

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SONNING PARISH COUNCIL  
PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 6 OCTOBER 2014 AT  
7.00PM IN THE PAVILION, POUND LANE, SONNING.**

PRESENT: Pat Doyle (Chairman), Mr A E Farnese, Ian Runnalls. Lesley Bates (Clerk)  
1 Visitor.

APOLOGIES: There were no apologies

**AGENDA**

- a) Present.
- b) Apologies for Absence
- c) Declaration of Interest
- d) Minutes of 17 September 2014 to approve
- e) Updates.
- f) Cotswold Hawthorn Way (F/2014/1971) Erection of rear single storey extension and side dormer extension to dwelling. To agree comments. Deadline 06/10/14
- g) The Sharrow Parkway Drive (F/2014/2063) Erection of single storey rear extension. To agree any comments. Deadline 16/10/14
- h) St. Andrews Church (NMT/2014/2083) Non-material amendment to planning consent F/2014/0049 to allow the reduction of one pair of double doors to single door to north elevation, replacement of window with external door to west elevation and glazing bars to roof lights on south (hidden) elevation.. To agree comments.
- i) Local Flood Strategy. To consider comments. Deadline 31 October
- j) Conservation Area Assessment a) Update.
- k) Any matters considered urgent by the Chairman.
- l) Date of the Next Meeting.

1351. DECLARATION OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS.

There were no declarations of Interest.

1352. MINUTES OF 17 SEPTEMBER.

The Minutes, having been previously circulated were taken as read and signed by the Chairman

1353. UPDATES.

The Chairman said that building control had asked for most of the changes that had resulted in removal of the existing walls at the Fire Station. Sir Oscar De Ville had contacted the Chairman about the size of the garage being built on the adjoining property. Building control would check that the garage complied with the planning permission, if it did little could be done. The Chairman had attended the Traffic WG meeting at Shinfield and Matt Davey had made a presentation on how to run forums. A Shinfield Councillor had questioned how, with 3,200 new houses being built in Shinfield, and several hundred more in the surrounding areas, the resulting increase in vehicles was going to be managed. Mr Davey had said that WBC had carried out traffic modelling, which had proved that this would not be a problem. Councillors doubted this as 2.4 cars per household was becoming the norm. The Chairman had spoken to Mr Reilly who had confirmed that the infrastructure could not cope with existing levels of traffic. RBC were proposing to build 6,000 new houses and more were proposed for surrounding areas. Mr Farnese said that there had been an accident on the Henley Road but the emergency vehicle couldn't get through Sonning and the Bridge had

1353. UPDATES (Cont'd).

been closed. The Chairman said Lafarge had permission to extend the gravel extraction along the Henley Road and Henley were proposing to pedestrianize the Town, there was no joined up thinking. Mr Farnese said that the Major Project meetings were an opportunity for utility and other operators to speak to each other but it was clear that plans were made independently. The Chairman said that here was no update in the flag application at the Fire Station.

1354. COTSWOLD BATH ROAD (F/2014/1971)

Mr Farnese said that the new owners were renovating the inside but this did not require planning permission. The application was to extend the existing side dormer window, which was not a problem, and for a single storey rear extension to a semi-detached dwelling. The rear extension was very close to the boundary, leaving no space for maintenance. Following discussion it was agreed to object to the proposal on the grounds that it did not comply with the separation distance required in the WBC Design Guide section 4.

1355. THE SHARROW PARKWAY DRIVE (F/2014/2063)

Following discussion it was agreed to say no comment.

1356. ST ANDREWS CHURCH (NMT/2014/2083)

Following discussion it was agreed to say no comment.

1357. LOCAL FLOOD STATEGY

The Chairman said there had been little flooding in Sonning itself but it would be worth making comments about the blocked gullies and overgrown ditches. WBC were building new culverts in Shinfield to manage the floodwater. Mr Farnese said Sonning's rainwater problems were due to the lack of maintenance over the years, gullies were no longer cleaned regularly the ditch system had been allowed to grow over causing flash flooding at the Sonning Lane/Pearson Road junction. The Chairman said that he understood from the Lock Keeper that the Thames was kept artificially high due to a medieval Royal Charter. The Chairman agreed to put draft comments together and it was agreed to put copy of the Council's comments on the website.

1358. SONNING CONSERVATION AREA ASESSMENT.

The Chairman said that the changes to the draft, proposed by Mr Thorpe, had been agreed with Mr Hart (S&SE Society). It was agreed that the Chairman should ask Mr Thorpe to provide a quote for entering the proposed changed into the document.

1359 MATTERS CONSIDERED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN.

The Chairman said that a pantehnicon had arrived in Thames Street to remove a resident's furniture, but finding nowhere to park had driven down to the farm cottages in Charvil Lane. Two transit vans had then ferried the furniture to the pantehnicon ready to drive it to Newbury. The following day another pantehnicon arrived and had the same problem but there was no space at the farm cottages and he had returned to his depot. In both cases the drivers had arrived at the bridge, and finding the weight restriction had turned into the Vicarage drive causing huge traffic jams. Mr Runnalls said that a vehicle had damaged the roof to the Pearson Road bus shelter. The Chairman wold ask Mr Hicks to replace the tiles.

1360 DATE OF THE OF THE NEXT MEETING. The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 3 October at 7.00pm.

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