

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Sonning Parish Council held in the Pavilion, Pound Lane, Sonning, on Tuesday 12 September 2017 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT. Mr A E Farnese (Chairman), Mrs P Pownall, Mr I Runnalls. Mrs L A Bates (Clerk). 3 Visitors.

9093: APOLOGIES/WELCOME TO VISITORS. Apologies were received from Mrs Jacobs (partner unwell) and Mr Morrison (away). The Chairman welcomed all those present.

9094: DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no Declarations.

9095: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The Minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

9096: CASUAL VACANCY.

Mr Jamie Green from Pound Lane had shown an interest and would attend the October meeting to introduce himself, Mrs Fielder would also attend the October meeting.

9097: WAYS TO DISTINGUISH SPC FROM SPCC.

Following distribution of the Newsletter it had become clear that some residents were confused and thought that SPC and SPCC were one and the same. It was agreed to put clarification in the next newsletter. In the meantime Mr Runnalls would draft an explanation for the website.

9098: CORRESPONDENCE

Ice Cream Sales. This had been successful and no complaints had been received. Katy Drogemuller would like to donate £75 towards a charity of the Council's choice or to a Council project. Following discussion it was agreed to suggest that the £75 should be used to refurbish one of the seats on the Wharf.

Floods in Thames Street. Mrs Dyson had spoken to the Clerk in July about the flooding in Thames Street due to the torrential rain on 18 July and had followed this up with an email. Rainwater and sewage several feet deep had flowed along Thames Street and flooded into some properties, several manholes had been lifted making the route hazardous for pedestrians and vehicles. Sewage had flooded into the stream at the rear of Thames Street and gardens had been full of sewage and debris the following morning. Whilst the rain had been torrential much of the problem had resulted from the archaic sewers and failure to clear the drains on a regular basis and WBC had been informed of these failures.

Northern Parishes Meeting 20 September 7.45pm. The Chairman and Mr Fisher would attend this after the planning meeting scheduled for the same evening.

SLTC Floodlights and Site Drainage. The Chairman would speak to the SLTC Chairman.

Sports Awards 24 November Bulmershe. Mrs Pownall would check to see if any talented youngster would be prepared to have their name put forward.

Greenfords Invitation to Chairman. The Chairman was unable to accept the invitation and the Clerk would respond accordingly.

9099: PLANNING.

Report. Mr Runnalls said that Keepers Cottage had been approved very protective conditions including no cutting through existing timbers. WBC had decided that there was no need for listed building consent to change the Church Gates but a planning application was required.

9099: PLANNING (Cont'd).

The following applications were on going: Reading Blue Coat School Sonning Lane (152342-F/2014/2319) split decision: Holme Park Farm House, Holme Park Farm Lane (153218): Pavilion Holme Park (170964): August Field (170894): The Lawns Old Bath Road (171424): Hope Cottage 11 Pound Lane (171651): RBCS (171780).

The following applications had been approved: Keepers Cottage (171785 & 171786): St. Andrews Church (171841). 48 Pound Lane (171974): Bishops Close & North Lodge (172145): Readingensans (170580): 2 South Drive (170989): Holme Park Farm House (171247): 47 Old Bath Road (171631). 3 High Street (171733).

The following applications had been refused. No applications had been refused.

The following applications had been withdrawn. The Atrium (171293);

The following new applications had been received. 27 Glebe Lane (172380). Householder application for proposed erection of two storey rear extension and demolition of existing garage: 20 Glebe Lane (172347). Householder application for the conversion of loft space to habitable accommodation with rear dormer extension to dwelling and new gable end. 12a South Drive (172579). Full application for the proposed erection of 4no bedroom detached dwelling following demolition and removal of existing dwelling: The Old House (172189). Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey rear extension to dwelling: Acrefield (172583). Full application for the proposed erection of 3no dwellings following demolition of existing dwelling and detached garage: The Bungalow, Sonning Lane (172569). Householder application for the proposed erection of dropped curb: The Atrium Thames Street (172637). Full application for the proposed erection of replacement dwelling with basement and detached double garage and store following demolition of existing dwelling: Appeal Great House Car Park (APP/X0360/W/17/3179871). Full application for proposed 18 space extension to existing 'lower' car park.

10000: QUESTIONS FOR BOROUGH COUNCILLOR.

In the absence of Cllr Haines there were no questions

10001: PARISHIONER QUESTIONS.

Ms Kuipers said that the flooding in July had badly affected her property, which was at the bottom of the High Street, three of her rooms and the basement were flooded. Ms Kuipers had met the WBC flood manager who said that WBC experts were looking into the problem but had agreed that the drains were had not been cleared. Ms Kuipers said that pressure should be put on WBC to produce a report on the drains/sewage problems. Mr Grecian said that his ground floor was completely flooded and had still not dried out after two months and he was making a £35,000 insurance claim. There was a dip in the road outside his property but the main problem was that the drains were full and not cleared regularly. Mr Doyle drew the Council's attention to Cllr. Angus Ross who had said at a meeting with SPC on 13 December 2016 that drainage was very important to WBC. There were seven drains in Thames Street, several outside his house and all were full. The Chairman said that SPC had tried to put pressure on WBC in the past, with little result, perhaps SPC could pay for the drains to be cleared but this would be a further burden on the community via their council tax. Mr Doyle has spoken to Eddie Napper (WBC) earlier in the year and had been told that WBC would be digging up Thames Street in March 2017 to resolve the drainage problems. Mr Doyle had spoken to Francesca Hobson, Flood Risk Manager WBC, but it appeared that she had not spoken to Mr Napper and didn't realise that the drains in Sonning were broken. The Chairman said that a petition from Thames Street and High Street was likely to get WBC's attention. The Chairman said that he would speak to Cllr Ross, Ms Kuipers and Mr Grecian would organise a Thames Street/High Street petition. Ms Kuipers would also chase Ed Day regarding a meeting and ask to see the experts report.

10001: PARISHIONER QUESTIONS (Cont'd)

Mr Doyle asked about the Bridge lights, Mr Fisher apologised for the delay and he and the Chairman would deal with this.

Ms Kuipers asked about the parking in High Street and Sonning Lane. Why couldn't parking be restricted to vehicles dropping off or picking up? The Chairman said that the RBCS Head Teacher had said that he had no control over student parking but was looking into using the Rugby Club car park. WBC would take over responsibility for parking in the Borough in October and had suggested a four hour parking limit but this would take 18 months to implement. However WBC said that the parking did reduce speeding.

Mr Doyle asked about the planters in Liguge Way. The Chairman said that the Parish Council were looking to move the existing bus shelter, which would block access from Pound Lane.

Ms Kuipers said that vehicles delivering to the Bull were damaging her roof and the 'No Entry' sign had been pushed into her house and she would be meeting a representative to discuss this. Several large delivery vehicles used the road to the Bull.

10002: FINANCE.

- a) Report. The Clerk had prepared a report which was noted.
- b) Donation to ME2 Club. Mrs Pownall said that this seemed a worthwhile cause and proposed making a one off £50 donation, Mr Fisher seconded and this was unanimously approved.
- c) Payment of Accounts. Mrs Pownall proposed and Mr Fisher seconded making the following payments for July and August and these were unanimously approved.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AUGUST '17 (1 TO 31 JULY)

Date	Chq	Name	Service item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee	Sub-Comm.
11/07/17	400	Pest UK	Rats Ann. Subs	182.40	30.40	152.00	ENVIRON	Allotments
11/07/17	402	L A Bates	SLCC Subs	139.00	0.00	139.00	ADMIN	Subscriptions
11/07/17	402	L A Bates	Minute Binder	70.79	11.80	58.99	ADMIN	Stationary
11/07/17	403	BALC	Annual Subs	429.36	71.56	357.80	ADMIN	Subscription
11/07/17	404	Purco Print	Newsletters	65.00	0.00	65.00	ADMIN	Printing
11/07/17	405	Hen Land	Main mowing	490.00	0.00	490.00	RECREATION	Main mowing
11/07/17	406	ISS	Dog Bins	156.00	26.00	130.00	ENVIRON	Dog Bins
11/07/17	407	SSE	St. Light mtnce	808.33	134.72	673.61	HIGHWAYS	Light M'tnce
11/07/17	407	SSE	St. Light Repairs	354.68	59.11	295.57	HIGHWAYS	Light Repairs
11/07/17	408	Son Lands	Mow Playground x 2	60.00	0.00	60.00	RECREATION	Play mowing
11/07/17	408	Son. Lands	Mow Wharf x 2	56.00	0.00	56.00	ENVIRON	Wharf Mow
11/07/17	408	Son Land	Pound Lane hedge	60.00	0.00	60.00	RECREATION	Hedges
11/07/17	408	Son Land	Allotment hedge	120.00	0.00	120.00	ENVIRON	Allot hedge
11/07/17	DD	SSE	St. Light Energy	474.36	22.58	451.78	HIGH & LIGHT	Light Energy
26/07/17	410	T Fisher	Mower petrol	6.00	0.00	6.00	RECREATION	M'tnce
26/07/17	411	Son Lands	Mow Playground	60.00	0.00	60.00	RECREATION	Hedges
26/07/17	411	Son Lands	Mow wharf	28.00	0.00	28.00	ENVIRON	Wharf mow
26/07/17	411	Son Lands	Rec Hedge	110.00	0.00	110.00	RECREATION	Rec Hedge
26/07/17	412	Hen Lands	Main mowing	245.00	0.00	245.00	RECREATION	Main Mowing
26/07/17	413	ISS	Dog Bins	156.00	26.00	130.00	ENVIRON	Dog Bins
26/07/17	414	L A Bates	Honorarium. Less tax	2580.50	0.00	2580.50	CLERK	Clerks Salary
26/07/17	415	Inland Rev.	Tax	169.50	0.00	169.50	CLERK	Tax
26/07/17	415	Inland Rev.	NIC	98.04	0.00	98.04	CLERK	NIC
			Total	6918.96	382.17	6536.79		

10002: FINANCE (Cont'd).

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS SEPTEMBER '17 (1 TO 31 AUGUST)

Date	Chq	Name	Service item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee	Sub-Comm.
01/08/17	416	Henley Lands	Mowing Main	245.00	0.00	245.00	RECREATION	Main Mowing
24/08/17	417	Henley Lands	Mowing Main	245.00	0.00	245.00	RECREATION	Main Mowing
24/08/17	418	Total-play	Practice Nets (part)	1650.00	275.00	1375.00	RECREATION.	Practice Nets
24/08/17	419	Berks Sports	Cont. to Lane repairs	200.00	00.00	200.00	ADMIN	Misc.
24/08/17	421	P J Doyle	Skate Park Sign	108.00	0.00	108.00	RECREATION	Misc
			Total	2448.00	275.00	2173.00		

10003: HIGHWAYS.

Mr Fisher said that there was still gravel everywhere following the flood in July.

Withdrawal of School Crossing Patrol. Mr Fisher said that he had spoken to Claire Borsberry-Lewis, the Sonning School contact, who said that WBC would not pay for an improved crossing. Claire was to meet Cllr Chris Bowring. Mr Horton had said that some small changes might be made such as new signs, anti-skid surface and possibly new lights. Separately Mr Fisher said that some council's had borrowed the police speed indicators. The police had stopped speeding drives and the children were allowed to question them about their speeding.

Speed Indicator. Mr Fisher said that in the six week's up to 8 September the maximum speed had been down to 58mph. This was over the school holidays, which might account for the reduction. The percentile was down by 1% on average, however 75% of traffic was over the 20mph limit. The WBC vehicle count was higher than the SPC count of 3156. Mr Fisher had sent the information to the police who had thanked him and would keep it on file. Mr Fisher suggested leaving the speed indicator in Pound Lane for a further few weeks and then considering other sites. Mr Fisher had attended the NAG meeting and had been told that the 20mph zone was self-policing.

Speed/Lorry Watch. Mr Fisher had a small team of volunteers, unfortunately Mr Peters no longer had his original information but had asked about the availability of the information collected by the ANPR cameras. It hadn't been at the time but Mr Peters thought it could be and that the police would write to offenders. Mr Fisher would contact Shaun Murphy to check.

Sonning Lane Parking. Mr Fisher would chase Mr Horton about the proposed parking suggestions.

Removal of Road Humps. Mr Fisher had spoken to Mrs Plant and she would be speaking directly to Mr Horton. Mrs Plant had agreed to cut back the overhanging greenery from her garden, which was reducing light from the street light.

10004: RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT W.G.

- a) Safety Checks. Mr Farnese had inspected the play equipment. The Clerk would chase Proludic about the quote for the walkways. .
- b) New Pavilion. Mrs Pownall said that Mark Roach had sent the contact details for the person who would manage the funding. The Chairman said that a decision on whether to proceed with the planning application would be held over until October when there would be more Councillors to make a decision.
- c) SCC Practice nets. Mr Phillips had been asked to put a sign up and what would be happening to the nets over the winter.
- d) Summer Camp. Mrs Pownall said that this had been a, none event, but the organiser was now aware that he had to consult SPC if he intended to arrange a 'camp' in 2018.
- e) Improvements to Approach Road to KGV Field. Mr Farnese was proposing to take down the existing bus shelter and to purchase a new one to be installed across the access. A path through the spinney would give access to the car park. Mr Runnalls suggested reusing the existing shelter.
- f) SLTC Lighting. The Chairman would discuss this with Mr Barker.

10004: RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT W.G. (Cont'd)

- g) Horse Chestnut Trees. The trees were affected by a moth and it had been suggested that the leaves should be cleared up regularly and burnt to prevent further infection. The Clerk would ask Mr Beckinsale for a quote.
- h) Repairs to Field and Pitch Use. The adult football pitch had been compromised by the roots of adjoin trees, WBC would not allow the roots to be cut back and the problem was likely to increase as the trees grew in size. There were other problems with overuse of some parts of the field and football infringing on the cricket areas. Following discussion it was agreed to allow the adult pitch to be used until the end of the 2017/18 football season but to discontinue using it after that.

Mrs Pownall said that the new school gates were controlled by a fob and would check if CFC would be given a key so they could continue to use the school car park.

10005: TECHNICAL SERVICES.

Safety Checks. Mr Farnese had carried out the safety checks on the Wharf.

Lighting Upgrade. Mr Fisher said that West Drive were happy for SPC to own and maintain their lights but understood that replacing lights in West Drive was their responsibility. The Clerk would send an official order for the 9 conservation street lights and 4 basic street lights plus the 6 heritage street lights for West Drive.

Hedge trimming Pound Lane. No update.

10006: ACTION LIST.

The Action List was reviewed and updated.

10007: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 10 October at 7.00pm.

Signed..... Dated.....