

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Sonning Parish Council held in the Pavilion, Pound Lane, Sonning, on Tuesday 11 October 2022 at 7.00 pm.

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

10948: APOLOGIES/WELCOME TO VISITORS.

Apologies were received from Cllr Firmager (WBC). The Chairman welcomed all those present and explained that there had been no meeting in September due to availability issues.

10949: DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no Declaration of Interest.

10950: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

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

10951: CORRESPONDENCE.

Bull Licence. A new date, 3 October, had been set for the Licence hearing (since withdrawn).
Wharf Litter Collection. Emptying the small bins on the Wharf twice a week would be discontinued until June 2023.

Allotment Hedge. Following complaints from residents in the bungalows WBC had asked for the hedge to be cut on that side. The Clerk had explained that the hedge was the boundary and that SPC only cut the side facing the allotments.

Annual Collection of Litter on Riverbank 24 September. SPC had assisted with Mr Fisher opening the gate to the Wharf. Mr Fisher said that, unfortunately, launching boats from the Wharf had proved to be unviable and the boats had launched from Shiplake. The event had been very successful.

Queen Elizabeth I I's State Funeral 19 September 2022. The day had been declared a bank holiday and had been an impressive occasion.

WBC Remuneration Questionnaire. This had been submitted.

10952: PLANNING.

- a) List. The Chairman said that application (214173) for a Care Home on land adjoining the Golf Club had been refused,
The Following applications had been approved: 25 Sonning Meadows (220473): 4 Pound Lane (221447): Uppfield Charvil Lane (221713): 14 South Drive (222142): Horseshoe Cottage Parkway Drive (222297): 2 Augustfield (221396): Sarum Cottage (221104): Uppfield Charvil Lane (221713).
The following applications were ongoing). Caversham Park, Peppard Road RG4 8TZ (221025): Land South of Old Bath Road 57 Flats (220663): The Acre, Thames Street (221387): Sonning Lock: Red House (221457): Readingensians (222035).
The following new applications had been received. Thatched Cottage (222390). Householder application for the proposed erection of a part single part two storey side extension following demolition of existing side extension and garage and minor alterations to the fenestration of existing dwelling, plus erection of a detached car port, a pool house, a pavilion, a greenhouse, a potting shed, restoration of existing vine house, and landscaping works including relocation of the outdoor swimming pool and tennis court and enlargement of the lake to the south.
02/09/22: Land Adjacent to Sonning Golf Club (222425). Application for submission of

10952: PLANNING (Cont'd).

details to comply with the following condition of planning consent 161529 granted at appeal (APP/X0360/W/17/3167142) dated 07/02/2018. Condition 10 relates to the submission of a reptile mitigation plan. 31/08/22: 2 Deanery Cottage (222780). Application to vary condition 2 of planning consent 214186 for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension with 1 no. rooflight and internal alterations to the existing kitchen to form a utility/cloakroom. Condition 2 relates to the approved details and the variation is to enable a modification to the position of the extension, alterations to the lantern rooflight and changes to fenestration. 13/10/22. 31 West Drive (222704). Householder application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear flat roof extension and a single storey side/rear flat roof extension. Following demolition of existing garage. 20/10/22

- b) Neighbourhood Plan Printing Costs. The Clerk said that the Group were planning to send an update to all households in Sonning, together with a covering letter advising of an open day in the Hall on Saturday 5 November. The cost was £159 to print 670 leaflets consisting of 4 double sided pages in colour. Mr Fisher proposed paying for the printing, the Chairman seconded, and this was unanimously approved. A member of the public said that he had raised the problem of speeding cars travelling from the A4 direction, which was on a bend and dangerously close to the proposed entrance the development at the Golf Club.
- c) Potential TPO Golf Club Boundary. Mr Fisher had put together an application form requesting a TPO listing be put on a number of important trees on the northern boundary, to protect them from and future development and this had been submitted.
- d) WBC Planning Training. The Chairman said that this had been a good meeting, by far the best he and Mr Fisher, had attended. Mr Fisher agreed and said that Brian Conlon (Operational Lead - Development Management and Jason Varley (Enforcement) had both given very good presentations. When Mr Fisher had asked if Councillors could be invited along to the officers site visits Mr Conlon had said that this could not be done automatically but might be possible if requested on a one-off basis.
- e) Keepers Cottage. WBC had responded very positively to the report that the cottage was in poor condition. The officers couldn't gain access due to fencing but had arranged a meeting with the Golf Club when close inspection revealed that there were no urgent problems. The Golf Club had said that they were seeking tenders and hoped to begin repairs and build the extension by the end of the year. If this didn't happen WBC would look again and might serve an urgent works notice. Unfortunately, there was no deadline on the approval.
- f) Deanery Cottage (222780). This was similar to a previous application, but with some slight changes to the siting, the only previous comments had been to ensure that a archaeological survey was undertaken. Following discussion it was agreed to say that SPC could find no reason to object but to ask for an archaeological survey.
- g) 31 West Drive (222704). This was for a single storey rear flat roof extension, a single storey side/rear flat roof extension and demolition of an existing garage. Following discussion, it was agreed to say that SPC could find no reason to object.

10953: BOROUGH COUNCILLORS QUESTION TIME.

In the absence of Cllr Firmager there were no questions.

10954: PARISHIONERS QUESTIONS.

There were no parishioners' questions.

10955: FINANCE.

- a) Finance Report. This had been circulated and was noted. The Clerk would ask Mr Collier to cut the allotment hedge.
- b) External Audit. This had been concluded satisfactorily.
- c) Payment of Accounts. Mr Fisher proposed paying the August, September and October payments, Mr Morrison seconded, and this was unanimously approved.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AUG 2022 (1 July 22 to 31 July '22)

Date	Chq	Name	Service Item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee	Sub-committee
05/07/22	910	AE Farnese	Kindling etc Beacon	34.97	0.00	34.97	ADMIN	Admin Misc.
03/07/22	911	Sonning Litter	Collect Feb-May	683.32	0.00	683.32	HIGHWAYS	Litter
15/07/22	912	HALC (BALC)	Annual Subs	377.84	0.00	377.84	ADMIN	Subs
15/07/22	913	ENERVO	St. Light Repairs	344.39	57.40	286.99	HIGHWAY /LIGHT	St Light Repair
15/07/22	914	L A Bates	ZEN Domain Name	59.40	9.90	49.50	ADMIN	Post/Tel/Station
15/08/22	915	Sonning Land	Cut Pound. Hedge	130.00	0.00	130.00	RECREATION	Pound. Hedge
15/08/22	915	Sonning Land	Cut Wharf hedge	34.00	0.00	34.00	ENVIRONMENT	Wharf Hedge
15/07/22	915	Sonning Land	Mow Playground	34.00	0.00	34.00	RECREATION	Play Hedge
15/07/22	915	Sonning Land	Mow Wharf	30.00	0.00	30.00	ENVIRONMENT	Wharf hedge
			TOTAL	1727.92	67.30	1660.62		

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS SEPT 2022 (1 Aug 22 to 31 Aug '22)

Date	Chq	Name	Service Item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee	Sub-committee
01/08/22	916	Henley Land	Refurbish Play equip	420.00	0.00	420.00	RECREATION	Play Mtnce.
01/08/22	916	Henley Land	Paint	25.00	0.00	25.00	RECREATION	Play Mtnce
01 /08/22	916	Henley Lan	Main Mowing	200.00	0.00	200.00	RECREATION	Main Mowing
02/08/22	917	Mr Fisher	Speed Watch Equip	360.13	0.00	360.13	HIGHWAY/LIGHT	Speed Watch
05/08/22	918	L A Bates	Honorarium (less tax)	2958.55	0.00	2958.55	CLERK	Honorarium
05/08/22	918	L A Bates	Telephone	40.00	0.00	40.00	ADMIN	Telephone
15/08/22	919	Sonning Land	Cut Rec. Hedge	75.00	0.00	75.00	RECREATION	Rec. hedge
			TOTAL	4078.68	0.00	4078.68		

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS OCT 2022 (1 Sept 22 to 30 SEPT '22)

Date	Chq	Name	Service Item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee	Subcommittee
1/09/22	920	Henley Land	Main mowing + Strim	200.00	0.00	200.00	RECREATION	Main Mow + Strim
			TOTAL	200.00	0.00	200.00		

10956: HIGHWAYS

- a) Speed Indicators (SID). Mr Fisher said that, as always, thanks were due to Mr Runnalls for his assistance. Mr Fisher said that a speed of 75 mph had been recorded in Charvil Lane at midnight on 16 September. Although the average speed was 29 mph many were over the speed limit and the average number of vehicles over 7 days was 3259. The maximum speed in Pound Lane was 60 mph on 25 September at 7.45 pm. The number of vehicles was 3649.
- b) Speed Watch. Mr Fisher said that there had been 5 session with 50% of vehicles speeding. There had been a lot of abuse, which should be reported.
- c) Sonning Lane gateway. Mr Fisher said that he had not heard from WBC in spite of repeated requests.

10957: RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT W.G

- a) Safety Checks. Tivoli were making monthly inspections and sending reports.
- b) Playground Repairs - Update. Mr Fisher and the Clerk had met with representatives from Tivoli who had agreed to provide quotes to repair the safety surfaces. They had also agreed to quote for moving the rubbish bin near the tennis courts and to remove the mauve bin to the compound and for emptying two bins once a week during the winter months and twice a week during the summer. They would also give a quote to mow the top end of the field.
- c) Pavilion. Mr Anderson had asked if he could send the tender documents to his 3 preferred contractors in advance of advertising on the Government website and this was agreed. The Chairman said that nothing should be done until Mr Morrison had agreed the figures and that all the money was in hand. The Clerk would check out the Government website and register with them.
- d) Request for Plaque on Rec. Seat. A representative of a group set up by Theresa May MP when she was Home Secretary, to review child and other abuse, was about to be published and the group were asking for plaques to be placed in quiet spots on parish council's land. The plaques would have a few simple words indicating that it was a 'quiet area'. Following discussion it was agreed to allow this.

10958: TECHNICAL SERVICES.

Safety Checks. These had been carried out.

Development of Wharf. It had been brought to the Council's attention that Sonning Boat Hire had not carried out the work as agreed. It was agreed to hold a meeting in order to go through the deeds and other document regarding ownership of the Wharf and mooring so that a decision could be made at the November meeting.

Throw Line. There had been some complaints about the position of the throw line. Following discussion, it was agreed to leave this in place for the moment.

Occupation of Land in Sonning Eye. A boat owner had been mooring on the Council's small piece of land on the river in Sonning Eye. Sonning Boats had encouraged him to move to another mooring.

10959: UPDATE ON BOUNDARY CHANGES:

It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the November meeting.

10960: WEB SITE.

This was ongoing.

10961: POLICE AND SECURITY.

Mr Fisher would chase up the latest crime reports.

10962: ALLOTMENTS.

Mr Halliday said that the neighbours had effused the Council's offer to install a new fence on the boundary but had erected a fence of their own. This was a great improvement, and the Clerk would thank them. There had been a water leak and, as water wasn't currently needed, the supply had been cut off and Thames Water had been called in.

10963: ACTION LIST.

This was reviewed and updated.

10964: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 8 November 2022 at 7.00 pm in the pavilion.

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