

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Sonning Parish Council held in the Pavilion, King George's Field, Sonning, on Tuesday 14 July 2009 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT.

Mr J S Chapman (Chairman), Mrs P Byrne (Vice Chairman), Mr P J Doyle, Mr A E Farnese, Mr M Green, Mr K Peters, M/S S Robinson, Mr I Runnalls. Mrs L A Bates (Clerk). 1 Visitor.

APOLOGIES/WELCOME TO VISITORS.

Apologies were accepted from Mr A Barker (unexpectedly delayed). The Chairman welcomed everyone.

7497: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

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

7498: DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

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.

7499: COUNCILLORS CO-OPTION.

A casual vacancy had occurred on the resignation of Mrs Glasspool. The Vacancy had been advertised but no election had been called. Two candidates had approached the Chairman and both had submitted a short CV and had met Councillors to discuss their reasons for wishing to join the Council. Both had been considered worthy candidates. The Clerk circulated voting papers, and having counted them handed them to the Chairman who declared Mr Mark Green to be co-opted and congratulated him. The official papers would need to be signed at the next full meeting of the Council but it was agreed that Mr Green would be welcome to attend all Committees and Working Groups. The Recreation and Environment WG was short of members and Mr Green agreed to become a member of that group.

7500: CORRESPONDENCE.

Sonning & Sonning Eye Society. The Chairman of the Society, Mr R Hine, had written to the Chairman explaining certain changes in the structure of the Executive Committee and expressing the desire to give a presentation at the September Council meeting. This was unanimously agreed.

Twinning Association. The two bursary winners, a boy and a girl, were visiting Sonning for one week commencing Thursday 16 July. Four members of the Association had attended the Liguge Regatta and the Head-teacher, Sonning Primary School, Mrs Lesley Green, had taken a group of 8 children to Liguge for an exchange visit.

Rounders and Cricket Matches. Both these events had been well attended and were a good use of the King George's Field.

7500: CORRESPONDENCE (Cont'd).

Sonning Show. This would be held on 19 September to avoid a clash with the Sonning Voices.

Wokingham Children's Services. A new Director of Children's Services had been appointed and would start in early September.

7501: PLANNING.

a) Planning List.

Berkshire Sports Club. The application to extend the hours of floodlighting had been refused.

RBCS Boathouse. The work was being carried out although details of the gates, fence and pond had not been included in the application.

Bishops Close. Soil from the excavations had been spread around trees on the boundary and would cause the trees to die within two years. The Clerk would contact the Tree Officer asking if she could look into this.

Holme Park (F/2009/1239). Objections had been made.

Model Farm Barn. A retrospective application had been submitted but the plans did not reflect what had been built and had been rejected. Mr Doyle had clarified the situation with the Planning Inspectorate who had confirmed that it would be some time before a demolition order could be in place.

The following new applications had been received.

The Green Cottage (C/2009/1144) details to comply with the following conditions of planning consent LB/2008/0170:3: 1): Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery (F/2009/1042) Minor alterations to day nursery comprising of provision of covered outdoor play area new and replacement external doors plus 1.8 metre high fencing around part of site boundary. 103 Pound Lane (C/2009/1167) Details to comply with the following conditions of planning consent F/2008/2319:7(a-d) Arboricultural method statement 14 Archaeological scheme 15 Site contamination report 16 Road traffic noise report: RBCS Boathouse (C/2009/1133) Submission of details to comply with the following conditions of planning consent F/2008/19003. Samples of materials to be used. 7. Details of fence and gates. 8. Pond protection details: 6 Holmemoor Drive (F/2009/1100) Creation of dropped kerb to form new in/ out drive. (part retrospective): 6 Holmemoor Drive (F/2009/1157) Erection of first floor side and rear extension plus two single storey rear extensions to dwelling and conversion of garage to habitable accommodation: Holme Park (F/2009/1239) Change of use from D2 (Assembly and Leisure) to D1 (Non Residential Institution): Kismet Charvil Lane (F/2009/1268) Erection of 3 bay garage to front of dwelling: 45 West Drive (F/2009/0983) erection of two storey front and rear extensions and single storey rear extension: Weir House (F/2009/1099) Single storey rear extension to form conservatory with timber and glass pitched roof over.

