

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Sonning Parish Council held in the Pavilion, Pound Lane, Sonning, on Tuesday 13 March 2018 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT. Mr A E Farnese (Chairman), Mr T Fisher, Mrs J Fielder, Mr J Green, Mr P Morrison, Mrs P Pownall. By invitation Sara Allman (WBC Highways) 2 Visitors.
Mrs L A Bates (Clerk).

10093: APOLOGIES/WELCOME TO VISITORS. There were no apologies. The Chairman welcomed Ms Allman who had kindly agreed to attend the meeting to explain WBC's proposals for Sonning Lane and also to discuss the issues along Pound Lane. This was not on the agenda but would be taken immediately after confirmation of the Minutes of the last meeting.

10094: DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no Declarations.

10095: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

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

10096: WBC HIGHWAYS ISSUES.

MS Allman thanked Councillors for inviting her and said that she had looked at the proposals for Sonning Lane that Michael Horton had prepared and had discussed some amendments with highways officers. These included double yellow (Conservation Area) lines near the junction of Sonning Lane and Pearson Road, and near Holme Park Lane. There would be two sets of parking sections to avoid a long stretch of cars waiting to overtake parked cars. Parking to pick up or drop off in Sonning Lane was legal and was permitted. Obviously the parking spaces closest to RBCS would be taken up first and pupils would then need to take advantage of the parking spaces at Berkshire Sports Club, which RBCS had arranged. Highways had looked at time limited bays verses parking spaces for 28 vehicles and allowing other unlimited parking. The second option would allow for better policing/enforcement. It was hoped to have the plan ready for this spring after being officially checked. The scheme could then be advertised and if there were no objections the scheme could go to the first available WBC Executive meeting. Assuming that the Executive approved the scheme a TRO could be put together. Everything would have to be checked before publication as this was a legal procedure. There would then be 21 days in which people could object. Publishing a scheme would cost £800 and two were required for each TRO, so in order to save costs TRO's were published in batches and if one TRO failed all TRO's in the same batch had to go back to WBC. Some objections could be over ruled for safety reasons.

Regarding the Pound Lane Zebra Crossing, this was still under consideration. There had been a complaint about the speed hump in Pound Lane and it might be possible to replace this with other traffic calming measures, such a chicanes or buildouts providing there was enough support from residents. Mr Fisher said that he had to agree that the speed hump was noisy. Ms Allman said that there were ways of making it less noisy but some calming measures were not as attractive as others. The possibility of diverting traffic to Sonning Lane and extending the 20mph zone in Pound Lane to the junction with the A4 to limit the traffic around Sonning Primary School were all ideas that WBC might consider. This would require 30mph signs at the junctions with Glebe Lane and Little Glebe unless these roads were also classified at 20mph zones. In order to have this additional area classified as a 20mph zone the majority of residents would need to be in favour. As WBC did not currently have resources to gather residents views Councillors offered to carry this out and it was agreed to form a working group to make arrangements. Ms Allman said that if insufficient residents supported the ideas WBC would not proceed. Ms Allman also stressed that these ideas were only under consideration at this point and funding might not be forthcoming. The

10096: WBC HIGHWAYS ISSUES.

Chairman said that the main problem was parking associated with the school and the field. With such huge volumes of traffic travelling along Pound Lane parking exacerbated the problem. Mr Morrison said that the speed indicator outside the school had shown one vehicle travelling along Pound Lane at 70mph on a Thursday morning at 11.20am. High speeds had been detected previously but these were usually late at night or early morning. Mr Green said that on road parking in Pound Lane did reduce the speed of vehicles as did queuing during peak periods. Chicanes might reduce speeding but would not stop it. Mr Fisher agreed to send the data from the speed indicator to Ms Allman. Mr Fisher also said that the police would monitor speed in a 30mph zone but would only monitor it in a 20mph zone on an infrequent basis and only if an offence occurred regularly at the same time and location. The Chairman asked Ms Allman what SPC should do next. Ms Allman said that resident should be consulted about removing the speed hump in Pound Lane first, if a majority were in favour then other traffic calming measures would be considered and consulted on. Residents should then be consulted on the idea of extending the 20mph back to the A4 roundabout, including Glebe Lane and Little Glebe. Ms Allman said however that WBC's current priority was the parking in Sonning Lane. The Chairman thanked Ms Allman for her very interesting ideas and said Councillors looked forward to receiving final details of the Sonning Lane proposals. Ms Allman said that they now had a new engineer who was excellent and he could look at the data provided by Mr Fisher and might potentially do any work on Pound Lane if it went ahead.

10097: CORRESPONDENCE

Presentation on New Waste and Recycling Arrangements. Irum Gulzar had offered to attend a meeting with updated information. Ms Gulzar had visited SPC in the last 2 years and it was agreed that a further visit was not currently necessary.

Greener and Cleaner Campaign Meeting 16 April. This would take place between 10am and 12pm, probably at Smallmead. The Chairman and Mrs Fielder would attend.

Memorial Banners 11/11/18. Wokingham Town Council wanted to repeat the Exhibition held at their offices to mark WW1 in November 2014. As before the Chairman of each Council taking part would be invited to the opening of the exhibition and it would be open to the public between 5th and 8th of November. Wokingham TC would collect and return the Sonning Banners in time for the Remembrance weekend. It was agreed to accept the invitation.

CFC Request to Use KGV Field. CFC had confirmed that they would not play on the outfield after 24 March. They had however asked if they could mark out a small pitch at the far end of the field in order to play 2 or 3 more fixtures which had been postponed due to the poor weather conditions. SCC had no objections and, following discussion it was agreed to permit this.

Pavilion Funding. It had been agreed to meet Mr Driver to discuss progress but he had now said that until there was clear feedback from Mrs Pownall on her enquiries with The Lord Taverners and the Chairman's approach to the Fire Brigade Trust there was no need for a meeting. Mr Driver would send an update on the Lottery bid by email in early April. If there was any update by 10 April Mr Driver would attend the meeting for a quick update.

Butts Hill Bridge. This would be closed during August and September 2018.

National Health Service – Determination of Reading as per NHS Pharmaceutical Regulations. Reading was being determined under NHS regulations for the purpose of pharmaceutical services as it had not been determined for in the last 5 years.

10098: PLANNING.

Report. A new application had been received for August Field after it had been discovered that a pair of semi-detached dwellings were being erected rather than the single dwelling approved on the scheme being built. The Chairman and Mr Fisher would deal with this application.

Planning application. St Andrews Office Thames Street (180442). Full planning application for the erection of electrically operated replacement Oak gates. This was on the agenda as there were insufficient numbers of Councillors available to attend the planning meeting scheduled for Wednesday 21 March. There were some concerns about the chosen design of the proposed gates as photographs of better examples had been provided by the company. However the gates were Oak rather than metal as shown on the previous application and following discussion it was agreed to say that SPC could find no reason to object.

The following applications were on going: Hope Cottage 11 Pound Lane (171651): The Great House (172697): The Bull Inn (180265): Pilgrims, Thames Street (180263): Neaps End 15 Old Bath Road (18363).

The following applications had been approved: 7 Glebe Lane (173552): Lawn Cottage Mustard Lane (173689).

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

The following applications had been withdrawn. None.

The following new applications had been received. Pool Court (180445). Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey detached to create garage and ancillary accommodation: The Bull Inn (180264). Full application for the proposed erection of a replacement kitchen extract fan and associated equipment following removal of existing: The Bull Inn (180266). Full application for the proposed construction of a front pergola; revised layout of the rear beer garden; relocation of existing bar; construction of a new disabled toilet plus erection of a new fence to the rear of the garden. The Bull Inn (180267). Listed Building consent application for the proposed construction of a front pergola; revised layout of the rear beer garden; relocation of existing bar; construction of a new disabled toilet plus erection of a new fence to the rear of the garden. St Andrews Office Thames Street (180442). Full planning application for the erection of electrically operated replacement Oak gates: August Field (180623). Full application for the erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings with associated access and parking (retrospective)
The following Appeals were ongoing: Sonning Golf Club Appeal (APP/X0360/W/17/3167142). Outline application for the erection of 13 dwellings with associated highways work, public open space and landscaping. Approval sought for access.

10099: QUESTIONS FOR BOROUGH COUNCILLOR.

In the absence of Cllr Haines there were no questions.

10100: PARISHIONER QUESTIONS.

There were no questions.

10101: FINANCE.

- a) Report. The Clerk had prepared a report which was noted.
- b) Payment of Accounts. Mr Morrison proposed making the following payments, Mr Fisher seconded and these were approved unanimously.

10101: FINANCE (Con't).

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS MARCH '18 (1 TO 28 FEBRUARY)

Date	Chq	Name	Service item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee	Sub-Comm.
16/02/18	461	ISS	Dog Bins	156.00	26.00	130.00	ENVIRON	Dog Bins
16/02/18	462	Anderson Orr	Plans/survey/app	3602.50	440.00	3162.50	SPORTS	New Pavilion.
16/02/18	463	L A Bates	Honorarium less tax	2580.30	0.00	2580.30	CLERK	Honorarium
16/02/18	463	L A Bates	Telephone	40.00	0.00	40.00	ADMIN	Print/post/tel.
16/02/18	464	Sonning Land	Allotment hedge	100.00	0.00	100.00	ENVIRON	Allot. hedge
16/02/18	464	Sonning Land	Rec. hedge	50.00	0.00	50.00	REC	Repairs
16/02/18	465	Sonning School	Part mark rounder pitch	50.00	0.00	50.00	ADMIN	Misc.
16/02/18	466	Henley Land	Cut Pond Hedge	112.50	0.00	112.50	POND	Pond
21/02/18	467	Inland Rev	Tax	169.50	0.00	169.50	CLERK	Tax
21/02/18	467	Inland Rev	NIC	98.04	0.00	98.04	CLERK	NIC
			Total	6958.84	466.00	6492.84		

10102: HIGHWAYS.

School Crossing Patrol. Mr Fisher added that Mr Goulding had said that there was no hope for a patroller but there was some hope for a light controlled crossing.

Speed Indicator. Mr Fisher said that a vehicle had been logged speeding through the 20mph zone at 70mph at 11.20am. This was the highest recorded offence and was during the morning rather than at night or first thing in the morning, when previous offences had been logged. Mr Fisher had reported this at the NAG meeting but the police had said that they were sorry but they did not police 20mph zones.

Speed/Lorry Watch. Mr Fisher reported that he had now been vetted but had not received the decision yet. Once confirmed he would be able to undergo training on the use of the hand held speed machine and would be able to view the data from the ANPR cameras on the Bridge. Mr Green said that he was ready to take part in the Speed/Lorry Watch once the formalities had been completed.

Sonning Lane Parking. This had been covered under item 10096.

Purchase of Speed Indicator. Mr Fisher said that there were several options, including a smiley face and different power options. The battery operated version would cost £3130 and the solar version £3650. Mr Fisher proposed spending up to £3650 the Chairman seconded and this was unanimously approved.

10103: RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT W.G.

- a) Safety Checks. Mr Farnese said that the equipment needed to be tidied up, Mr Fisher and Mr Green would assist him. Mrs Pownall was to check the exercise machines.
- b) Pavilion. Mrs Pownall said that Mr Driver had agreed to apply to the Big Lottery Fund and she was approaching the Lord Taverners. The Chairman said that the Fire Brigade Trust wanted firm plans before they would consider an application for funding. Their next meeting would be in June. The Clerk would put the SPC contribution on the April agenda for discussion/agreement.
- c) SLTC Improvements. The contractor would check out the disabled access to the tennis courts when he was on site on the 14 February.
- d) Pitch Use. Mrs Pownall said that CFC had agreed the layout drafted by James Travers and it was agreed that this should form part of the CFC Licence from September 2018. Mrs Pownall said that she understood that the football fees in Twyford were much higher than SPC were charging. For four teams of four the annual charge was £3000 per annum. This could be broken down as £23 per game for the full size pitch, £18 per game for the four a side team and £15

10103: RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT W.G.

e) per game for the small pitch. The Chairman said that CFC should be congratulated on the appearance of the pavilion.

Mr Green said that with the lighter evenings he had noticed an increase in the number of vehicles in the car park late at night. The Chairman said that it might be necessary to lock the gates at 10.00pm and Mr Green agreed to monitor the situation. If the gates were locked at night they would need to open by 7.30am in the mornings.

10104: TECHNICAL SERVICES.

Safety Checks. The Chairman had carried out the safety checks on the Wharf.

Path through Pound. Mr Driver had offered to sow the wildflowers in the autumn when other work would be undertaken.

Lighting Upgrade. Mr Fisher said that Volker's were doing an excellent job of replacing the lighting. The shields had not been attached to those lights where requested and he would chase this up. Mr Fisher agreed to check out a suitable light to illuminate the defibrillator next to beech Lodge.

Wharf Gate. The contractor had quoted £1080 to produce and install two custom built gates and posts between the Wharf and the towpath, he would also clear the site of ivy old gates and other materials, prior to installation and remove the old gates, posts, etc. and safely dispose, leaving the site in a tidy condition on completion. The Chairman proposed accepting the quote, Mr Morrison seconded and this was unanimously approved.

Quote for SLTC Disabled Footpath at Tennis Courts. Delta Force had submitted a quote to remove the overhanging branches and erect a new fence for £1120 and £5450 plus VAT to put in a base and install a new 1.5 metre path around the courts. The Clerk would copy the quote to the SLTC Chairman. The Chairman said that the contractor had said that to install a surface for a car park would cost in the region of £45,000.

Litter Pick 25 March. Mrs Fielder said that she and Mrs Pownall would set up at the pavilion for 10.00am. Posters were now in the School, the Coppa Club and the Bull Inn. The Chairman offered to put additional posters up around the Parish. Mrs Fielder had also emailed members of Neighbourhood Watch and the secretary of the Society. Waitrose had given £20 towards tea, milk and coffee, the Bull would supply biscuits and the Coppa Club would provide two platters of food. Mrs Fielder had produced a list of routes and had ordered plastic bags (clear and black) yellow tabards and litter pickers, which WBC would supply and deliver. The rubbish that had been collected would be picked up by WBC at 3.00pm on the 25th.

10105: NEWSLETTER.

Mrs Pownall said that she would be able to complete the draft on Thursday and then email to the printers on Friday. The Newsletters should then be delivered back on Friday evening.

10106: WW1 TRIBUTE 11/11/18.

The Chairman had spoken to Mr Geater about the British Legion getting involved and he had confirmed his interest.

10107: POLICE AND SECURITY.

Mr Fisher said that he had attended the NAG meeting and it had been reported that a number of dogs were being stolen locally. Burglary was up in Twyford and Woodley but vehicle theft in the area was down. Drugs and antisocial behaviour was a problem in Twyford. Wargrave had similar problems due to parking by sports clubs, to Sonning. There had been break in's in West Drive. Wargrave had offered to assist Sonning in getting a light controlled crossing in Pound Lane. Twyford and Hurst were producing Neighbourhood Plans. The next meeting would be on 21 April. Christine Seal (WPCSO) was leaving and a new PCSO had been appointed.

10108: WEB SITE.

This was going well. Mr Morrison said that the Clerk was unsure if the Scarecrow event should be included in the monthly electronic circular to residents, which was an update on Council business. Following discussion it was agreed to include this as all the money raised was put back into the community.

10109: ACTION LIST.

This was reviewed and updated.

10110: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

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

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