

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

PRESENT. Mr A E Farnese (Chairman), Mrs J Fielder, Mr T Fisher, Mr J Green, Mrs P Pownall, Mr I Runnalls. Mrs L A Bates (Clerk), 1 Visitor (Cllr Paul Etherington WBC and Woodley).

10043: APOLOGIES/WELCOME TO VISITORS. Apologies were received from Mrs Jacobs and Mr Morrison (previous engagement). The Chairman welcomed all those present.

10044: DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no Declarations.

10045: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

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

10046: NEW COUNCILLORS PORTFOLIOS.

The Clerk had circulated a list of existing Councillors portfolios. Following discussion Mrs Fielder agreed to join the Technical Services team, with special interest in litter and the annual litter pick, and Police and Security. Mr Green agreed to join the Highways Working Group.

10047: CORRESPONDENCE

Local Plan Update. Cllr. Lee had chased the Clerk about attending a Council meeting in order to provide an update on the Local Plan. The planning meeting on 17 January had been a suggestion and this was eagerly agreed.

Wokingham District Veteran Tree Association. Alison Griffin had circulated a press release about the Veteran Tree Association 10 year Anniversary Report and had asked if it could be published on the website and had also asked for volunteers to carry out surveys in Sonning. Councillors unanimously agreed that the Report to go on the website. Mr Fisher had volunteered to undertake surveys and Cllr Etherington said that he had also volunteered.

Remenham Application for Neighbourhood Area Designation. WBC were undertaking a Consultation on the application and the deadline for comments was 12 January 2018.

Request for RBCS to use Cricket Practise nets. Gary Phillips had asked if boys from the school could use the nets, three afternoons (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday) a week between 2.00pm and 3.30pm, starting in early May until the end of term on 6 July. There would be no more than 15 children (these numbers would trail off during exams) and they would be supervised at all times and James Travers would also be in attendance. SCC were keen to accommodate RBCS because they had allowed SCC juniors to practice on their grounds and introduced them to adult cricket by allowing them to play for the club's 3rd team on the school's 1st XI ground. They had also loaned the use of expensive machinery enabling SCC to provide an excellent cricket square and seed/fertilizer at a much cheaper price.

Request for 1 Day Cricket Event 25 June. RBCS would be running a 1 day event for 7 local teams, plus 1 team from the school and 1 colt team from SCC. The organiser's would like to use KGV Field for 2 of the games. As well as the RBCS Director of Cricket there would be independent umpires and James Travers in attendance. There would be no parking implications as the boys would walk over from the school and neither of the activities would clash with SPC meetings. Following discussion it was decided to agree to both requests on the proviso that SCC advertise both activities well in advance so that residents were aware. If the activities were to become regular events SPC would take a view in the light of any such request.

#### 10048: PLANNING.

Report. Mr Runnalls said that the 20 Glebe Lane (172347) had been withdrawn. Ranmore (172701) had been approved: St. Andrews Church (172756) had been refused. A new application had been received for Pool Court, which was under new ownership. The development at August Field was going ahead and work had started. It was agreed to move the scheduled planning meeting from 20 December to 18 December.

Cllr Haines said that he had been approached by a resident, who was keen to have parking permits in the High Street and he had advised her to get a consensus from other High Street residents. If the majority were supportive then it could be submitted to WBC to carry out a consultation.

**The following applications were on going:** Reading Blue Coat School Sonning Lane (152342-F/2014/2319) split decision: The Lawns Old Bath Road (171424): Hope Cottage 11 Pound Lane (171651): 6 Hawthorn Way (172715): The Great House (172697): The Bungalow, Sonning Lane (172569).

**The following applications had been approved:** See above.

**The following applications had been refused.** See above.

**The following applications had not been proceeded with.** None.

**The following new applications had been received.** Pool Court (173369). Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey side and rear extensions, erection of outbuilding, plus reposition of existing tennis court and western boundary: The Malthouse (173418). Listed building consent for the proposed replacement of existing kitchen doors and frame with a higher sill and replacement of existing lounge doors for a window: North Lodge (173465). Application for Listed Building Consent for the replacement of windows and surrounds, new boiler flue installation, repairing small features to match existing: South Lodge (173442). Application to vary condition 2 of planning consent F/2014/183 (140734) for the erection of two storey side, rear and front extension to dwelling, following demolition of existing conservatory. Condition 2 relates to approved details: The Rockery High Street (173639) Application for submission of details to comply with the following conditions of planning consent 160761 and 161355 (Dated 02/06/2016 and 06/07/2016) 1. Timescale 3. External Materials 6. Ecology Mitigation Strategy.

