

HORNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting Held on **Monday, 8 July 2024** in the Pavilion

Present:

Councillors:
John Offord (Chair) – **JO**
Callum Harris (Vice Chair) – **CH**
Paul Burden – **PB**
Philip Holt - **PH**
Andrew Overton - **AO**
Chris White – **CW**
Steve Woodcock - **SW**
Clerk: Al Mills - **AM**

Apologies for absence:
RFO: Kirsty Buttle – **KB**

1. Receive any apologies for absence – as shown.
2. Members’ declarations of interest for items on the agenda – non forthcoming.
3. The accuracy of the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 13 May 2024 were approved.
4. Finance
 - 4.1 The request from the PCC (Parochial Church Council) for HPC (Hornton Parish Council) to make their annual donation with an increase of £50 to £550 was agreed.
 - 4.2 Payments and Receipts:
 - 4.2.1 The following payments already made using delegated powers were approved:

Date	Payee	Description	Amount	Account
09.05.24	BT	Pavilion phone/broadband	£43.38	Pavilion
16.05.24	Castle Water	Pavilion water	£52.15	Pavilion
03.06.24	Sam Wheeler	Pavilion cleaning Apr 30 and May 22	£59.50	Pavilion
03.06.24	N J Chadwick	Internal Audit 23-24	£75.00	PC
03.06.24	Alistair Mills	Salary May	£418.17	PC
03.06.24	Kirsty Buttle	Salary May and stationery	£215.38	PC
03.06.24	HMRC	Tax May	£47.00	PC
10.06.24	BT	Pavilion phone/broadband	£43.38	Pavilion
17.06.24	Castle Water	Pavilion water May 24	£52.68	Pavilion
27.06.24	Fir Tree Falconry	Mole control in verge and allotments	£130.00	PC
27.06.24	Sam Wheeler	Pavilion cleaning 28th May to 25th June	£170.00	Pavilion
27.06.24	Alistair Mills	Salary, office and expenses June	£447.16	PC
27.06.24	Kirsty Buttle	Salary and office June	£214.30	PC
27.06.24	HMRC	Tax June	£47.00	PC

4.2.2 The following receipts were noted:

Date	Payment submitted by	Description	Amount	Account
14.05.24	CDC	Grant re soundproofing	£4,468.00	Pavilion
14.05.24	Post Office Cash Deposit	May Day	£880.75	Pavilion
15.05.24	Hemmings	Allotment fee	£30.00	PC
16.05.24	Jeffer	Allotment fee	£60.00	PC
21.05.24	Post Office Cash Deposit	Rent and May Day	£695.00	Pavilion
22.05.24	Hornton PCC	Pavilion hire	£45.00	Pavilion
22.05.24	Birkbeck	Pavilion parking	£50.00	Pavilion
23.05.24	Fenn	Allotment	£15.00	PC
24.05.24	Post Office Cash Deposit	Rent and May Day	£180.00	Pavilion
29.05.24	Credit 11	Rent	£67.50	Pavilion
04.06.24	CCLA	Interest	£132.79	Playground
14.06.24	Triforia	Keep fit	£60.00	Pavilion
20.06.24	OCC	Grant re VAS	£2,500.00	PC
21.06.24	Bloxham School	Pavilion Hire	£120.00	Pavilion

4.2.3 The bank balances as at 25 June 2024 were noted

PC Current	£7,332.24
PC Savings	£40,273.85
CCLA fund (playground)	£30,000.00
Total	£77,606.09

4.2.4 The committee balances as at 25 June 2024 were noted.

	HPC	JUMPA	Pavilion	Playground	Grand Total
Balance b/f to 07/05/2024	£26,294.09	£8,267.07	£2,028.72	£33,727.27	£70,317.15
Total Payments	£1,594.01	£0.00	£421.09	£0.00	£2,015.10
Total Receipts	£2,605.00	£0.00	£6,566.25	£132.79	£9,304.04
Balance to 25/06/2024	£27,305.08	£8,267.07	£8,173.88	£33,860.06	£77,606.09

5. Planning Report:

5.1. New planning applications received since last meeting:

Reference	Location	Proposal/ Description	Validated	Status
24/01084/CLUP	Bankside Millers Lane Hornton Oxfordshire OX15 6BS	Certificate of Lawfulness of Proposed Development for removal of existing uPVC porch and a replacement porch in local stone - to match existing buildings	01/05/2024	No objections from HPC

5.2. CDC Planning decisions outstanding: Fishing Lakes [24/00375/F](#) – HPC has objected to this proposal and awaits the outcome. There is a meeting to (probably) discuss the proposal on August 1, 2024, before the decision on August 8, 2024.

