

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Sonning Parish Council held in the Pavilion, King George's Field, Sonning, on Monday 12 January 2009 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT.

Mr J S Chapman (Chairman), Mrs S V Auld, Mr A Barker, Mr P J Doyle, Mr A E Farnese, Mrs P Glasspool, Mr K Peters, M/S S Robinson. Mrs L A Bates (Clerk). 1 Visitor

APOLOGIES/WELCOME TO VISITORS.

There were no apologies. The Chairman welcomed 1 visitor.

7390: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

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

7391: DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

The following was noted. On planning application discussions, since Cllr. Chapman was a member of the Borough Council's Planning Committee, his views were expressed on the limited information before him only. He would reserve judgement and the independence to make up his own mind on each separate proposal as and when it came before the Borough's Planning Committee and heard all the relevant information. He would not in any way commit himself as to how he or others might vote when the committee came to consider a proposal

7392: CORRESPONDENCE.

Draft Wokingham Town Centre Development Guide Supplementary Planning Guidance Consultation 7 January to 20 February 2009. The Clerk would ask for a hard copy.

Communities in Control: Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity. Deadline 12 March 2009. The Chairman would read and make comments.

WBC Meetings. The Chairman said that the draft WBC diary for 2009 showed that three dates clashed with the Parish Council meetings. The diary would be confirmed on 13 January. Other issues on the agenda were: Committee Meeting Reports, Standards Board (WBC) and Children's Services.

WDALC. The Chairman was unable to attend the next meeting.

7393: PLANNING

a) Planning List.

The following applications were ongoing: 1 Old Bath Road (F/2008/0339), The Bull Inn (LB/2008/1236), 24 Glebe Lane (F/2008/1259), 45 Old Bath Road (F/2008/1303), Wimbourne 47 West Drive (F/2008/1544, 45 Old Bath Road (C/2008/1660), Berks County Sports Club (C/2008/1652), Unit4 The Old Forge C/2008/1793, Land adj. 7 South Drive Sonning (C/2008/2365), Holme Park Sonning Lane (C/2008/2527), Ivy Cottage Pearson Road (LB/2008/2493 & F/2008/2490), Whitecroft Bath Road (F/2008/2574).

The following applications had been Refused: 101a Pound Lane (CLP/2008/2195), 1 Garde Road (F/2008/2410), Holme Park Sports Ground Sonning Lane (F/2008/2461).

The following applications had been approved: Sonning Golf Club (F/2008/1260), 45 Old Bath Road F/2008/2044, Holme Park Sonning Lane (F/2008/2281), 43 Shelton West Drive (F/2008/2278), Manor Barn (F/2008/2300), 103 Pound Lane (F/2008/2319), South Meadow Cottage (F/2008/2415), 17 South Drive (F/2008/2441), Manor Close Charvil Lane (C/2008/2452), Model Farm Cottages (F/2008/2387).

7393: PLANNING (Cont'd).

The following applications had been received. Bishops Close Sonning Lane (C/2008/2617) Submission of details to comply with conditions of planning consent: F/2007/2889.3, Sonning Golf Club Duffield Road (F/2008/2716) Construction of a water storage reservoir for golf course irrigation system: Manor Gate Charvil Lane (F/2008/2633) Erection of new front entrance canopy and demolition of freestanding wall at front and side porch: Manor Gate Charvil Lane (CA/2008/2634) Conservation area consent for same: Berks County Sports Club (F/2008/2581) Erection of overflow car park and relocation of 3 floodlights (Retrospective): 14 South Drive (F/2008/2706) Erection of two storey front extension t and first floor rear extension.

Mr Doyle said that there was no update on the conditions for RC&HC. South Meadow Cottage had been approved. Model Farm Cottages had been approved, ignoring conditions applied to the original permission. The planning committee would consider this and respond. The Pavilion Sonning Lane had been refused. The builders had demolished the part of the wall on the verge at 45 Old Bath Road and rebuilt it with a slight angle. The Bull Inn was closed for refurbishment. A retrospective application for the new car park and floodlights at Berkshire Sports had been received and would be considered at the next planning meeting. Work was underway at Bishops Close. The new Regional Housing Strategy had been received but there was no mention of the transport system needed to support the proposed housing levels. Mr Sanders had said that he was disappointed not to have been provided with details for the re-roofing at the Old Exchange in the High Street but was happy with the work.

#### 7394: COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS FOR BOROUGH COUNCILLOR.

There were no questions for the Borough Councillor. Cllr Chapman said that he would report back if anything significant transpired at the WBC meeting on 13 January.

#### 7395: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

The Chairman would look into the problem of empty re-cycling boxes being carried away by the wind due to their lack of weight.

#### 7396: FINANCE.

- a) Payment of Accounts. M/S Robinson proposed making the following payments, Mr Peters seconded and this was unanimously approved.

#### DECEMBER

WBC – rates	6.20
WBC – Rates SLTC	6.20
WBC Rates Pavilion	18.60
Mr K Trimmings – Litter	133.00
Mr P Doyle – Decanter etc. Ligure presentation.	65.00
Mr S Chapman – nibbles etc. for Ligure reception.	37.04
Thames Water: Rec. 26.28: Allotment 21.62	47.90
Mrs P Glasspool: Trees (Pound Lane etc)	137.30
Robseal – Repairs to pavilion roof	3073.80
Belmont Fabrications – Bib liner repairs	87.40
Mr S Chapman - keys	5.00
Son. Landscapes Mowing Playground £25, SLTC £40, Wharf £26	91.00
Mazars – Annual Audit	460.00
Mrs L A Bates Honorarium (less tax) 2245.55: telephone 40.00	2285.55
SEC Street Light M'tnce	<u>654.18</u>
	<u>7149.17</u>

#### 7396: FINANCE (Cont'd).

- b) Report. A report had been circulated and was noted.
- c) Investment Strategy Meeting. The Clerk had been unable to arrange this but would ensure that a meeting was arranged. The Chairman and M/s Robinson would attend.

#### 7397: HIGHWAYS.

Report. Mr Peters had circulated a report, which was noted.

The 7.5t scheme came into operation on 10 January but the signs had not been ordered in time. Once a date was confirmed the maximum publicity could be arranged. Once the signs were in place the Chairman would write on his own behalf regarding the implementation of the scheme. It was agreed that the Council would also write. Mr Doyle was reassured that Thames Street residents would be consulted on any proposals to rectify the narrow footpath. The bollards at the High Street/Pearson Road junction were to be installed on 4 February. The Police were supportive of the idea to put a lay-by between the entrance to the RBC School and Inglewood but approval had not been confirmed.

The date of the next Highways meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 27 January at 7.00pm in the pavilion.

Mr Doyle would check out the unauthorised concrete ramp outside the new entrance in Pound Lane.

Mr Peters would obtain information on the Park and Ride scheme operating from the football club premises.

#### 7398: RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT W. G.

- a) Report. A report had been circulated and was noted. Mrs Glasspool said all the trees had now been planted and the heaters for the loos were on order. The contractor would commence resurfacing the tennis courts in February; part of the fencing would also be redone. Work to the hedging was on hold until the weather improved. The verti-draining had been carried out in December and repairs to the broken play equipment had been carried out free of charge by the manufacturers. A meeting to finalise the SLTC Licence would be held in the near future.

- b) Recommendation for Approval

Mrs Glasspool proposed up to £750 plus VAT for new signs for the recreation ground and up to £100 to purchase a collapsible ladder (essential to oil the swings). Mr Peters seconded and this was unanimously approved. It was noted that a register of the ladder should be kept.

#### 7399: POLICE AND SECURITY

In the absence of Mrs Byrne there was no report.

#### 7400: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND WBC CHARTER.

WBC Charter. WBC had prepared and signed a Charter and had asked Parish and Town Councils to adopt it. A copy had been circulated to all Councillors and following discussion the Chairman proposed adopting the Charter, Mr Barker seconded and this was unanimously approved. The Clerk would sign on behalf of the Council.

#### 7400: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND WBC CHARTER (Cont'd).

Freedom of Information. Mrs Glasspool proposed adopting the publication Scheme, M/S Robinson seconded and this was unanimously approved. M/S Robinson agreed to be part of a Working Group together with Mr Robinson and the Clerk to look into the details.

7401: QUALITY COUNCIL STATUS.

The Chairman said that this would be on the agenda for discussion at the Borough/Parish Conference in October. The original concept had been that acquiring Quality Status would empower Councils but this did not appear to have happened. There had been some revisions to the requirements, making it easier to comply but it was agreed that the benefits were not obvious at the present time. It was agreed to review the situation after the Conference.

7402: APM - POTENTIAL SPEAKER.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Chairman would invite Pat Baxter (Highways RBC) to speak. The Clerk would book the Hall for 13 May.

7403: WEB SITE.

Mr Robinson had made some changes to the front page and added some news items. He would try to link the site with the football and crickets club web sites and include a map of the area. The alternative web site had not been removed. The Chairman would try to make contact with the web master.

7404: ACTION LIST.

This was reviewed and updated.

7405: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The next Meeting would be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 10 February 2009.

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