

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Sonning Parish Council held in the Pavilion, Pound Lane, Sonning, on Tuesday 13 September 2016 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT. Mr A E Farnese (Chairman), Mr S Evans, Mr T Fisher, Mrs S Jacobs, Mrs P Pownall.  
Mrs L A Bates (Clerk). 1 Visitor.

8903: APOLOGIES/WELCOME TO VISITORS. Apologies were received from Mr P Morrison, (holiday) and Mr I Runnalls (indisposed). The Chairman welcomed all those present particularly Inspector Alastair Lloyd.

8904: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

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

8905: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of Interest.

8906: INSPECTOR ALASTAIR LLOYD.

Inspector Lloyd said that he was the Neighbourhood Inspector and responsible for the local area and he headed up the Neighbourhood Policing Team. Their aim was to work in partnership with residents to identify and address local concerns. Inspector Lloyd said that he had joined the police in 2012 and had begun in Reading, working on drugs. He had then been posted to Newbury and had then promoted to the Wokingham Response Team, finally moving to Neighbourhood policing. Wokingham and Bracknell had merged a couple of years previously, one of the advantages was that they had a larger stronger team of officers and it remained part of the Thames Valley Police. The local police station was still in Twyford so the change had not effected Sonning. Problem solving was an important part of the initiative and Inspector Lloyd preferred to work with partners (the local community, parish councils etc.) in order to find out where the demand for police presence was rather than having policemen on the beat. This would be a better use of resources and produce results, thus building community resilience. No Cold calling zones were a vital and important element and Inspector Lloyd congratulated Sonning in achieving this status. Inspector Lloyd would always be prepared to visit communities to discuss concerns with residents and would like to be invited to do this. The Thames Alert System played an important part in working with communities but he would like it to be more focussed on each area and less general than it currently was. Inspector Lloyd would also like the police to have a higher profile with residents through information on social media and parish web sites. This way residents knew who they should contact. Traffic speed was an area of concern to most communities and the police were working on ways of reducing this, including school visits to impress on students the importance of keeping to the speed limit. Children were very good at passing information onto their parents and once aware would make better drivers in the future. However, if there was no reduction in speeding, then enforcement and mobile speed signs would have to be introduced.

Inspector Lloyd said that the police were trying to raise funds for community speed watch but each mobile speed camera would cost between £2500 and £3500. If every parish council contributed £300 this would pay for another mobile speed camera. The police were also looking for volunteers. Mr Evans said that it was very timely to mention mobile speed signs as Sonning were currently in the process of researching their own possibilities. One was to purchase a SID unit. Large vehicles were a particular problem, as was parking. The Chairman said that the numbers of children attending Sonning School had increased substantially and were now up to 210. The numbers of parents driving to school had also increased adding to the traffic problems. Cones had been put up in Pound Lane to deter on-road parking and this had some effect. Inspector Lloyd said that WBC

#### 8906: INSPECTOR ALASTAIR LLOYD (Cont'd).

were in the process of taking over responsibility for parking offenses, however if an accident was involved the police would deal with the matter. The Chairman said that the on-street parking by pupils of RBCC in Sonning Lane was an ongoing concern. Inspector Lloyd said that this should be raised with the school but it was explained that talks had taken place but, as there were no parking restrictions parents would not support a limit on parking. Inspector Lloyd said that if there was a particular problem to let him know and he agreed to send some information about Community Policing for publishing on the web site and for SPC to keep in touch with him. The Chairman thanked Inspector Lloyd who took his leave at 7.45 pm.

#### 8907: CASUAL VACANCY.

This was ongoing. The Chairman agreed to produce another letter to residents highlighting the vacancies.

#### 8908: CORRESPONDENCE

Wokingham Volunteer Centre Fair. This would take place on 8 October at the Bradbury Centre, Rose Street in Wokingham.

Angus Ross. Mr Ross had offered to attend a parish meeting to provide information on his new responsibility, Environment, which covered flooding, drainage, waste collection, recycling, open spaces, rights of way etc. It also included developing other partnerships, including parish councils. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask Mr Ross to attend the October or November meeting.