#### 10049: QUESTIONS FOR BOROUGH COUNCILLOR.

Mr Fisher asked about progress on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thames Bridge as it was understood that SODC were supportive of the idea. Cllr Haines said that they were warming to the idea. Talks were now centred on an old proposal for a route from T V Park to the Henley Road, likely to be two lanes plus a bus lane. Cost were likely to be in the region of £100M but OXON CC would have to be taken on as they still opposed the idea. The idea had been first mooted in 1915. Mrs Fielder asked if the pollution from vehicles in Sonning could be taken into account but Cllr Haines said it was much worse around Shute End in Wokingham. The Local Enterprise Partnership were supportive of a bridge and local businesses might put up some funding. Reading had been identified as the place most likely to grow in the next 20 years. Mrs Fielder said that she had used to new electric train to London and it was very clean and quick. Cllr Etherington said that work on the Butts Hill Bridge would seem to have proved that a footbridge could be built over the Butts Hill Bridge

#### 10050: PARISHIONER QUESTIONS.

There were no questions.

## 10051: FINANCE.

- a) Payment of Accounts. Mr Fisher proposed making the following payments, Mr Runnalls seconded and these were approved unanimously.

### PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS NOVEMBER '17 (1 TO 30 NOVEMBER)

Date	Chq	Name	Service item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee	Sub-Comm.
16/11/17	440	SSE	St Light Mtnce	37.54	1.79	35.75	HIGHWAYS/ LIGHT	Light M'tnce
16/11/17	440	SSE	St Light Repairs.	808.33	134.72	673.61	HIGHWAYS/LIGHT	Light Repairs
16/11/17	441	Henley Land	Mow Field x 3	735.00	0.0	735.00	RECREATION	Main Mow
16/11/17	441	Henley Land	H Chestnut leaves x 2	387.50	0.00	387.50	RECREATION	Tree Care
16/11/17	442	PHMC	Office rent	221.00	0.00	221.00	ADMIN	Rent
17/11/17	443	ISS	Dog Bins	156.00	26.00	130.00	ENVIRONMENT	Dog Bins
17/11/17	444	A E Farnese	Gate Keys	33.15	0.00	33.15	RECREATION	Mtnce Boundary
17/11/17	445	Mrs R Hulley	Litter 6 full 2 half month	1050.00	0.00	1050.00	HIGHWAYS	Litter
17/11/17	446	R J Heat	Urinal Repair etc.	225.00	0.00	225.00	SPORTS	Pavilion
			<b>Total</b>	<b>3653.52</b>	<b>162.51</b>	<b>3491.01</b>		

- b) Report and Budget. The Clerk had prepared a report which was noted. The report also included the proposed 2018/19 budget figures. Following discussion it was agreed not to make any changes to the proposed expenditure, an increase in photocopying might be required to allow for printing off the planning applications now that WBC no longer provided copies. An increase in the proposed fee to the CFC from £650 to £800 per season was also agreed. The Clerk would revise the budget ready for approval at the January meeting. The Precept could then be agreed ready to send to WBC by the deadline, 2 February.
- c) CIL Annual Report. The Clerk had prepared a CIL report for the period ending 31 March 2017, which would need to be published on the SPC website and also to be sent to WBC. Following discussion the Chairman proposed accepting the report, Mr Fisher seconded and this was unanimously accepted.

