

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Sonning Parish Council held in the Pavilion, Pound Lane, Sonning, on Tuesday 14 June 2022 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT. Mr A E Farnese (Chairman), Mr T Fisher, Mr A Halliday. Two visitors.
Mrs L A Bates (Clerk).

10915: APOLOGIES/WELCOME TO VISITORS.

The Chairman welcomed all those present,

10916: DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no Declaration of Interest.

10917: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

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

10918: CORRESPONDENCE.

Call to Parish Council's to Lobby MP's to back reduction of Housing Numbers in Wokingham. The new WBC Leader had asked all Parishes to write to their MP's urging them to support the request to reduce housing number in WBC are. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Mrs May.

Unreturned Litter Picker. The Chairman said that these had now been found.

WBC Supply of Liners for Food Caddy's. The supply had been discontinued on a trial basis.

Invite to Sign Up for Exercise Classes at Cantley Park. There would be an open day, where visitors could try out different classes on 23 June 9.30 pm to .30 pm. This was aimed at people over 55.

Mr Fisher said that it had been brought to his attention that WBC were intending to close the file on land adjoining Model Farm despite an injunction and court order to clear the land the site was full of rubbish, a van and a static caravan.

Mr Fisher also mentioned that he had just received some photos showing two overweight lorries crossing Sonning Bridge, which he would send to his contact at Trading Standards.

10919: PLANNING.

- a) List. Mr Fisher said that he had seen on the news that a planning application for 240 houses had been submitted on the site next to the Big Plant Nursery on the A4, This was directly opposite the application to build on the opposite site of the A4.

The following applications were ongoing. Land Adjoining Sonning Golf Club (214173): 101 & 101a Pound Lane (220133): Caversham Park, Peppard Road RG4 8TZ (221025): Land South of Old Bath Road 57 Flats (220663): Reading Rugby Club Holme Park Sonning (221321): Fairlea, 1 Guard Road (221446): 4 Pound Lane (221447): 18 Pound Lane (221458): The Acre, Thames Street (221387): Sonning Lock, Weir House (221502).

The following new applications had been received: RRFC, Holme Park (221326). Full application for the proposed new extension to form changing block and internal alterations: Pavilion KGV Field Sonning (221499). Full application for the proposed erection of a single storey side extension, following part demolition of existing sports pavilion.

- b) Planning application. Pavilion Pound Lane (221499). The application to extend the pavilion had been submitted and it was agreed to say that SPC could find no reason to object.

10919: PLANNING (Cont'd).

- c) Keepers Cottage Golf Club Listed Building. Mr Runnalls brought the dilapidated state of keepers Cottage to the Council's attention. The Clerk would contact Marcia Head regarding this.
- d) There was some discussion about the state of the Listed Cottages on Thames Street, belonging to the Great House. The Chairman would bring this to the attention of the manager.
- e) Local Plan Update. The Chairman said that a meeting was now to take place on 6 June

10920: BOROUGH COUNCILLORS QUESTION TIME.

In the absence of Cllr Firmager there were no questions.

10921: PARISHIONERS QUESTIONS.

There were no questions.

10922: FINANCE.

- a) Finance Report. This had been circulated and was noted.
It was reported that the overgrown hedge, outside 22 Pound Lane, was obscuring the streetlight. There was some discussion as this was an ongoing problem. Mr Halliday agreed to speak to the resident and would also speak to residents in Parkway Drive about the overgrown vegetation on their boundaries which had grown over the footpath. Mr Fisher would assist.
- b) Payment of Accounts. Mr Fisher proposed paying the June payments, Mr Halliday seconded, and this was unanimously approved.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS MAY 2022 (01 JUNE (1 to 31 May '22))

Date	Chq	Name	Service Item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee	Sub-committee
14/04/22	886	A E Farnese	Litter Pick refreshment	54.00	0.00	54.00	ADMIN	Admin Misc
14/04/22	887	Castle Water	Pav. Water	69.81	0.00	69.81	SPORT	Pav. Water
17/05/22	889	Henley Land	Main Mowing	270.00	0.00	270.00	REC	Main Mowing
17/05/22	890	Henley B Castles	Hire B Castle	100.00	0.00	100.00	ADMIN	Beacon Event
17/05/22	891	Playsafety	ROSPA Report	285.00	47.60	237.40	REC	Inspect + advice
17/05/22	892	Son. Land	Play Mow	34.00	0.00	34.00	REC	Play Mowing
17/05/22	893	Henley Land	Main Mow	270.00	0.00	270.00	REC	Main Mow
17/05/22	893	Henley Land	Paint	114.11	0.00	114.11	REC	Play Mtnce
17/05/22	893	Henley Land	Fence Work Pond	461.00	0.00	461.00	REC	Fence Work
17/05/22	894	Pest UK	Half year contract, Allotments	200.64	33.44	167.20	ENVIRON	Rat Control ½ year
17/05/22	895	L A Bates	ZEN c- panel 1 year	86.26	14.26	72.00	ADMIN	Annual Subs
30/05/22	896	Pest UK	Wharf rats 1 year	720.00	120.00	600.00	ENVIRON	Wharf rats 1 year
30/05/22	897	Henley Land	Main Mow	270.00	0.00	270.00	REC	Main Mowing
30/05/22	898	S Pownall	Mower Battery	49.00	0.00	49.00	REC	Mtnce equip
30/05/22	899	Heritage Tree Service	Wharf tree Work	594.00	99.00	495.00	ENVIRON	Wharf mtnce
30/05/22	900	Intersmart	Light repairs	132.00	22.00	110.00	SPORT	Pav. Mtnce
			TOTAL	3709.82	336.30	3373.52		