Community Infrastructure Delivery. This would take place at the WBC offices on 17 October between 5. And 7 pm. The Chairman would attend.

Sustainable Drainage Delivery. WBC had launched a consultation on its review of this strategy over the summer. The deadline for responses was 16 September.

Local Plan Update. WBC would publish a list of land availability options for the Borough on 21 September. This would be for information only at this stage and being on the list did not mean the proposed sites were suitable, available or able to be delivered.

Air Quality Management. WBC had instructed Peter Brett and associate to undertake a detailed assessment of air quality in the Shute End area of Wokingham and High Street Twyford. These areas had been identified as having 'measured exceedances of the annual mean objective'. The areas had been identified as 'narrow, congested streets with residential properties close to the road'. It was agreed that this described Sonning High Street, which had no air quality monitoring at all. Councilors' said that traffic pollution during peak periods was identifiable by the smell.

Willow Sonning Eye. Mr Woodward, Chairman of Eye and Dunsden PC had asked if the Clerk had any information about the willow tree that had been felled in the garden next to the Bridge, which was on the Oxfordshire side and in the Sonning Eye Conservation Area. The Eye and Dunsden PC should have been informed if a CA application had been submitted so he was assuming that no permission had been granted. The Chairman said that he understood that the tree had been diseased and felled as it was dangerous.

#### 8909: PLANNING.

Report. The Chairman said that the planning committee had met the previous week and discussed application 162138 Old Well Court and agreed to say that the Council could find no reason to object. The following application had been approved, Sonning Church of England Primary School (161037, 43 West Drive (161755) and 75 Pound Lane (162047). Mr Fisher said that Mr Runnalls had offered to hand over the planning documents while he was indisposed. The Chairman said that he would be happy to take care of the planning documents.

## 8909: 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): Greendown (160641): 31 Old Bath Road (160624): Sonning Golf Club (161529): Holmelea, Sonning Lane (161591): 20 Old Bath Road (161638): Microsoft Campus Thames Valley Park (161733): Land adjacent to Model Farm Cottages (161565): 42 Old Bath Road (161887) Reading Blue Coat School (161860) F/2014/2319.

**The following applications had been approved:** Sonning Church of England Primary School (161037): 43 West Drive (161755): 75 Pound Lane (162047).

**The following applications had been refused.** There were no refusals.

**The following new applications had been received.** Chestnut House Mustard Lane (161970). Prior approval of the erection of a single storey extension to form a conservatory, which would extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 6m, for which the maximum height would be 4m and the height of the eaves would be 2.25m: Fairlawn Thames Street (162015). Erection of a 1no detached dwelling with integral double garage, following demolition of existing double garage and creation of new access to existing bungalow: The Great House (161871). Changes to fenestration in the main house and Coach House; pitched roofs over South East, North East and North West elevations plus forming a terrace at the first floor of the main house: The Great House (161872). Listed Building consent for the proposed changes to fenestration in the main house and Coach House; pitched roofs over South East, North East and North West elevations plus forming a terrace at the first floor of the main house: 75 Pound Lane (162047). Certificate of lawfulness for the proposed erection of a single storey side extension to dwelling: 3 Old Well Court Thames Street (162138). Erection of replacement single storey rear extension to dwelling following demolition of existing single storey rear extension: 16 Glebe Lane (162493). Erection of a single storey front extension and to include a canopy for the front porch.

## 8910: CONSERVATION AREA ASSESSMENT.

The WBC Executive had approved the draft CAA for consultation, possibly starting in October. Revisions had been made to the document without consulting SPC and the changes had only been copied to Mr Hart after he had asked to see them. Mr Hart was dismayed by the changes, some of which seemed to be items that could be interpreted as critical of WBC's past planning decisions, and was suggesting a joint meeting with, or a letter to, WBC. Following discussion it was agreed that Mr Hart should draft a joint letter to WBC, copied to SPC for approval.