## 10052: HIGHWAYS.

School Crossing Patrol. Mr Fisher said that he had mentioned to Sara Allman (who had taken over from Mike Horton as Senior Traffic Management Engineer at WBC) that Cllr Bowring had said that WBC were considering changing the crossing to a light controlled one. Ms Allman had suggested that he spoke to Tim Allan who was dealing with such schemes and Mr Allen had directed Mr Fisher to Matthew Gould, Service Manager Transport and Road Safety, regarding the possibility of reinstating the School Crossing Patroller. Mr Gould had replied that WBC were unable to reinstate SCP's and that child safety was the responsibility of the parents, he did however offer road safety training and activities to the school. Mr Fisher was proposing the send a deputation to Mr Allen in support of the light controlled crossing. Cllr Haines said that it was a matter of financing but did offer to help if he could. The Chairman said this was a special case on a very dangerous road and that WBC should be telling SPC how to ensure that a light controlled crossing was installed, if there were an accident WBC would be in serious trouble for ignoring the requests. There were now 210 children attending the school.

Speed Indicator. Mr Fisher had said that the last download had shown a vehicle driving at 55 mph, down from the previous download figure of 60 mph. Cllr Haines said that some drivers tried to go as fast as they could. Mr Green had seen a speed indicator outside Twyford and Cllr Haines said that there was also on in Shinfield, which had a smiley face.

Speed/Lorry Watch. Mr Fisher said that the police had been to see him about being vetted. It could be another eight weeks before this could be carried out but once completed the Lorry Watch could be set up. There were two or three volunteers already and they would record the offending vehicle and the details would then be sent to Loddon Valley police Station. The police would then write to

#### 10052: HIGHWAYS (Con't).

the driver, several offenses would result in police action. Cllr Haines said that offending in another area would be counted against the offender. Mr Fisher said that data on the ANPR cameras could be used but had to be assessed by the police, once set up letters would be sent to offenders automatically.

Sonning Lane Parking. Mr Fisher said that he would be attending a meeting at RBCS on 15 December at 10.30pm. Members of the Society would also attend as would Sara Allman.

#### 10053: RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT W.G.

- a) Safety Checks. Mr Farnese had inspected the play equipment.
- b) New Pavilion. Mrs Pownall said that Mr Anderson had completed the plans and was ready to submit them. It was agreed to submit the plans and SPC would refund Mr Anderson the fee.
- c) SLTC Improvements. No update.
- d) Playground Quote. It was agreed that the Clerk would inform Proludic that this could go ahead in the spring.
- e) Improvements to Approach Road to KGV Field. The Clerk would arrange a meeting with the contractor at 10.00am on Monday 18 December.
- f) Pitch Use 2018/19. This was ongoing.
- g) Main Gate Opening. It was agreed to continue to close the gates and review the situation in the summer. Mr Green said that there had been one or two noisy disturbances but the number of occasions when this happened were no so noticeable.
- h) Scout Trailer in Compound. Mr Fisher said that the trailer was 15ft long and, having checked out the space available, it was not feasible to store it in the compound. It was out of the way outside Beech Lodge and could remain here for the foreseeable future but other possibilities were being explored.

#### 10054: TECHNICAL SERVICES.

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

Lighting Upgrade. Mr Fisher said that the number of remaining lights to be converted to LED was 28, some were heritage style and some were brackets so converting them to LED would result in a saving. The cost per unit was £70 per unit. The Chairman proposed spending up to £3000 to convert the 28 lights to LED, Mrs Pownall seconded and this was unanimously approved.

Pound Lane Hedge. This had been cut.

Wharf Gate. Mrs Pownall would ask her contact to get in touch with the Chairman about this.

Allotment hedge. This was ongoing.

Wharf Tree. A tree had been blown down following a recent gale and Mr Collier had been on hand to deal with it, following permission from WBC. A replacement tree would be needed and it was agreed that a flowering cherry would be an attractive option.

#### 10055: NEWSLETTER.

It was agreed to produce the next edition in the New Year. All copy to be with Mrs Pownall by 20 December so it could go to the printers ready for distribution to Councillors on 9 January ready for delivery.

10056: POLICE AND SECURITY.

Mr Fisher said that he had been unable to attend the last meeting.

10057: WEB SITE.

This was going well.

10058: ACTION LIST.

The Action List was reviewed and updated.

10059: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 9 January at 7.00pm. Mrs Fielder offered her apologies as she would be on holiday.

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