

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Sonning Parish Council held in the Pavilion, Pound Lane, Sonning, on Tuesday 9 October 2018 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT. Mr A E Farnese (Chairman), Mr T Fisher, M J Green (part time), Mrs J Harvey, Mrs J Fielder, Mr P Morrison, Mrs P Pownall. 2 Visitors. Mrs L A Bates (Clerk).

10207: APOLOGIES/WELCOME TO VISITORS. Apologies were received from Mrs J Harvey (away), Mr J Green (holiday), Mr P Morrison, (holiday).
The Chairman welcomed all those present.

10208: DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

Mr Fisher said that he would have an interest if Beech Lodge was to be discussed.

10209: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

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

10210: PARISHIONERS QUESTIONS.

As the visitors wished to discuss the current problem of an out of control dog on KGV Field the Chairman brought this item forward.

The Chairman said that he and the Council understood the problem and were concerned. The Dog Warden had been called in and more recently the police had been approached. The Clerk had copied the most recent complaint to the WBC solicitor but had yet to receive a reply. Mr Green said that he and other dog owners were very aware of bad behaviour of the dog named Simba. Several had close encounters with the animal intimidating or attacking their dogs and that the owner exercised no control over the dog. The owner and dog, which was a 40kl German Sheppard, arrived each morning by car, and the Dog Warden had visited the site to speak to him. The Dog Warden was unable to do anything unless the dog attacked another animal and Simba had been placid when she had seen him. Earlier in the day Mr Green had taken his small puppy to the field and Simba had raced from the opposite end of the field and jumped on it. Mr Green had to remove Simba, which was difficult given the weight of the dog, and he had shouted at the owner, who made no effort to do so himself. Mr Green had spoken to the Dog Wardens and indicated that he would be contacting the police to make an official complaint. A member of the public said Simba's owner was rude, aggressive and had also been seen visiting the site with his dog in the evening and asked if SPC could ban the dog. It was agreed that, while possible, it would be difficult to enforce. Mr Doyle spoke from the floor and said that, following an increase in the amount of dog waste on the field, SPC had put notices up to say that they would ban dogs from the field unless owners took more responsibility and cleared up after their animals. This had improved the situation. Residents were in favour of a dog ban, even though they would be affected. The Chairman agreed to draft a poster but wait for the reply from the WBC solicitor and the police before publishing it. Mr Fisher agreed to raise the issue at the next NAG meeting. Mr Green and two residents left the meeting at this juncture.

10211: CORRESPONDENCE

Sonning Tea Gardens. Mr Woodward (Chairman Eye & Dunsden PC) had heard rumours that the Tea Garden was to close due to the poor drainage facilities. Mr Woodward had suggested that SPC consider paying to have the septic tank emptied more regularly. The Chairman said that he understood that the Tea Rooms had now closed and the Lock Keeper would be retiring. The house and gardens were the property of the EA, so the future was unsure, improving the drainage was unlikely to change the situation. The Clerk would inform Mr Woodward of this.

10211: CORRESPONDENCE (Cont'd)

Fields in Trust. The Trust's view on a 25 year Licence had not changed but they had agreed that a five year Licence would be acceptable.

WW1 Event. SCC had indicated that a number of their members would attend the event.

CFC Metal Store. This had been donated to SPC and the Clerk had thanked them.

Complaint about Building Works at 12a South Drive. The Clerk would copy this to WBC as SPC had no control over the issues.

BALC AGM 14 November. This would be held at Shinfield Parish Hall at 7.45pm.

Fire Safety Training 8 November. The Chairman would attend if available and took the details

10212: PLANNING.

Report. The Chairman said that the applications at 19 West Drive (182127), 67 Pound Lane (180965) and Neaps End, 15 Old Bath Road (182217) had been approved. The non-material amendment at Ranmore to allow change in fenestration to the rear elevation, had been refused.

The following applications were on going: The Great House (172697): The Atrium (180770): The Atrium (180857): August Field (81082): The Great House (181058): Cedar Cottage Thames Street (181196): Home Park Farm House (181161): 34 West Drive (181271): York Cottage Pearson Road (181800): Greendown (182245): Reading Blue Coat School (182281): Charfield Cottage, Charvil Lane (182453).

The following applications had been approved: See above.

The following applications had been withdrawn. None.

The following new applications had been received. 50 Little Glebe (182578). Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey detached outbuilding incorporating two roof lights: Star Court (182612). Application for full planning permission for the demolition of existing house and garage and replacement with new single dwelling with annex / garage building

10213: QUESTIONS FOR BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

In the absence of Cllr Haines there were no questions.

10214: PARISHIONER QUESTIONS.

There were no questions.

10215: FINANCE.