## 8911: QUESTIONS FOR BOROUGH COUNCILLOR.

In the absence of Cllr Haines there were no question

## 8912: PARISHIONER QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

## 8913: FINANCE.

- a) Report. The Clerk had prepared a report and it was noted.
- b) Payment of Accounts (August and September 2016). Mr Fisher proposed making the following payments, Mrs Pownall seconded and these were unanimously approved.

8913: FINANCE (Con't).

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AUG '16 (1 TO 31 JULY)

Payments								
Date	Chq. No.	Name	Service item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee Headings	Sub-Committee
18 July 16	100301	SSE	St. Light M'tnce	718.56	119.76	598.80	LIGHTING	Lighting M'tnce.
18 July 16	100302	BALC	Ann. Subs	396.08	66.01	330.67	ADMIN	Admin Subs
18 July 16	100303	Henley Lands	Mow Main	490.00	0.00	245.00	RECREATION	Rec Mowing
18 July 16	100303	Henley lands	Mow Outfield x 2	130.00	00.00	130.00	RECREATION	Sports Mowing
18 July 16	100304	ISS	Dog Bins	104.00	17.33	86.67	AMENITIES	Environ Dog Bins
20 July 16	100305	Son. Lands	Mow Wharf	56.00	0.00	56.00	ENVIRO	Wharf. Mowing
20 July 16	100305	Son. Lands	Mow Playground	56.00	0.00	56.00	RECREATION	Rec. Mowing
20 July 16	100305	Son. Lands	Car park fence	280.00	0.00	280.00	RECREATION	Rec. M'tnce
20 July 16	100305	Son. Lands	Car park hand rail	180.00	0.00	180.00	RECREATION	Rec. M'tnce.
20 July 16	100305	Son. Lands	Car park trees	130.00	0.00	130.00	RECREATION	Rec Trees
20 July 16	100306	Son. School	Photocopying	60.00	0.00	60.00	ADMIN	Admin Subs
			<b>Months Total</b>	<b>2600.64</b>	<b>203.10</b>	<b>2153.14</b>		

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS SEPT '16 (1 TO 31 AUG)

Payments								
Date	Chq. No.	Name	Service item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee Headings	Sub-Committee
1 Aug 16	100307	Henley Lands	Mowing main	245.00	0.00	245.00	RECREATION	Rec Mowing
1 Aug 16	100307	Henley Lands	Mow Outfield	65.00	0.00	330.00	RECREATION	Rec. Mowing
1 Aug 16	100308	ISS	Dog Bins	104.00	17.33	86.67	AMENITIES	Amen. Dog Binds
15 Aug 16	100309	K Trimmings	Litter	150.00	00.00	150.00	HIGHWAYS	Highways Litter
15 Aug 16	100311	L A Bates	Honorarium	2697.50	00.00	2697.50	CLERK	Clerk salary
15 Aug 16	100311	L A Bates	Telephone	40.00	0.00	40.00	ADMIN	Admin Telephone
15 Aug 16	100312	Inland Rev.	Tax & NIC	390.06	0.00	390.06	CLERK	Clerk Salary
15 Aug 16	100313	Henley Lands	Mowing main	490.00	0.00	490.00	RECREATION	Rec Mowing
15 Aug 16	100313	Henley Lands	Mow outfield	65.00	0.00	65.00	SPORTS	Sports Mowing
			<b>Months Total</b>	<b>4246.56</b>	<b>17.33</b>	<b>4494.23</b>		

8914: HIGHWAYS.

Mr Evans said that he had sent an update following his meeting with Tony Mansfield (Hurst PC), together with Mr Fisher and Mr Morrison. This showed that Hurst had a four point strategy on speeding. They would respond to residents' requests and complaints about speeding including a communication methodology to the residents and to Wokingham Council. They would identify roads that required speed signs and restrictions and implement them, including listing roads that require speed reductions. They would randomly monitor all road through the parish utilizing their black box speed recording device. They would interface with the police and produce speed reports on the parish and communicate the needs for speed enforcement. Mr Mansfield had very generously offered to run a one off pilot in any road in Sonning using Hurst's black box speed recorder over 7-10 days. This would require authorization from Wokingham as to positioning and to be covered by SPC's insurance. He did ask for assistance in installation and in taking down the black box recorder. Mr Mansfield would then be able to provide an analysis and prints of the recording for SPC. Obvious roads for monitoring were Pound Lane (as most pedestrian crossings took place in Pound Lane) and Sonning Lane.

