

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Sonning Parish Council held in the Pavilion, Pound Lane, Sonning, on Tuesday 10 July 2018 at 6.00pm.

PRESENT. Mr A E Farnese (Chairman), Mrs J Fielder, Mr J Green, Mr P Morrison, Mrs P Pownall.  
1 Visitor. Mrs L A Bates (Clerk).

10167: APOLOGIES/WELCOME TO VISITORS. Apologies were received from Mr Fisher (holiday).  
The Chairman welcomed all those present.

10168: DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no Declarations.

10169: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

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

10170: POTENTIAL COUNCILLORS.

Mrs Joanna Harvey was in attendance and was introduced by Mr Green, who had known Mrs Harvey for some years, as a neighbour in Pound Lane. Mrs Harvey said that she had been in Sonning for 14 years and had three children at local schools and was a member of the PTA. She ran her own design business and wished to offer her help in the parish. The Chairman said that Mrs Harvey was welcome to stay on for the meeting and he hoped this would allow her to decide if she would like to join the Council. The Clerk would also send some information so that Mrs Harvey could see what was involved.

10171: CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman of Eye and Dunsden Parish Council. Mr Woodward had emailed to express his concern about plans to build large numbers of new houses in Playhatch. He believed that this would have implications for both Sonning and Eye and Dunsden.

Request for A4 Pedestrian Crossing. This was discussed and everyone understood that hazards but Wokingham might feel that the proximity of the crossing on west side of the A4 roundabout was sufficient. The Clerk would find out the correct procedure for making a request.

Dog Fouling KGV Field. A member of Sonning Cricket Club had reported an increase in dog fouling on the field and had observed that an employee of a company offering a Dog Walking Service was often seen walking six dogs on the field. These animals were not on leads and it was impossible for the employee to observe the behaviour of all six dogs at the same time. The Clerk would ask for the details of the vehicle that SCC had. Mr Green said that the behaviour of an Alsatian was becoming a concern amongst other dog walkers. The animal was not kept on a lead, was uncontrollable and was aggressive and intimidating to other dogs and their walkers. He had contacted the Dog Warden who required the name of the animal, photographic proof of the behaviour of the dog including any fouling. The owner appeared between 9.15am and 9.45am most weekday mornings.

Request for Meeting. An email request for a meeting between the Chairman and the management of the Great House had been received in regard to the planning application for car parking at Cedar Cottage. Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should reply to say that Councillors felt that the proposed level of parking would compromise the Cedar Tree and lead to its loss. That Councillors felt the needs of a business could not be compared with the loss of such a beautiful residential garden. To recognise the efforts the management had made to find a solution to the parking problems generated by the business but felt that any benefits would be short term and the

## 10171: CORRESPONDENCE (Cont'd)

parking problems would soon return. In conclusion that SPC had already made their comments based on the plan submitted to WBC and could see no reason to change these.

Incident at Sonning School. An elderly woman had fallen on the path from the playground but no details were available.

Thames Water – Proposed Lock and Key for Gate. Thames Water had suggested putting their own lock on the Wharf gate so that their engineers had access at all times. It was agreed to allow this and to monitor the situation to see if any problems occurred.

Sonning Quarry. The company had informed SPC that they had submitted plans to extend their current workings along the Reading Road towards Henley as part of the Oxon CC call for sites.

Sonning Bridge. A company had advised that a major new facility was being built near the old power station in Didcot and needed fibre optic connection between Didcot and Slough. As there were limited options for crossing the river, Sonning Bridge being one, they were looking at the feasibility of installing a cable within the bridge. They asked if SPC issued permits to carry out such works and if there were any utilities installed within the Bridge. The Clerk would reply to say that SPC did not issue permits and pointing out the condition of the Bridge, its listing status, the vehicular restrictions and the joint ownership.

Proposed Use of the Ark. An article in the Parish magazine advertising a twice monthly lunch for 60 older people. This was double the number and occasions that had been previously mentioned. It was agreed to keep an eye on the situation.

## 10172: PLANNING.

Report. The Chairman said that the applications at 20 Glebe Lane (181095), 21 Glebe Lane (181156), and 6 Hawthorn Way (180937) had been approved. The Chairman said that the neighbour was very concerned and was taking advice. Cllr Haines said that the only option open to the neighbour was a judicial review, which was very expensive and would need to prove that there had been an administrative error.