The following applications were ongoing: 45 Old Bath Road (F/2008/1303), Wimbourne 47 West Drive (F/2008/1544), Unit 4 The Old Forge C/2008/1793, Land adj. 7 South Drive Sonning (C/2008/2365), Bishops Close Sonning Lane (C/2008/2617), 103 Pound Lane C/2009/1050.

The following applications had been Refused: Berks County Sports Club (VAR/2009/0875),

The following applications had been approved: 101 Pound Lane (F/2009/0900), Ivy Cottage Pearson Road (C/2009/0928), Sonning House Pearson Road (F/2009/0971 & LB/2009/0972), 15 South Drive (F/2009/1045),

- b) 45 West Drive. Following discussion it was agreed to say no comment, as there would be no overlooking, the proposal would match the existing dwelling and neaten up the rear façade.

7502: QUESTIONS FOR BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Mr Farnese asked about wheelie bins for the Parish. The Chairman said that this was under consideration. Health and safety issues had to be assessed. Following problems with animals disturbing refuse in Thames Street WBC had said that wheelie bins could be used as long as the rubbish was bagged.. Mr Farnese asked if WBC were contributing to the Rose Kiln Lane recycling depot. The Chairman said that they were, and that Reading Wokingham and Bracknell were partners in the project to achieve greater efficiencies.

7503: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

There were no questions from the public.

7506: FINANCE.

- a) Report. A report was circulated and noted.
- b) Payment of Accounts. The Chairman proposed making the following payments, M/S Robinson seconded and this was unanimously approved.

JUNE

WBC Rates	6.60
WBC SLTC Rates	6.60
WBC Pavilion Rates	19.80
Mr K Trimmings – Litter May	141.67
Mr K Trimmings – Litter, underpayment April	8.67
Sonning Landscapes – Cut Pound Lane Hedge	35.00
Sonning Landscapes – Mowing Wharf & Playground	67.00
Thames Water - Rec	25.02
Thames Water – Pav.	52.01
Mrs L A Bates Honorarium less tax	2379.15
Mrs L A Bates – Overpaid TAX 08/09	48.62
Mrs L A Bates – Telephone	40.00
Mrs L A Bates --ZEN Web site Domain Name	<u>56.93</u>
	2887.07

- c) 2008/09 Internal Auditors Report. Copies of the Internal Auditors Report had been circulated and were acknowledged.
- d) Investment Status CCLA Presentation The Chairman had circulated information regarding existing investment returns and rates available from COIF and building societies. Following discussion it was agreed not to pursue the COIF option. The National Savings rate had risen recently but it was felt the Council could do better by moving to a building society yielding 3.75 - 4.35%, which would accrue over the investment period. Mr Doyle would seek recommendations from his broker and establish if the governments guarantee for up to £50,000 applied to Councils. An extraordinary meeting of the Council would be called for 3 August to agree the best investment option.

7507: HIGHWAYS.

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

7.5t Environmental Limit. The next HGV Survey would be held on Thursday 16 July 10.00 to 14.00. The police and the media had been advised including BBC South Today who were keen to do an update. A database had been created, in Registration sequence,

7507: HIGHWAYS (Cont'd).

compiled from the two previous surveys and resident input via the website. Work was underway to identify the registered owners of local, offending, lorries, however it had been noted that very large overweight lorries hadn't returned. Meetings had been held with The Mill and the Great House to identify their legitimate supplier companies.

Sonning Lane Parking Outside RBCS. Road marking plans were now out for consultation and advertising by WBC. If all went to plan they should be installed in October or November.

Thames Street Pavement Pinch Point. No further development but this issue was one of the Council's highway priorities.

Police Speed Surveillance. Two SID operations had been carried out in Pound Lane and Thames Street on 11 and 18 June respectively. Twenty-two drivers had been travelling at 28 mph, or over on 11 June and nineteen on 18 June and the Police were writing to these drivers. M/S Robinson requested surveillance in Charvil Lane and would provide Mr Peters with times etc.

WBC Offer of Speed Indicator Purchase. There had been no further development, Mr Peters would follow this up with Julia Treadwell.

Top Three Highway Priority - Wish List. Two of the three priorities, Sonning Lane/A4 Junction and Thames Street Pavement – pinch point, had been submitted to WBC as the third required additional research.

Mr Doyle said that a planning application for Holme Park included provision for 25 cars which, together with the existing Park and Ride service operating out of the RRFC ground, would add to the congestion in Sonning Lane.

Tif Update. The Chairman said that discussions between Councils were at a sensitive stage. The Chairman had asked about congestion charging and Cllr Tony Page (Reading) had said that this didn't have to be part of the bid.

Litter Collection. Mr Trimmings would be having a knee operation and would be unable to provide the litter collection service for about six weeks. Mrs Hulley was prepared to take over the service for the period at the same fee. Following discussion the Chairman proposed appointing Mrs Hulley, Mr Peters seconded and this was unanimously approved.

7508: S106 REQUEST – UPDATE.

The Chairman said that the Sonning requests, which amounted to £6591.20, had been approved. The sports hall allocation had not been clarified. Further S106 funding would be come available once the contractor began work at 103 Pound Lane.

7509: RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT W. G.

Report. A report had been circulated and was noted.

Damage to Pavilion Window. A quote of £200 had been received from Alfa Windows to repair the window. There was an excess of £175 on insurance claims.

Working Group Recommendations. The following recommendations were proposed by the Chairman and seconded by M/S Robinson:

1. Allocate £950 from 2009/10 playground budget, £2250 from playground allocation and £3400 remaining in the SLTC resurfacing a/c to SLTC pavilion improvement.
- 2 Large SPC Dog Fouling Notices for KGV Field (the artwork would need to be approved).
2. Working Party 26 September 10.00am to 2.00pm

7509: RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT W. G (Cont'd)

- 4 Replace Pound fencing, between bus shelter and main fence, behind existing posts

subject to cost agreement.

- 5 Quote for extending safety fencing to playground.
6. Wharf path. The Chairman would obtain a quote and a sample of the PURFO system.
7. Extend Car park opening days.

Following discussion these were unanimously approved.

It was agreed that the monthly safety check reports would be brought to the monthly meetings.

The Clerk would arrange a meeting with Steve Potts to discuss the condition of street signs in Thames Street.

7510: TECHNICAL SERVICES.

Mr Farnese said that there were no problems. The Chairman would deliver the litter-bin stored in the Pavilion to Mr Farnese to install on the bus stop at the bottom of Pound Lane.

Safety Checks. Mr Farnese said these were all up to date.

7511: POLICE AND SECURITY

Mrs Byrne said that it had become more difficult to obtain up to date statistics however she understood that there had been three burglaries, one in South Drive, one in Old Bath Road and one in Little Glebe. Mr Peters said that there would be a NAG meeting on 20 July.

7512: WEB SITE.

M/S Robinson said that this was going well. Dr Robinson was looking into the possibility of the diary being available on the web site after the Pavilion had been double booked.

7513: ACTION LIST.

The list was reviewed and updated.

7514: PARISH ACTION PLAN.

The Chairman said that it would be good for new Councillors to be aware of this. The Chairman would produce a list summarising Parish Plan items and the Clerk would put the item on the September agenda.

7515: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The Extraordinary Meeting would be held at 6.30pm on Monday 3 August
The Next Main Meeting would be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 8 September.

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