

**Horton Parish Council**  
**MEETING of the COUNCIL of the Parish of Horton**  
 at 7.30pm on Tuesday **16<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

## Minutes

<b>#01</b>		<b>Councillors Summoned: Chair Cllr Hickley, Vice Chair Cllr Cole, Cllr Bovingdon, Cllr Buckley, Cllr Coogan, Cllr Larcombe, Cllr Patel</b>
	A	<b>Welcome, present, apologies and Declaration of interest:</b> <b>Apologies:</b> Cllr Buckley, Cllr Larcombe and Ward Cllr Grove due to an RBWM council meeting. Cllr Coogan. <b>Declarations of Interest:</b> Cllr Hickley item #05F
	B	<b>Public Participation document and the Meetings Rules including recording of the meeting:</b> No requests have been received so the meeting was not recorded.
	C	<b>Questions from the public:</b> No members of the public present
	D	<b>Membership of the Council update on vacancies – 2 vacancies.</b>
<b>#02</b>		<b>Statutory items:</b>
	A	<b>Minutes of previous meeting for approval:</b> Proposed: Cllr Hickley. Seconded: Cllr Patel. All in favour
<b>#03</b>		<b>Planning applications and Highways: (see Planning appendix for details re items A-C)</b>
	A	<b>Residential Planning Applications received:</b> 1 listed building consent application – no comments 1 application for a first-floor extension in Milton Close – the councillors discussed it and Cllr Hickley will send in comments relating to future use restrictions, replacement of any lost parking, flood concerns, proximity to neighbours, no subdivision and waste water not to be drained onto the public highway.
	B	<b>Industrial Planning Applications received: 0</b>
	C	<b>Planning Enforcement and Complaints in progress: 3</b>
	D	<b>Other planning issues and appeals: 0</b> It was brought to the attention of the council that the old Asquith Nursery site is being used as Airport parking. It was brought to the attention of the Council that there is a rumour of a Coach Park at a property recently sold in Horton.
<b>#04</b>		<b>Communications:</b>
	A	<b>Clerk's Communications:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Datchet Road: split chevrons, advanced warning signs and slow markings for the road surface have been ordered and missing lighting is being looked into.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christmas Tree: The Council gave permission for the Window flowers quote to be signed. Cllr Hickley gave an update that Frosts will support the event and bring Santa. The event was set for Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 4pm. An advert is to be placed in Wraysbury news.</li> <li>• ASB measures recommended by TVP: deferred to next meeting as the Clerk has not seen the Community Officers.</li> <li>• Community Grant Support for Literacy request for volunteers will be put on the website.</li> <li>• Project development Officer job opportunity at Connecting Communities Berkshire will be displayed on the website.</li> <li>• Jerry Unsworth the Colne Valley Trust Consultant has written an article about the park requiring “joined up thinking”. The Parish Council will share the link on the website and social media.</li> <li>• The Portrait of King Charles offered to all Parish Councils will be arriving tomorrow and will be displayed at Champney Hall.</li> <li>• Flood Liaison Committee have asked for confirmation of representative. The Clerk confirmed it was Cllr Larcombe.</li> <li>• The Housing Needs survey is arriving on Thursday and will need to be delivered before the Annual Parish Meeting. All present Councillors offered help.</li> <li>• PCC Candidates – The election for the Police Crime Commissioner will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 and Champney Hall will be the Horton Parish Polling Station.</li> <li>• Report on auditors by NALC confirmed many Councils miss the AGAR deadlines however the clerk is pleased to report that Horton is not one of them.</li> <li>• Jayflex meeting – Cllr Buckley attended on behalf of Horton Parish Council and has taken away some actions to help support the installation of some CCTV on Horton Road.</li> <li>• The Pollution Tube report has arrived and will be placed on the next agenda.</li> <li>• SLCC membership needs renewal by the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024 – Council approved the membership continuing.</li> </ul>
	B	<p><b>Chairman’s Communications:</b> Agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting has been written – Clerk will put in noticeboards and on the website on 17<sup>th</sup> April.</p>
	C	<p><b>RBWM Communications:</b> Consultations for SEND facilities in RBWM is open until 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Consultation for post 16 transport is also open.</p>
	D	Any other items received after the agenda has been published*
<b>#05</b>		<b>To receive reports from Borough Councillors or Parish Councillors or others</b>
	A	<p><b>Ward Councillors’ report:</b> No ward councillors were present due to an RBWM Council meeting.</p>
	B	<b>DALC /BALC / HALC / NALC Report:</b> To receive the latest updates.
	C	<p><b>Horton Waterways report:</b> Flood Wardens report: The Flood Warden was not present. Lead Councillor Report: The lead Councillor was not present but he will be attending the Flood meeting with the Environment Agency on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2:00pm – 4:00pm about the Datchet to Hythe End scheme.</p>