**The following applications were on going:** The Great House (172697): Pool Court (180445): Pool Court (180445): August Field (180623). 22 Pound Lane (180090). The Atrium (180770): 16 Sonning Meadows (180876): The Atrium (180857): August Field (81082): 67 Pound Lane (180965): The Great House (181058): Cedar Cottage Thames Street (181196): Wheildon Parkway Drive (181264): Nutshell 4 Thames Terrace (181298): Home Park Farm House (181161).

**The following applications had been approved:** 20 Glebe Lane (181095), 21 Glebe Lane (181156), and 6 Hawthorn Way (180937)

**The following applications had been withdrawn.** No applications.

**The following new applications had been received.** 34 West Drive (181271). Householder application for proposed first floor side extension. 16/07/18: 4 Seagrave Close (181776). Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey rear extension to dwelling. 25/07/19: York Cottage Parson Road (181800). Householder application for the proposed erection of part single storey side, part two storey side/rear to dwelling including a rear dormer. 25/07/18: York Cottage (181801). Householder application for the proposed erection of a single storey timber summer house and garden store in the rear garden. 26/07/18: Pool Court (181850). Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey detached to create garage and ancillary accommodation. 01/08/18: Fairlawn Thames Street (181869). Application for a non-material amendment to planning consent 162015 ( 21/09/2016 ) to allow changes to garage footprint and door, removal of roof lights, additional window at rear, change window to door at side elevation, front door and window to be moved to front elevation. Not consulted.

## 10173: QUESTIONS FOR BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

The Chairman asked if Cllr Haines was aware of the proposal to build in Playhatch but he had not heard so far. Cllr Haines said that he now understood that there was only one site in Sonning under consideration by WBC, behind Glebe Gardens/Little Glebe. Of the 250 sites put forward some had been dismissed as unsuitable but there was a lot of work to do on the remaining sites. The Chairman asked about the suggestion for a crossing on the A4 to allow access from the Hawthorn Way area to the Sunrise area. Cllr Haines said that there would need to be a lot of consultation and the Police would need to be involved, finally there would be the cost. Cllr Haines said that it was possible to put such schemes forward to WBC on their website. However the A4 was a green route and there was a crossing within a short distance of the proposal.

## 10174: PARISHIONER QUESTIONS.

There were no questions.

## 10175: FINANCE.

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

### PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS JULY '18 (1 TO 30 JUNE)

| Date     | Chq | Name         | Service item        | Gross          | VAT          | Net            | Committee  | Sub-Comm.                |
|----------|-----|--------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|------------|--------------------------|
| 12/06/18 | 509 | CAS          | Insurance premiums  | 2152.78        | 0.00         | 2152.78        | ADMIN      | Ann.Insurance            |
| 12/06/18 | 510 | Son Land     | Mow Playground x2   | 60.00          | 0.00         | 60.00          | RECREATION | Play Mowing.             |
| 12/06/18 | 510 | Son Land     | Mow Wharf x2        | 56.00          | 0.00         | 56.00          | ENVIRON    | Mow Wharf                |
| 12/06/18 | 510 | Son Land     | Cut Pound Hedge     | 60.00          | 0.00         | 60.00          | ENVIRON    | Pound Hedge              |
| 12/06/18 | 511 | Henley Land  | Mow main x2         | 505.00         | 0.00         | 505.00         | RECREATION | Main Mowing              |
| 12/06/18 | 512 | ZEN          | Domain name         | 59.40          | 9.90         | 49.50          | ADMIN      | Internet                 |
| 12/06/18 | 512 | TV Licence   | TV Licence          | 150.50         | 0.00         | 150.50         | SPORT      | Other TV                 |
| 12/06/18 | 513 | A E Farnese  | AGM Refreshments    | 29.23          | 0.00         | 29.23          | ADMIN      | Misc.                    |
| 12/06/18 | 514 | BALC         | GDPR Training       | 51.60          | 8.60         | 43.00          | ADMIN      | Training                 |
| 12/06/18 | 515 | Pest UK      | Rats ½ year Fee     | 200.64         | 33.44        | 167.20         | ENVIRON    | Rat Control              |
| 29/06/18 | 516 | Henley Land  | Mowing main         | 252.50         | 0.00         | 252.50         | RECREATION | Main Mowing              |
| 29/06/18 | 517 | Castle Water | Allotments          | 8.00           | 0.00         | 8.00           | ENVIRON    | Allot. Water             |
| 29/06/18 | 517 | Castle Water | Rec. Water          | 18.24          | 0.00         | 18.24          | SPORT      | Sports others            |
| 29/06/18 | 517 | Castle Water | Pav. Water          | 9.82           | 0.00         | 9.82           | SPORT      | Pav. Utilities           |
| 29/06/18 | 518 | L A Bates    | Honorarium less Tax | 2636.50        | 0.00         | 2636.50        | CLERK      | Hon less tax             |
| 29/06/18 | 518 | L A Bates    | Telephone           | 40.00          | 0.00         | 40.00          | ADMIN      | Tel/post.<br>Stationary. |
|          |     |              | <b>Total</b>        | <b>6290.21</b> | <b>51.94</b> | <b>6238.27</b> |            |                          |

