



Gerrards Cross Parish Council

South Lodge, East Common, Gerrards Cross SL9 7AD
Clerk to the Council - Mrs Diana Hepburn-Park

These Minutes will be approved at the 2012 Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 30th March 2011 at the Colston Hall, Memorial Centre, Gerrards Cross.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Chris Brown and was attended by over 58 (see below) residents plus officials including County, District and Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk and Assistant Parish Clerk and representatives from local organisations.

Attendees

Gerrards Cross Parish Council

Cllr. M Lawson	Cllr P Chapman	Cllr C Brown
Cllr N Moss	Cllr. P Fea	Cllr I Gordon
Cllr P Grimes	Cllr M May CBE	Cllr. P Davidson
	Cllr S Sharma	Cllr J Wooveridge

Bucks County Council

Cllr R Reed Cllr P Hardy

South Bucks District Council

Cllr S Chhokar Cllr R Reed Cllr J Woolveridge

Residents

Mrs J Gordon	Mr H Parr	Mr & Mrs D Basnett
Paul Fisher	Richard Griffiths	Mr & Mrs T Goodman
Philip Sellers	A Brierley	Mr P Baldwin
Pat Chapman	Rachel Pope	Dawood Pervez
Chris Edgerton	Mr & Mrs B Collins	Mr & Mrs C Buchanan
Brian Turpin	Shelia Chapman	Keith Edwards
PC R Mellor	Richard Holman	Mr J Chhokar
S Madden	David Quintan	David Stanning
Mrs E Peters	Claire Collens	Mr C Russell
Mr & Mrs Jones	Trudi Bittan	Mr G Hoenes
Helen Glasson	Mr G Hoare	Glyn Stanning
S Hughes	Mr & Mrs A Moore	S & S Ferdenzi

1 **To appoint someone to take Minutes.**

The Chairman proposed Mrs Diana Hepburn Park, Clerk to the Council to take the minutes. This was agreed.

2 **Apologies for absence** -were received from Mrs J Brough and Cllr. L Campkin.

3 **The Statutory Notice convening the meeting was then read.**

4 **Minutes for the previous meeting held on 27th April 2010.**

The minutes were proposed by CB and agreed as a true record, seconded by JW adopted and signed by the Chairman Chris Brown.



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5 **Approval for the 2010/11 accounts.**

Councillor Nick Moss presented the already published accounts for 2009/2010 which had been approved by both internal and external auditors and he confirmed they were within the proposed budget. Cllr N Moss proposed the accounts; this was seconded by Cllr S Sharma and accepted by the meeting.

6 **Report from Chris Brown, Chairman of the Council.**

Chris Brown thanked the three Councillors that would not be seeking re-election in May 2011, Councillors Peter Chapman, Laraine Campkin and Pat Fea for all their hard work they have done over their years working for the Parish Council.

The Newsletter is improving communications with residents and the feedback has been very positive.

Thank you for your comments on the problems with the Packhorse Road new design layout. We are still working hard with BCC to get changes before the deadline when Tesco/Costain's responsibility ends in November 2011. We are trying to get action on it now so your Council Tax is not used to pay for changes but this may not be possible.

BMX track

We put this in the newsletter to tell residents what we are thinking of. The location is relatively small and away from the houses. We considered The Common, and spoke to the Lord of the Manor, who gave his tentative agreement. There is a lot of consultation to go through with the Open Space Society and others. We invited a consultant to speak to the Councillors regarding the problems that may arise and we welcome residents' comments. We are trying to be as open as possible.

7 **Reports from Gerrards Cross police.**

Constable Rob Mellor, who has been a police officer for over 11 years, he then gave the meeting an over view of his history and spoke about the role of the police in Gerrards Cross, Hedgerley and Fulmer also confirming that he had been here since June 2010.

Most local calls come to him and he will deal with it but there is now an e-mail address if you would like to contact him gerrardscrosshedgerleyNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Stats:

Burglary Dwellings 27, although that is low, but we can always get better. Insecure windows and doors, not telling your neighbours that you are away. If they can't find the car keys they will not steal the car. Theft from Motor vehicle – 20 incidents of number plates being stolen, 7 wheel thefts.

Robbery's, 2 from people, in one the offender was caught. Robberies of Business property, both in Packhorse Road.

Parking is still high on everybody's list, and still with the police PCSO's with little likelihood of changing. If we blitz an area within a short time the offenders return and we just add more the problem to another area. Now we have Tesco's who allow 3 hours parking, I am hoping things will improve.

With the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) we have developed a Gerrards Cross Community Parking Watch Scheme. Members report by mobile phone when a vehicle is illegally parking with specific details and then a letter will be sent by volunteers at the Police station. If the person does not



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listen and persists, they will get a visit with suggestions of alternative parking. There will be a chance for all residents to get involved at a later date.

9. Public Questions

David Barker

Understand there is a plan to build a BMX track with the monies given by Tesco. The arrival of Tesco has incensed local residents and this will compound this unpopular trend by building further attractions for non-locals.

CB hoped that his earlier comments had reassured residents that this is the start of consultation only.

West Common Residents Association – Brian Turpin

Asked for the Council's assurance that his Residents association will get a full reply to all their questions submitted to this meeting.

CB confirmed this would be done and hopes they were assured by his previous comments. We have to fully consult under The Commons Act.

Mr Russell

Is very concerned about the proposal and all the local residents that he has spoke to do not feel it is appropriate to be on the Common.

Mr R Griffiths

Felt that this should not even be considered, the Common is a part of natural beauty, and this should not be destroyed.

Mr Stanley

Was concerned that all Residents are kept informed about the progress of any consultation and were assured that no progress would be made without further consultation.

Mr Brierly

Very concerned about all the legislation that will have to be covered.

Stated that under the Commons Act this could not be done and would cost most of the Tesco £100k.

Mr G Hoenes

Are Tesco repairing and resurface the Packhorse road up to A40 junction? He asks this because of the lorry traffic that has been over the road since the tunnel collapse.

Cllr R Reed

Yes it will be done but we do not know the time frame This is something that has been chased for some time with regrettably little response as yet. He will continue to progress.

Cllr Peter Hardy – I was previously advised that the money had been received and am very disappointed in the lack of action.

CB explained that there was no legal requirement for them to do this work.

Alan Moore



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He had seen a notice for works to start shortly on the Packhorse Road but they are not clear on what work is being carried out.

Harvey Parr

Requested an update on the progress of work to make Mill Lane safer.

The issue is Mill Lane is very difficult for mums especially walking their children to school.

The Parish Council have been working with BCC to try and adopt the land from Network Rail.

After this is done the finances will have to be found to install the proposed footpath. RR will chase this up and is giving the PC support.

Harvey Parr this has been talked about in various ways since 2007, a risk assessment found it was dangerous, so BCC painted a dotted line on the bridge. Then changed to a solid line.

The Police are against “sleeping policemen” and suggested a narrow pavement; it has taken 4 years so far to move an issue like this.

Sheila Moore

In 1970 when she took her children to school she contact BC and told them the bridge was dangerous and ever has been trying to get something done down Mill Lane. She was told that there have not been sufficient deaths to take action.

Phillip Sellers

Reserves that are about 100k and he feels this is incorrect. Also why does it take a year to get the accounts out?

CB this is complying with best Practice.

For information

The National Association of Local Councils “Good Practice” states small to medium Parish Council should keep 25% of their precept as their balance excluding any ring-fence monies. Ours stood at £78,839 for March 2010. By complying with Good Practice it allows the Parish Council to have a Lighter Touch Audit which cost considerably less than the full External Audit.

The completed accounts were signed at May 2010 Council meeting and returned from the external Auditor in August 2010 with the statutory notice being put on the notice board.

Mr R Griffiths

May I suggest that the audited accounts are put in the Newsletter?

CB confirmed that this will be done.

Mrs L Goodman

What progress has been made with the application for the Tesco 100k,

PC There were not many projects just a lot of suggestions of what could be done with the fund.

The Traders Association has put in three costed projects and the Memorial Centre has asked for surfacing for a temporary car parking. Adding all the projects together it came to about £35k only.

Mr C Buchanan

Could the PC use the Teco fund to upgrade the roads in Gerrards Cross?

PC confirmed that the £100k funds would not include any task that should be financially resources by another body or authority.

Cllr Peter Hardy. This coming year there will be an increase in capital monies to be used on upgrading the Highways in Buckinghamshire. He will be working with Cllr. Roger Reed to get as much of the



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£12m spent on the roads in Gerrards Cross as possible.

Harvey Parr.

Please would you invite Mrs Letherern to our next Annual Parish meeting as so many of our complaints are about Highways?

Cllr Peter Hardy I would suggest we also invite Mr Jim Stevens how is the Senior Offer in monitoring the Transportation contract. This may motivate him to ensure his contract with Ringway Jacobs is tight and works well.

Alan Moore

There was water running down Mill Lane and after a few calls within 3 hours someone came. The next morning the road had been washed away and was collapsing but it was done the next day. The ditch to ensure the road does not flood has needed work for over two years; this has also only just been carried out.

Cllr Mike Lawson

I reported 3 holes via the Transport for Buckinghamshire web site. tfb@buckscc.gov.uk. They had a temporary fill within 2/3 days and completed in 2 weeks. I recommend you all report the pot holes near your homes; which will make the roads safer.

Paul Fisher

Could you tell me about the CCTV in Gerrards cross?

We and SBDC pay to have 4 cameras on the Packhorse Road. One is used for automatic number plate recognitions and we are talking to the police about this at the moment to try and get it changed. The others it is felt have a deterrent value and as with the incident last week assist the Police. We monitor the situation constantly because of the high cost.

Keith Edwards

I would like to end on a high note; I have contacted the Parish Office on two occasions recently.

Firstly, to get a Lamp Post that had been knocked replace, which was done quickly. And secondly to request a suitable swing for disabled children to be installed, which has also been done.

Cllr Pat Fea

I wanted to say that I have never been on a more encouraging Council, they are helpful and we are very lucky to have them working extremely hard on your behalf. We have a number of new Councillors but it is always useful to have experienced people who are helpful. May I just mention Cllr I Gordon, who is very knowledgeable, Cllr Peter Chapman who does everything he is asked and more and finally Cllr Jennifer Woolveridge whose knowledge of Planning and Local regulations is exceptional.



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Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Date:

Signed: