

Minutes of the Virtual Monthly Meeting of Sonning Parish Council held via Skype from various location., on Monday 11 May 2020 at 6.00pm.

PRESENT. Mr A E Farnese (Chairman), Mr T Fisher, Mr P Morrison. 3 visitors via Skype.
Mrs L A Bates (Clerk).

10520: APOLOGIES/WELCOME TO VISITORS. Apologies were received from Mrs J Fielder and Mrs J Harvey.

The Chairman welcomed all those present.

10521: DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest.

10522: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The Minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

10523: CORRESPONDENCE.

Condition of the Outfield. Mr Travers (SCC) had asked for a meeting to discuss the condition of the field and Mr Fisher had agreed to meet him

Outstanding Invoice. The accountants dealing with HMRC in relation to the VAT on the pavilion had requested a part payment of their invoice. The work had not concluded but the accountants had submitted an invoice for full payment, which SPC had declined. Following discussion Mr Morrison proposed and the Chairman seconded paying the part payment of £1800 and this was unanimously approved.

The Great House Licence. This was to sell drinks in the garden to hotel residents and those eating at the hotel between 10am to 11.00pm (the time limit did not apply to bona fide hotel residents). The system had previously been permitted under TEN's since 2017. It was agreed there were no objections.

Bonfires. Clare Lawrence had circulated a briefing on bonfires prepared by the Public Protection Partnership (PPP) for clarification in case of any complaints. Most one-off domestic bonfires did not constitute a "statutory nuisance" and WBC were asking for these be dealt with by residents approaching their neighbour. If a bonfire was causing a statutory nuisance it should be addressed through more formal action by PPP, but most of the reports WBC were receiving were one-off domestic bonfires that did not constitute a "statutory nuisance". If however, commercial waste was being burnt or was creating black or noxious smoke then PPP should be contacted to formally record it.

Mowing Boundary KGV Field. Mr Fisher had spoken to a resident who was willing to mow the boundary. A first trial mowing had taken 2 1/2 hour's but subsequent mowing's should take less time. It was agreed to ask the resident to mow the boundary once a month to see if this were sufficient.

Boats Moored along the Thames. It had been discovered that one or two residents who were living in boats moored on the Thames, just west of the Lock were using the adjacent woods as a toilet and had been doing this for some months. The NRA and Environmental Health had written to the occupants requesting them to discontinue this. It had transpired that the boats were not registered and did not hold Licenses.

Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government. The Secretary of State, the RT Hon Robert Jenrick, MP, had written thanking all Parish Councils for their contribution during the current pandemic.

10524: PLANNING.

Report. The Chairman said that Little Gogs Farm, Holme Park Farm Lane. (193344), 22 Pound Lane (200435) and 2 Hawthorn Way (200452), had been approved.

The following applications were on going. 11 South Drive (200757).: Chyreen (200775).

The following applications had been approved. Little Gogs Farm, Holme Park Farm Lane: 22 Pound Lane (200435): 2 Hawthorn Way (200452).

The following applications had been refused. No refusals.

The following applications had been withdrawn. None.

The following new applications had been received. Star Court, Thames Street, (200747). Full application for the erection of a dwelling and ancillary garage with habitable accommodation to the first floor following demolition of the existing dwelling and garage. 12/05/20 Thatched Cottage, Sonning Lane (200904). Householder application for the proposed erection of a part first floor par two storey side extension plus basement extension, changes to fenestration, erection of new detached triple garage with first floor accommodation and creation of new swimming pool, following demolition of existing garage and greenhouse. 13/05/20

Neighbourhood Plan. This was on hold.

The following applications were discussed in order to agree any comments..

Thatched Cottage (200904). The Chairman said that the existing property was a fine example of a large thatched dwelling, one of only 4 in Sonning, and lovely as it was. The Chairman asked Mr Bailey, the applicant, about the thatching and the new swimming pool. Mr Bailey said that the roof was of Norfolk Reed had to be rethatched as required by his insurance company and the pool was to be reoriented to allow for the extension. Following discussion, it was agreed that there were no objections to the proposal and to recommend approval.

Star Court. (200747) Mr Fisher said that due to the lockdown he hadn't been able to consult neighbours as usual, however a similar application already had approval.

10524: PARISHIONERS QUESTIONS.

There were no questions.

10525: FINANCE.

- a) Report. The Clerk had circulated a report, which was noted. Mr Morrison said that the end of year figures showed a break-even situation and a final set of Income and Expenditure accounts would be available shortly.
- b) Payment of Accounts. Mr Morrison proposed and Mr Fisher seconded making the following payments and this was unanimously approved.

SPC PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS MARCH (1 to 31 March '20)

Date	Chq	Name	Service Item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee	Sub-committee
03/03/20	669	Shadow	Replace Brazier	60.00	0.00	60.00	ADMIN	Misc..
03/03/20	671	PHMC	Hall Hire N Plan	36.00	0.00	36.00	ADMIN	Admin N Plan
03/03/20	672	Mr A Farnese	N Plan refresh	294.76	0.00	294.76	ADMIN	N Plan
20/03.20	DD	SEC	St Light Energy	133.69	6.37	127.32	HIGH & LIGHT	St Light Energy
24/03/20	673	Veteran Trees	1 off Donation	50.00	0.00	50.00	DONATION	Veteran Tree
24/03/20	674	Castle Water	Square Water	28.40	0.00	28.40	SPORTS	Square Water
27/03/20	677	PurcoPrint	Newsletter	65.00	0.00	65.00	ADMIN	Print, Post

27/03/20	678	Tivoli	Dog Bins	331.20	55.20	276.00	ENVIRON	Dog Bins
27/03/20	679	Castle Water	Allot. Water	98.17	0.00	98.17	ENVIRON	Allot Water
27/03/20	680	P J Doyle	Tel. Box Signs	107.00	0.00	107.00	ADMIN	Misc.
31/03/20	681	Berks Vision	Donation	50.00	0.00	50.00	DONATIONS	Berks Vision
31/03/20	682	Age Concern	Donation	200.00	0.00	200.00	DONATIONS	Age Concern
31/03/20	683	T V Air Amb.	Donation	200.00	0.00	200.00	DONATIONS	Air Ambulance
31/03/20	684	Sonning PCC	Donation	150.00	0.00	150.00	DONATIONS	Sonning PCC
31/03/20	685	ReadiBus	Donation	100.00	0.00	100.00	DONATIONS	ReadiBus
31/03/20	686	Sue Ryder	Donation	150.00	0.00	150.00	DONATIONS	Sue Ryder
31/03/20	687	CAB	Donation	50.00	0.00	50.00	DONATIONS	CAB
31/03/20	688	Twyford Vol.	Donation	50.00	0.00	50.00	DONATIONS	Twyford Vol.
31/03/20	689	Keep Mobile	Donation	50.00	0.00	50.00	DONATIONS	Keep Mobile
31/03/20	690	Relate	Donation	50.00	0.00	50.00	DONATIONS	Relate
31/03/20	691	Me2 Club	Donation	50.00	0.00	50.00	DONATIONS	Me2 Club
31/03/20	692	L A Bates	Hon. (less Tax)	2875.00	0.00	2875.00	CLERK	Honorarium
31/03/20	692	L A Bates	Telephone	40.00	0.00	40.00	ADMIN	Telephone
			TOTAL	5219.22	61.57	5157.65		

10515: HIGHWAYS

Speed Indicators (SID). Mr Fisher said the latest figures showing a maximum speed of 60mph had been recorded at 8.35pm one evening, southbound in Pound Lane. Vehicle numbers had come down since the lockdown hovering between 1000 to 1500, which was significantly down from the normal 4000 to 4500. Traffic numbers were running at about 25 – 30% of what they were pre-lockdown but did show an increase during the previous week. The battery of the SID in Thames Street needed to be changed but it was a two man job and the required distancing could not be achieved so this couldn't be carried out during the lockdown.

10516: RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT W.G.

- a) Safety Checks. The Chairman said that the children's playground was closed but the main recreation area was open. Mr Fisher would check the exercise bikes.

10517: TECHNICAL SERVICES.

Safety Checks. The Chairman had been unable to carry out the safety checks, but his wife had been observing it. Mr Morrison said that he would look in on his daily walk.

10518: POLICE & SECURITY.

There were no further updates

10519: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The Chairman said that he hoped there would be an improvement on the current situation by the next meeting.

The next meeting would be a virtual one and held on Tuesday 9 June 2020 at 6.00pm.

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