6. A request to buy HPC owned land in order to extend parishioner's garden onto pavilion bank has not been approved.
7. The production of a Neighbourhood Plan was agreed to be worthy of further investigation and could include possible partnership with bordering parishes. In the first instance contact will be made with these parishes to establish their interest.
8. The bus stop at the top of Miller's Lane was thought to be somewhat redundant, and it is hoped the pole can be used to host the forthcoming speed signs – so as to save money. Transport at Oxfordshire County Council will be contacted to ensure that they are happy with this proposal.
9. The proposal for improved IT services was discussed and the recommendation that HPC switch to a **gov.uk** domain was viewed with caution – as the last change of domain caused a lot of issues with changed email addresses especially. However, the suppliers will be contacted to see if they can increase the available storage space and, in the meantime, steps will be taken to 'clean up' the space currently available.
10. With regard to the Parish liaison meeting held by Cherwell District Council in June – it was reported that there have been personnel changes in many senior council roles following the local elections earlier this year. It will be interesting to see what impact these changes make. The forthcoming launch of the Oxfordshire Councils Charter was also mentioned, as HPC will be asked to adopt the charter, along with all other Oxfordshire council bodies.
11. Motocross update.
 - 11.1 The enforcement team at CDC are being encouraged to act on the current enforcement notice which gave the track operators until July 1, 2024, to comply. HPC believes the terms of the enforcement notice have not been met and the CDC enforcement team will be written to.
 - 11.2 HPC have received another request from a prospective Hornton house buyer regarding the future of the motocross track. It is believed at least two house

sales in the village have now fallen through due to the uncertainty about the future of the track.

12. Pavilion Report

- 12.1 The Landscaping project planning has begun, and details will soon be circulated to parishioners along with a call for volunteers.
- 12.2 The recommendation to go with the cheapest BT telephone and internet business package for the pavilion - £32.95 + VAT per month – was agreed.
- 12.3 The request for additional cooking equipment for the pavilion has not been approved following the recommendation of the pavilion committee.
- 12.4 The waterlogged football field situation is still a concern and a request for a more detailed proposal was made to the pavilion committee. The landscaping project may help with this issue as 'water hungry' trees could be planted nearby.

13. Allotments Report

- 13.1 A mislaid request for an allotment has been actioned, with apologies to the applicants.
- 13.2 Whilst most plots are looking well cared for, there is concern some holders may not be using the allotments as originally intended.

14. Roads & Highways Report including Speedwatch

- 14.1 There will be an on-site meeting to investigate the muddy water in Millers Lane in early September, with attendees including Oxfordshire County Council Highways and Rights of Way representatives.
- 14.2 HPC are still awaiting details 20 mph limit consultation - despite some parishioners reporting it appearing on their satellite navigation systems!
- 14.3 The format of the forthcoming speed signs was agreed. A straightforward warning was preferred to smiley and frowning faces.
- 14.4 An offer to fund exclusive Hornton Speedwatch equipment has been received from stallholders at the village May Day event. We currently share the equipment with other parishes, which affects the ability to conduct surveys as often as desired. HPC are happy to accept the funding and relinquish their share of the ownership of the existing equipment.
- 14.5 Councilor White is struggling to find time to give highways as much attention as he would like and it was agreed Councilor Overton will assist with Speedwatch surveys and Chairman Offord will assist with Highways at the southern end of the village.

15. JUMPA Report

- 15.1 The situation with the Fir trees appears to have improved following some ground clearing efforts.
- 15.2 The improved mower situation has helped with maintenance activities.

16. Playground Report

- 16.1 The application for a memorial tree at the playground will likely be granted on the condition a limited height variety can be sourced.

17. Clerk's Report

- 17.1 Attempts to clarify the planning notifications received from Cherwell District Council have been frustrating. However, investigation will continue.
- 17.2 Some financial payments to HPC have been difficult to reconcile – namely pavilion booking related. Steps will be taken to improve this.
- 17.3 The proposed meeting dates for 2025 were thought to be acceptable to HPC
- 17.4 The litter picker appeal response has been somewhat underwhelming, so HPC agreed to consider funding additional pickers.
- 17.5 Renewal notification has been received from CPRE, the countryside charity. Exactly what we benefit from this needs to be reviewed.