D	<p><b>D-Day Commemoration for Horton:</b></p> <p>There will be a Beacon lighting in Wraysbury and the Wraysbury Hub will have a display of photos etc.</p> <p>Flags – Cllr Cole suggested an 8ft commemoration flag is flown at a purchase cost of £25 - proposed Cllr Cole, seconded Cllr Patel all in favour</p> <p>Cllr Cole was given permission to purchase a flag for D-Day commemoration. Proposed Cllr Hickley, seconded Cllr Patel.</p>
E	<p><b>Motion to support and sign the letter written by Cllr Coe to the Secretary of State for Environment and the Minister of State for Climate re-funding for the Berkshire Channel of the River Thames Flood Alleviation Scheme – See Appendix B.</b></p> <p>Proposed Cllr Hickley, seconded Cllr Patel, all in favour.</p>
F	<p><b>St Michaels Church roof proposal to donate to St Michaels Church roof repair fund:</b></p> <p>Cllr Hickley declared an interest but remained to answer questions.</p> <p>There was a discussion on a grant for church maintenance of £2,000.</p> <p>Cllr Patel proposed, Cllr Cole seconded – all in favour</p>
G	<p><b>Greens Proposal: This council supports no mow May and will ask the contractor not to mow areas of Horton during May.</b></p> <p>Cllr Hickley proposed not mowing outside Champney Hall for May.</p> <p>The Councillors appreciated the reasons for it but felt that they would like to continue mowing the communal areas of Horton. The clerk will consult with Garden Designs for the best smaller area to leave and that will be left for May.</p>
H	<p><b>Insurance Quotes:</b> Zurich have quoted for a renewal. Clerk to ask BHIB and Gallachers for a quote.</p>
I	<p><b>Playground Equipment, Inspections and Maintenance Report:</b></p> <p>The weekly inspections are continuing.</p> <p>The Clerk will bring the inspection and a plan to the next meeting.</p>
J	<p><b>Defibrillators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Champney Hall Defibrillator status check – still showing as ready and has been confirmed on the circuit website.</li> <li>• Second Defibrillator Project – The Clerk had consulted with Datchet about their recent installations but Horton has nothing similar that could be used. Cllr Hickley to look for suitable locations.</li> </ul>
K	<p><b>Proposal that the council will share resources with the Church to deliver Housing Needs Survey and request for Church funding – not addressed at this meeting.</b></p>
L	<p><b>Christmas Tree proposal has been signed off by the Council – see item #04A</b></p>
M	<p><b>Any other information to share that is relevant to council business*</b></p>
N	<p><b>Items for future agenda:</b></p>
#06	<p><b>Financial Report:</b></p>
A	<p><b>Income:</b> Precept £22,780</p>

B	<b>Approval of payment: Total £4,090.02</b>				
	<b>Date</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Invoice Number</b>	<b>Budget Line</b>	<b>Amount</b>
	20/04/2024	Staff	Month 1	Personnel	£1,115.61
	20/04/2024	HMRC	Month 1	Personnel	£113.68
	20/04/2024	Berkshire Pension	Month 1	Personnel	£430.60
	20/04/2024	Garden Designs	8027, 8071	Greens	£1,091.64
	20/04/2024	MyController	SI-20302	Admin	£792.00
	20/04/2024	BALC	INV-0490	Subscriptions	£252.49
	Paid in the month				
	28/03/2024	Harlequin Playgrounds	HortonPC001	Maintenance	£294.00
	Proposed Cllr Hickley, seconded Cllr Patel - All in favour				
C	<b>Completion and signing of the Annual Governance Statement</b> Proposed Cllr Hickley, Seconded Cllr Patel – All in favour. Next month sign off reserves, fixed assets and accounts for Q4.				
D	<b>Section 137 / Chair's fund payments:</b> (S137 limited by legislation, Chair's fund limited to £250 without meeting approval) None.				
E	<b>Any other Finance information to share*</b>				
#07	<b>Policies to be reviewed and adopted:</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communications Policy - Approved</li> <li>• Equality and Diversity Policy - Approved</li> <li>• Freedom of Information - Approved</li> <li>• Supplier Questionnaire – It was decided to use when appropriate but no longer to be kept on the website.</li> <li>• Playground Risk Assessment – Clerk to find and propose one that is not Covid related.</li> </ul>				
#08	<b>Questions from the public: (If appropriate)</b>				
	<b>Dates of future meetings: 2024, Third Tuesday of each month</b>				
	Please read the "Meetings Rules and Public Participation at Meetings" document				
	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2024 – 19:30 Annual Parish Meeting		Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 – 19:30 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council		
	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2024 – 19:30		Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2024 – 19:30		
	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> August – 19:30		Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September 2024		

Meeting Closed 20:45

Website: [www.hortonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.hortonparishcouncil.gov.uk) Parish Phone 07957 588 277  
Clerk to the Council: Mrs Jayne Kennedy, c/o Champney Hall, Stanwell Road, Horton,  
Slough. SL3 9PA  
Email [Clerk@HortonParishCouncil.Gov.uk](mailto:Clerk@HortonParishCouncil.Gov.uk).

Planning Appendix (as at 2024/04/16)								
Ref	date	address	details	No action from HPC	HPC to respond	HPC responded	awaiting RBWM decision	Decided
4A: New applications received since last meeting								
24/00704 /LBC	Thu 28 Mar 2024	Brookfield Park Lane Horton Slough SL3 9PR	Consent to relocate the bell, chimney caps and for parapet treatment.					
4B: Applications awaiting decision from RBWM								
4C: Applications decided since last meeting								
24/00289 /FULL	Thu 01 Feb 2024	Sunnyside Stanwell Road Horton Slough SL3 9PE	Replacement of existing boundary wall with new pedestrian gate, electric entrance gates and hardstanding.			✓	✓	28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Application Refused
23/02919 /FULL	Wed 06 Dec 2023	Chesills Stanwell Road Horton Slough SL3 9PE	Replacement garage.			✓	✓	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Application permitted

## Appendix B

Cllr Richard Coe  
Cabinet Member for Household & Regulatory Services  
Cllr.Coe@rbwm.gov.uk



**The Rt Hon Steve Barclay MP**  
Secretary of State for Environment,  
Food & Rural Affairs  
DEFRA, Nobel House  
17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR

**The Rt Hon Lord Benyon PC**  
Minister of State for Climate,  
Environment & Energy  
DEFRA, Nobel House  
17 Smith Square  
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**Email to:** [defra.helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:defra.helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

19 April 2024

#### **Funding for the 'Berkshire Channel' River Thames flood alleviation scheme**

Dear Sirs,

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead recently responded to the statutory consultation led by the Environment Agency relating to the River Thames Scheme as it progresses through the Development Consent Order process.

The impact of flooding on communities close to the Thames is significant in terms of the health, social and economic effects. With the impact of climate change, these risks are only increasing and flooding events becoming more frequent.

As a Borough, many of our communities were impacted significantly by widespread flooding in 2014 - referenced several times in the consultation documents - and more recently in January this year following the significant rainfall during Storm Henk.

As currently envisaged, the overall vision for the River Thames Scheme is incomplete and represents a missed opportunity. Put simply, without the Berkshire Channel (previously known as 'Channel One') being included in the scheme, there are many communities in our Borough which will not see significant flood relief or the wider environmental and economic benefits which the original scheme was intended to deliver.

The Berkshire Channel was designed to divert water from the Thames and ran from Southlea Road in Datchet, passed through Datchet, Horton and Wraysbury lakes and re-entered the Thames downstream of Bell Weir at Hythe End – a channel of approximately 7km in length. Estimates we have seen put the cost at approximately £120m - £150m. Tens of millions have been spent on the River Thames Scheme to date, and it is crucial that the scheme delivers its original intentions, with the Berkshire Channel included.

As flooding events become a more regular occurrence, they will have a devastating impact on the Royal Borough, with the areas of Datchet, Horton, Wraysbury and Old Windsor seeing some of the most significant impacts. There are nearly 7,000 households across these villages which remain unprotected and therefore at risk.

Town Hall, St. Ives Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1RF  
www.rbwm.gov.uk customer.service@rbwm.gov.uk 01628 683800  
@rbwm search: rbwm

To ensure communities in the Royal Borough are better protected from future flooding events, it is our firm belief that the previously proposed Berkshire element of the scheme must be delivered in full. The Berkshire Channel section was removed due to challenges around local funding, and the increased pressure on local government funding since then have made the possibility of local funding even more unrealistic.

Unitary Authorities simply are not funded to deliver flood alleviation schemes to the scale of what is needed to protect our local communities. Indeed, the requirement for partnership funding was only introduced in 2011, some years after the River Thames Scheme had commenced and which constituted a significant moving of the goalposts.

That aside, this is clearly an infrastructure scheme of national significance which should therefore be delivered through national funding. This is why the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and the Parishes of Datchet, Horton, Wraysbury and Old Windsor are jointly requesting that the Environment Agency – and by extension central Government - commit to funding the Thames flood alleviation proposals in full, including the Berkshire Channel.

This request also recognises that the proposal represents an issue of national importance which - as stated in the wider Thames Scheme vision - will enhance the resilience of nationally important infrastructure. This stretch of the Thames also carries water which has travelled from Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Buckinghamshire, Oxford, and other parts of Berkshire and therefore cannot only be the responsibility of the Royal Borough.

This project has dragged on for decades, and it is our communities who continue to suffer. We want to continue to work constructively with the Environment Agency and Government to deliver this critical flood relief to our communities as quickly as possible. We would welcome a discussion on this with your officials at the earliest opportunity to discuss how to progress the Berkshire Channel and look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,



**Cllr Richard Coe**  
Cabinet Member for Household & Regulatory Services  
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead

**Cllr Jane Dawson**

**Chair, Old Windsor Parish Council**  
**Cllr Phil Jackson**  
**Chair, Wraysbury Parish Council**

**Cllr Benta Hickley**  
**Chair, Horton Parish Council**  
**Cllr David Buckley**  
**Chair, Datchet Parish Council**

C.c.

Cllr Simon Werner – Leader of the Council, Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead  
Stephen Evans – Chief Executive, Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead