

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
of the **PARISH OF HORTON** held in Champney Hall
at 7.30pm on TUESDAY 10TH APRIL 2018

MINUTES

#01	<p>Present: Chair, RFO and Clerk of Horton Parish Council, four additional Parish Councillors and two members of the public.</p> <p>To appoint Chair & Clerk for the meeting: Eileen Coogan proposed that the Parish Council clerk (Mrs. Benta Hickley) and Chair (Mrs. Freda Bovingdon), should host the meeting. This was seconded by Jillian Sinclair Hill. Agreed unanimously.</p>
#02	<p>Minutes of previous Annual Parish Meeting for approval: Proposed Jillian Sinclair Hill, seconded Eileen Coogan</p>
#03	<p>Matters arising from previous Annual Parish Meeting: None</p>
#04	<p>Chair's Annual Report:</p> <p>The last year has seen changes to the bus service through the village, installation of new benches on Champney Playing Field, successful summer play scheme, Remembrance service, and Christmas Carols around the tree.</p> <p>In summary we had the following events and achievements:</p> <p>April 2017 saw a positive result to the problems with the 305 bus – this has now been funded until 2022. We also gained a new rubbish bin at the pedestrian entrance to Arthur Jacob Nature Reserve.</p> <p>In May we had several reports of Japanese Knotweed in the village – these have been alerted to RBWM and are being treated and monitored as appropriate.</p> <p>In the summer RBWM Youth Services delivered a one day Play Scheme in Horton and a two day play scheme in Wraysbury. The two villages arranged a joint promotion and had a very successful turn out. Around 45 children attended the Horton day.</p> <p>In the autumn the Royal Borough reviewed the electoral boundaries. They were looking to reduce the number of Ward councillors and we knew this would need some parishes to combine into bigger wards. The current proposal is that the wards of Horton & Wraysbury and the ward of Datchet combine and are in the hands of three Ward Councillors rather than the current two and two. The consultation is open until 7th May, so if you want to have your say visit a library or search online for “RBWM new ward boundaries”</p> <p>November saw the first of regular planned meetings in Horton between RBWM Senior Management and Parish Council representatives: we hope this will lead to improved services for Horton Village. November also saw a great turn out for the annual Remembrance service and Parade, followed by hot drinks in Champney Hall. 11 November 2018 marks 100 years since the end of WW1, and events are being planned around the country.</p> <p>BT have written to the Council offering to sell the Coppermill Road phone box for a nominal price. Whilst the Parish Council would very much like to take advantage of this, the cost of repairs and decommissioning is enormous, and the proposed plan of moving it to outside Champney Hall makes the plan prohibitive. The Parish Council has not abandoned the plan, and is hoping that local businesses may be interested in contributing towards the cost.</p> <p>In December the Parish Council arranged a Carol Service on the Memorial Green, and provided mulled wine and mince pies as well as a Christmas tree with new lights. This was well attended.</p> <p>In the last few months the Parish Council has seen the Wraysbury bridge footpath completed, joined the battles to keep the 10 and 11 bus service, and to prevent the Heathrow expansion, and to provide adequate lighting on</p>

Wraysbury Bridge. Additionally they have arranged a tidy up of Champney Hall playing field with obsolete play equipment and fixtures being removed, and have placed a number of Fly Tipping warning signs in hot spots which we hope will reduce the problem. Please report any cases of fly-tipping to the borough.

The Parish Council, in conjunction with St Michael's church, has created a Horton Community website where useful information is added as it is received (bus timetables, recycling information, police newsletters etc) It can be found at <http://www.stmichaels-horton.org/village/village-home.php> [There are links on both St Michael's and Horton Parish Council's web pages]

As Chair, I would like to thank all the Parish Councillors for all their input over the last 12 months. It is recognised that this is a voluntary commitment and all give up a significant amount of time to attend meetings and ensuring their other responsibilities are given full attention. Additionally I would like to thank Jane Jenkins for keeping the dog waste bag containers stocked, the Rayner family for their assistance with the erection of the Christmas tree and the signage for the Remembrance Day road closures, and Sandra Chalfont for forwarding Parish documents that found their way to her home. You may have seen the new flower troughs on the Memorial Green: these have been bought as a memorial to the late Clerk, Betty Marlow, and we will be arranging a celebration later in the year to acknowledge all that she did for the village. I would also like to thank the Clerk and the RFO: Benta and Brian Hickley, for all their help and support.

Cllr Colin Rayner was invited to give his report as Ward Councillor: He introduced himself and explained that he and Cllr Lenton (currently Mayor of Windsor) server the Ward of Horton and Wraysbury as Ward Councillors.

He reported on the following items:

HEATHROW: The public consultation has closed, and if they don't listen to the comments the village will see dramatic changes- much of the land west of Horton Road and north of Stanwell Road will fall under compulsory purchase order. Ground tests for the third runway have already started.

BUSES AND TRAINS: the 305 bus has been saved and the 60/10 has been kept albeit with a reduced service. There is a planned meeting with Courtney Buses on 9th May to discuss the future and the timetables. The Windsor to Waterloo line is improving and trains will soon depart and arrive every 15 minutes: this may cause congestion at Datchet level crossing.

STREETLAMPS: These have been changed to brighter, low energy lamp. Some people have complained that the bright lights shine into their homes: these have had lamp shades fitted. Cllr Rayner is working to get the lamps on the village green changed to Victorian style lamps.

ROADS: The wooded stretch of Horton Road (towards Colnbrook) has been reduced to 30mph, and Cappagh are taking steps to reduce the mud on vehicles leaving their Stanwell Road site (wheel washes and road sweepers). Volker Highways asked for reports of pot holes and we had hoped to get some road repairs carried out but sadly they decided ours were too small to warrant work. A question was asked about trees: these are the riparian responsibility of the owner and Thames water are responsible for the trees on Horton Road (to Colnbrook) .

RIVERS: We are hoping the environment agency will take steps to clean the river. Thanks to the Parish Flood Warden, Duncan Parker for the work he is putting towards this.

Royal Weddings: 19th May (Harry & Megan) and 12th October (Eugenie & Jack). There may be potential traffic and congestion issues.

ARTHUR JACOBS NATURE RESERVE: This area has had a substantial tidy up.

ELECTORAL BOUNDARY REVIEWS: The current proposal from the Local Government Boundary Commission is that the ward of Horton & Wraysbury and the ward of Datchet combine and is covered by 3 ward councillors rather than 4. This is Horton's preferred option. The disadvantage of cutting Ward Councillors is that the remaining ones will have greater responsibilities and will have to put in more work. This will limit the number and variety of people who are prepared to stand (most will have to be wealthy or retired). Already Colin receives about 50 emails a week and this is likely to increase to about 75 (based on currently representing about 3000 voters and about 4500 under the new boundaries).

PARISH GRAVEYARD: Cllr Rayner is talking to Vicar Gibson and to Andy Scott at Cemex. Eton Wick were recently refused planning permission to extend their graveyard and this may be taken into account when Horton applies.

HORTON PARISH COUNCIL: Cllr Rayner expressed concern that the Borough, and Government legislation are placing a heavy administrative burden on the Parish council, particularly with regards to compliance issues. He finished

	<p>by telling the attendees that Horton benefits from have a very strong Parish Council</p> <p>Cllr Crame was invited to give a report on the Neighbourhood Plan: The plan has been submitted to RBWM and is awaiting review. It seems possible that the delay is to get the Borough Plan passed first, but the BP inspector has asked a number of pertinent questions and it may be that changes have to be made to the BP, and this may further delay the approval of the NP.</p>
#05	<p>To receive an update regarding the Parish Charities: Due to misinformation from the Charities Commission the village charity got unregistered. The clerk and RFO were in the process of getting it re-registered but the Parish Council voted instead for the money to be used for the good of the village – specifically to improve Champney Hall, so the money (£658.15) was given to the Champney Hall Management Committee</p> <p>To receive the provisional Champney Hall Accounts*: Stuart Inger presented the Champney Hall Accounts. Rental income was very similar to last year (just under £10000) plus income from a grant from Windsor Lions for phone and broadband (£1000) and the £658 mentioned above from Horton Parish charity accounts. Expenditure was higher than last year (around £17500 opposed to £8500) but this included resurfacing the car park and improving the building’s fire and security requirements. The balance stands at about £30500.</p> <p>To receive the provisional Parish Council Accounts*: In summary the account opened with around £29000, saw income of £41000 and expenditure of £24500 resulting in a balance of £45692.</p> <p>(*Both sets of accounts are in the process of being prepared for audit. Copies of both sets of accounts are available from the Parish Council Clerk)</p>
#06	<p>To receive suggestions for village amenities that could be considered for listing as Parish Assets: The clerk explained that the Parish Council have been looking into this. All the properties of historical interest (as recorded in the Neighbourhood Plan) were put forward, but the clerk has researched this matter and has found that only properties that currently (or in the recent past) have furthered the social well-being or social interests (cultural, recreational, or sporting interest) of the local community can be considered. This means that properties of historical interest such as the old school house, or Ashgood Farm house do not qualify: possibly only the two pubs and the church do. Champney Hall was suggested as a suitable property.</p>
#07	<p>To receive, for discussion, any matters that electors registered in the parish of Horton may wish to raise</p> <p>100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WW1: It was asked if the village will be commemorating this event. Carolyn Wheeler to ask the vicar if the church will host a village event. Residents to be asked if they have any memorabilia or information suitable.</p> <p>ROYAL WEDDINGS: It was suggested the Parish write to both couples congratulating them.</p> <p>DAMAGE TO MEMORIAL GREEN: It was asked if we knew anything about what caused the damage. No witnesses have come forward. RBWM have tidied the site and are looking to repair once they find replacement posts.</p>

**The Chair thanked everyone for coming.
The meeting closed at 8:15pm**