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

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS OCT '18 (1 TO 30 Sept)

Date	Chq	Name	Service item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee	Sub-committee
12/09/18	528	P J Doyle	Wharf Signs x 2	150.00	0.00	150.00	ENVIRONMENT	Wharf M'tnce
12/09/18	529	Tony Thorpe	Cedar Cot. Report.	950.00	0.00	950.00	ADMIN	Admin Misc.
12/09/18	530	Henley Land	Main Mowing	252.50	0.00	252.50	RECREATION	Main Mow
12/09/18	530	Henley Land	Pond Mowing	440.00	0.00	440.00	RECREATION	Pond Mowing
28/09/18	531	Castle Water	Square Water	26.01	0.00	26.01	SPORTS	Sports Other
28/09/18	531	Castel Water	Pav. Water	162.24	0.00	162.24	SPORTS	Pav. Utilities
28/09/18	532	Tivoli	Dog Bins x 2	312.00	52.00	260.00	ENVIRONMENT	Bin emptying
28/09/18	533	Scribe	Accounts Subs	339.60	56.60	283.00	ADMIN	Subscriptions
28/09/18	534	Street Master	New seat	931.20	155.50	775.70	RECREATION	Misc.
				3563.55	264.10	3299.45		

10215: FINANCE (Cont'd).

- b) Report. The Clerk had prepared a report which was noted.
- c) New Signatory. Mr Morrison said that HSBC has approved this in July but the confirmation letter had gone missing, he had requested a copy.

10216: HIGHWAYS.

School Crossing Patrol. Mr Fisher said that he had copied the results of the survey to Sara, who had replied to say that WBC needed some time to consider the results. Mr Fisher felt it was now time to pursue the possibility of a campaign for an improved crossing.

Speed Indicator. Mr Fisher had received an email from a resident who felt that the new SID was distracting drivers and, as it was too close to the crossing. Mr Fisher had responded to say that, while the Parish Council was always interested in resident's views, his were the only dissenting voice. Councillors agreed all other comments had been very supportive many felt that it was a great improvement. Mr Fisher said that the original SID could now be installed in another location. It was agreed to place it in Charvil Lane with the spare set of brackets in Sonning Lane for future use.

Speed/Lorry Watch. Mr Fisher was getting the group together, who would make a note of vehicles making regular trips over the bridge. Mark Smith would be at the next NAG meeting which would be an opportunity to discuss the availability of the results from the ANPR camera.

Air Pollution. The Clerk had received a reply, which indicated that, although below the level of concern, (40 micrograms/m³), the results for nitrogen dioxide had been rising slightly since 2012 and in 2017 had reached 31, WBC continued to monitor the results. Mr Morrison asked about the Sonning Lane Parking. There had been nothing from WBC but RBCS had arranged for cars to park in Berkshire Sports car park. Mr Morrison said that there were also signs that cars were zig zagging in Charvil Lane as the verge on both sides had tyre marks.

10217: 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 there was no update.
- c) Seat by Skate Park. Mr Pownall had agreed to install the seat but would need assistance to move the seat from the compound to the skate park.
- d) Beech Lodge Licence. There was no update
- e) ROSPA Report. The Chairman had checked the bolts on the swings and hope to clean the play equipment with Mr Green in the near future.
- f) Recreation Path. The Chairman said that the tree roots were part of the problem and would ask WBC to inspect the trees/roots.
- g) Hedges. Mr Collier had agreed to do these.

10218: TECHNICAL SERVICES.

Safety Checks. The Chairman had carried out the safety checks on the Wharf and he understood that CFC were using the facilities at Berkshire Sports Club

Lighting Upgrade. Mr Fisher said that branches from the trees in the spinney had grown again and were obscuring the light, he agreed to trim them back again. Branches from other gardens in Pound Lane were also causing a problem. Mr Fisher said that WBC were still doing the lighting scheme and he would check to see if any other lights needed to be replaced.

Allotments. The Chairman was drafting a letter to send to all allotment holders.

10219: WW1 TRIBUTE.

Mrs Fielder said that information on the event was in the Parish magazine and full details would be in the November magazine. Mr Peters had agreed to prepare full colour posters and she had confirmed plans with Bobby, who would be supplying the Indian food. It would be difficult to know numbers but an initial figure of 75 had been agreed, under the circumstances Bobby would serve and charge for the food but he would make a donation to the Royal British Legion. The Coppa Club would provide sausages and burgers, which the Scouts would cook on their BBQ. Radio Berkshire had been informed, as had the Society. Wokingham News would try to attend the event but there were a lot of events taking place the same evening. Mr Green was obtaining the brazier and the bugler, the Chairman would purchase the drinks, plastic cups etc. In the event of rain gazebos would be needed but several people owned one or two of these. The Vicar was dealing with the sound system and Mrs Pownall would discuss the possibility of children from Sonning School assisting with the readings.

10220: POLICE AND SECURITY.

Mr Fisher said that the next NAG meeting would be on 9 November. There had been a violent burglary in Pearson Road.

10221: NEWSLETTER.

The Chairman would draft the Chairman’s letter before 11 November.

10222: WEB SITE.

This continued to work well and Mr Morrison was preparing the next e-news.

10223: ACTION LIST.

This was reviewed and updated. The Chairman said that the improvements to the Pound and bus shelter needed to be progressed.
Mr Fisher said that materials for the defibrillator light outside Beech Lodge would cost approximately £130 plus labour. It was agreed that up to £200 would be acceptable and the Clerk would put it on the agenda for approval at the November meeting. The Clerk would research bus shelters for the A4.

10224: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 13 November at 7.00pm

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