10922: FINANCE (Cont'd).

c) Annual Return.

i). Annual Governance Statement 21/22. This was reviewed, discussed and each statement confirmed. Mr Fisher then proposed that the Chairman sign the completed Statement, Mr Halliday seconded, and this was approved.

ii) Annual Accounting Statements 21/22. The Clerk had signed the statement which was reviewed. Mr Fisher then proposed that the Chairman sign the statement, Mr Halliday seconded and this was unanimously approved.

10923: HIGHWAYS

- a) Speed Indicators (SID). Mr Fisher said that thanks were again due to Mr Runnalls for his assistance. The mobile SID was now in Sonning Lane near the RBCS entrance. The highest speed recorded was 75 mph at 11.59 am on 13 June, a Monday. Mr Fisher said that this was the highest speed in the 30-mph zone, but he had added a section showing the daily reports. This showed at least two more instances of 70 mph and many more at 65 mph. The fixed SID in Pound Lane showed a maximum speed of 55 mph on Tuesday 14 May at 6.25 pm. Overall the volume of traffic was 90% of the pre-covid figure.
- b) Speed Watch. Mr Fisher said that he had purchased the Radar Gun and High Vis jackets but not the signs. The operation could take place between dawn and dusk but not in the rain when the roads would be wet. Three people were needed during each session. The results would be sent to Trading Standards, who would write to the offender after three reports but wouldn't be put on the National Database as previously. The aim was to educate and 90% of those who received a letter were more likely to take care.

10924: RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT W.G

- a) Safety Checks. Tivoli were making regular inspections.
- b) Playground Repairs - Update. This was ongoing but taking time. The Clerk would ask Tivoli if they would quote for the mowing.

10925: TECHNICAL SERVICES

Safety Checks. These had been carried out.

Boat Proposal 2022. These were on hold while more details were obtained.

Tree Work Wharf. Mr Fisher said that these had been completed.

Recommendations from Environment Agency. The EA had recommended sign for the Wharf, which the Clerk circulated. It was agreed to purchase a number of these.

10926: CLIMATE CHANGE.

This was ongoing.

10927: QUEEN ELIZABETH 11 JUBILEE 2022.

It was agreed that this had been a very successful evening. About 250 people had attended, including many families with children. The activities organised by Mr Fisher and Mr Halliday, penalty shoot-out and cricket nets proved to be very popular as had the bouncy castle. The Village Hamper had provided the ice cream, Sonning Scouts the BBQ and Sonning Cricket Club had operated the bar. Children's prizes were presented at 9.30 pm, leading up to a recording of the music for pipes written especially for the Queen's Jubilee and the highlight of the evening, the lighting of the Beacon at 9.45 pm. Thanks were due to everyone who had helped.

10928: POLICE & SECURITY.

Mr Fisher said that he hadn't heard from Karen but there had been a report on Sonning Buzz to say that a car had been stolen from the High Street. The thieves had used the latest technology by which they could copy the code from the owner's wireless key.

10929: ALLOTMENTS.

Fence. The solicitor representing the owner of the property adjoining the allotment had written to say that, as the owner of the fence, their client had instructed them to inform SPC that they were not to replace the fence and to cancel the installation on 4 July. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should reply to say that SPC were disappointed and pointing out how dangerous the fence had become. That SPC had tried to contact the owner on several occasions to no avail until one of the allotment holders had spoken to their clients' gardener. That SPC had, at that time, still been prepared to pay for the fence to be replaced at their expense. Mr Halliday would take photos to accompany the reply illustrating the urgency of the repairs.

10930: ACTION LIST.

This was reviewed and updated.

10931: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting would be held on Tues 12 July 2022 at 7.00 pm in the pavilion.

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