

Pending

15/01/2021	21/00146/COU AR 11/02/2021	Clare Farm Winslow Road Little Horwood Buckinghamshire MK18 3JW	Determination to whether prior approval is required in respect of transport & highway impact, noise, contamination risk, flooding and locational considerations for the conversion of agricultural barn into dwelling house (Class Q(a)) and in relation to design and external appearance of the building (Class Q(b)).	No objection	Awaiting decision
23/01/2025	25/00199/APP 03/03/2025	Land North Of Mursley Road Little Horwood Bucks MK17 0PA	Erection of nine detached and semi detach 2 storey dwellings with new access off Mursley Road, footpaths, carports, parking, landscaping and all enabling works	Objection with request to call in	Awaiting decision
17/03/2025	25/00604/VRC 14/04/2025	Harefields Winslow Road Little Horwood Buckinghamshire MK17 0PD	Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) attached to pp 24/03276/APP (Conversion of garage into annex accommodation involving alteration to the fenestration of the building and the construction of a dormer window to the rear roof slope) to allow for design alterations		