- c) New Signatory. Mr Fisher had his identity certified at Barclays in Woodley and returned to forms as requested.

## 10176: HIGHWAYS.

School Crossing Patrol. This could be affected by the results of the Pound Lane Survey.

Speed Indicator. The new smiley face speed indicator had been installed and some positive feedback had been received. The new machine was connected to the mains and had Bluetooth so data was

## 10176: HIGHWAYS (Cont'd).

downloadable to an android device. There was a need to decide where to position the (older) Mini-SID (suggested places - Pound Lane (south of A4), Sonning Lane (near junction with A4 / outside RBCS), Thames Street but a suitable post for mounting was required. The latest download from the older machine showed 55mph at 8.30pm on a Saturday and over 6500 vehicles/weekday (southbound only).

Speed/Lorry Watch. Mr Fisher had attended an on-the-job training session in Crowthorne. An email group had been set up for vetted speed-watch volunteers. When a few more had been trained they would be able to go out on road with the speed-watch machine. Mr Fisher was waiting to hear from Sgt Mark Smith about disseminating ANPR data from bridge for HGV's.

Pound Lane Survey. There had been a good response so far and a decision would need to be taken on when to send the results to Sara Allman.

## 10177: RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT W.G.

- a) Safety Checks. Mrs Pownall said that the exercise machines had been checked.
- b) Pavilion/ Joint Sports Meeting. Mrs Pownall said that an estimate of costs should be obtained before meeting with the sports clubs and before discussing the grant applications with Mr Driver. There were grant available from the football association for up to £500,000.
- c) Seat by Skate Park. This was on order.
- d) Beech Lodge Licence. Mr Morrison would check the three previous licences/drafts and come up with a definitive version.
- e) ROSPA Report. The recommended works would be carried out over the summer.
- f) Recreation Path. Mrs Pownall would check this out and ask the School if they would support some restriction on perking in Liguge Way.
- g) Parkway Drive Hedge. This was ongoing.

## 10178: TECHNICAL SERVICES.

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

Lighting Upgrade. Mr Fisher was part way through the check on the new lights. Several had scratches (light in Liguge Way had already been mentioned). The thinking was that the damage has been caused during installation. Possibly SPC should ask the installers (Volker) to attend to repairs. The Parish Council owned 59 street lights including 6 in West Drive. 12 were replaced in 2016/17 and 19 were replaced in 2017/18. There were now 28 older SON/SOX lights and 31 new, LED lights including 6 in West Drive and SPC would now pay less for both the energy and the maintenance for the new lights.

Allotments. The Chairman would check all the allotments with a view to writing to all allotment holders.

Litter Sonning Lane. Mrs Fielder said that Sonning Lane was very bad. Mrs Fielder proposed asking for volunteers to try to reduce this and would put an article in the Parish Magazine.

## 10179: WW1 TRIBUTE.

The Chairman said that he had researched beacons and had found a suitable one for £25, a pole would be an additional cost. Mrs Fielder would draw up an agenda to ensure everything was covered.

10180: POLICE AND SECURITY.

Mr Fisher had attended the NAG meeting at the Piggott School on 21st June. Attempts were being made to keep the Wargrave Fire Station open and they might need SPC support. Speeding & fly tipping remained a big problem in area. Several vans had been broken into in the area and tools stolen. The Chairman said that suspicions had been raised about activity in the car park and the police had been contacted. Mr Green would keep a look out.

10181: NEWSLETTER.

The Chairman said that he would be producing a Chairman's Letter and asked if anyone wished to contribute anything.

10182: WEB SITE.

This continued to work well.

10183: ACTION LIST.

This was reviewed and updated.

10184: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 11 September at 7.00pm

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