Since meeting Mr Mansfield, Mr Evans had contacted Westcotec, suppliers of vehicle activated signs, and provided them with a specification. They didn't recommend putting a speed limit in as this could act as a challenge to some motorists, but suggested demountable signs that could be

#### 8914: HIGHWAYS (Cont'd).

moved to different locations. Mr Evans agreed to send an email to everyone with details of all the various products and designs. Not all of the products had the facility for measuring the length of vehicles and prices varied between £2000 and £3000. Westcotec had generously offered to install a sign on a temporary basis possibly at Sonning Bridge. Battery operated signs would need recharging every 2 -3 weeks. The Chairman proposed that everyone should consider the data that, Mr Evans would provide in his email, ready to make a decision at the November meeting. Mr Evans would also write to the Fire Brigade Trust with a request for funding.

#### 8915: RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT W.G.

- a) Mrs Pownall said that she and the Clerk had met Mark Roach, who dealt with applications for sports funding at WBC, regarding funding for the pavilion. Mr Roach had recommended that SPC employed a project manager as they had the skills to guide the parish council through the whole process, which could be complicated. He had also provided the name of a contact who had a lot of experience and could usually cover her own costs. It would be necessary to have planning permission before applying for funding and Mr Roach suggested that other users should be consulted on the design as different sports had different needs. The Chairman said that any decisions should be made by SPC and the process would need to be led by them. The Chairman said that he would like to arrange another meeting with all the clubs and interested parties, he and Mrs Pownall would draw up a list.
- b) Safety Checks. Mrs Pownall would check the equipment and Mr Pownall would attend to the damaged concrete on the skate park. The Clerk said that Wicksteed had carried out the repairs to the swings.
- c) Water Drain-Off Work. Mr Beckinsale had said that he could begin installation at the end of September.
- d) Quotes for the Playground. Proludic had provided an alternative quote at £6,118 for a new swing and walkways and £1755 for a new safety surface under an adjoining piece of equipment.
- e) Wharf Works. The Chairman said that weeds had grown up around the sensor for the Bridge lights. Mrs Jacobs agreed to remove them.
- f) Pavilion Door. Another attempted break in had occurred overnight on 6 September, just three weeks after the new, replacement doors, had been installed. One door had been damaged so badly that the locking system no longer worked and an emergency locksmith had to be called in before anyone could access the pavilion. Mrs Pownall agreed to look at different security options and would visit Maplins for advice. The Clerk had asked Alpha for a quote for a replacement for the damaged door.

#### 8916: TECHNICAL SERVICES.

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

Lighting Upgrade. The Chairman said that the new lighting was a success and provided an even spread of light. Mr Fisher suggested the following locations for heritage lights in Pound Lane, outside Olde Tudor Place, outside 22 Pound Lane (this would need an arm extension), opposite 11 Pound Lane.

Quote for Posts. The Chairman said that he had seen some suitable planters, which would cost £30 each. He proposed purchasing three at a cost of £90 (plus plants and compost), Mr Fisher seconded and this was unanimously approved.

Allotments. The Chairman said that no replies had been received from allotment holders about the suggestion to remove the compost heap and he proposed that no further action be taken. Mrs Jacobs said that brambles were overgrowing the allotment path. The Chairman would ask Mr Tinson to cut these back.

8917: WEB SITE.

The Clerk would ask Inspector Lloyd for an article for the web site.

8918: ACTION LIST.

The Action List was reviewed and updated.

It was agreed to issue details about the CAA consultation in the next newsletter. All copy to be sent to the Chairman.

It was agreed to send a card the Rt. Hon. Theresa May on the occasion of her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and to also congratulate her on becoming Prime Minister.

8919: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 11 October 2016 at 7.00pm.

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