

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Sonning Parish Council held in the Pavilion, Pound Lane, Sonning, on Tuesday 12 February 2019 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT. Mr A E Farnese (Chairman), Mr T Fisher, Mrs P Pownall. By invitation Jude Whyte (Assistant Director of Customer and Localities Service WBC) and Mark Redfearn (Localities Service WBC) both part time, Cllr M Haines (WBC) part time.
2 Visitors (part time). Mrs L A Bates (Clerk).

10273: APOLOGIES/WELCOME TO VISITORS. Apologies were received from Mrs J Fielder (holiday), Mr J Green, Mrs J Harvey (child unwell), Mr P Morrison, (holiday).
The Chairman welcomed all those present and thanked Ms Whyte and Mr Redfearn for attending.

10274: DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

Mr Fisher said that he would declare an interest in Beech Lodge.

10275: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The Minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and signed by the Chairman after the date was changed from December to January.

10276: PRESENTATION BY JUDE WHYTE & MARK REDFEARN.

As Ms Whyte and Mr Redfearn had been delayed Cllr John Halsall (WBC) spoke. Cllr Howell said that was the Executive for the Environment, Leisure and Libraries, which included residents' services such as waste, recreation and flooding. Cllr Halsall said that he wished to make services accessible locally rather than at WBC and the Localities Team would be available to assist residents where needed.

Ms Whyte said that she would be exploring good connections and understanding local needs and aspirations. It was good to meet Councils and understand their very different needs and ways to make improvements by focusing the Localities Team on the issues that were important to residents. Services would be readily available to residents via some libraries where services that were currently provided would be expanded to offer a "Hub" service where many of WBC's front-line services could be accessed. The libraries had been configured to adapt to the development of the Hub character and to contribute to channel-shift ambitions. For example, 70% of library lending activity was self-served by customers and the use of WBC libraries had increased, unlike the national trend of decreasing public use. The Community Engagement Team would expand and provide a Housing Officer Service for WBC tenants and the WBC Sheltered Housing Schemes and would support residents and communities. More information would be published once the arrangements had been completed, including contact details etc. Overall the service would promote public self-service. Cllr Halsall mentioned the new planning services and the Chairman said that the planning desk had been removed making the planning services less approachable. The Chairman then drew everyone's attention to the coloured drawing of the proposed pavilion and said that SPC had planning permission and was in the process of fundraising. Mr Redfearn said that he had some ideas about possible funds and would send these to the Clerk. He also said that parishes were good at organising local services and often didn't need WBC's input, he asked if there were any other local issues. The Chairman said that traffic was the main concern and this would continue until a new bridge was built. It would be helpful if officers visited communities to better understand the issues. Cllr Halsall said that SODC were the main problem. The Chairman said the members of the E & D Society were making arrangements for some of their members and representatives from SPC to attend a meeting. Other concerns included the poor drainage throughout Sonning, much of which dated from Victorian times and the grounds maintenance offered to Local Authority tenants, which had deteriorated in recent years. Mrs Pownall said that,

10276: PRESENTATION BY JUDE WHYTE & MARK REDFEARN (Cont'd).

surprisingly, WBC had repaired a pothole in Glebe Lane very quickly. This was an improvement on other, recent, pothole repairs in other parts of the parish. Cllr Halsall said that his department also dealt with drains, travellers and enforcement. Cllr Haines said that there had been some local resistance to proposals to improve traffic in Sonning by closing some roads. He also said that E&D Parish Council in south Oxfordshire were less affected by the traffic as none of their residential roads were subjected to long queues of standing traffic, funding might be found from the EU Fund and much progress had been made when Rob Wilson had been on Reading BC but he had not been re-elected. Mr Redfearn said that Oxfordshire might be more approachable about a new bridge but SODC were not. Cllr Halsall said that WBC would look at a plan that had the majority of residents supporting it. There being no other questions the Chairman thanked Ms Whyte and Mr Redfearn and said that he would like to see them again and they took their leave at 7.45pm.

10277: CORRESPONDENCE

Local Election 2 May. There would be a briefing session on 18 March at 8.00pm. The Chairman and Clerk would attend.

Request for link from SPC website to WBC My Journey website. This was agreed.

WBC Community Conference 1 April. The Chairman and Mr Fisher would attend.

WBC Highway Alliance 18 March 7.00pm. Mr Fisher would attend this.

Conservation Officer. Giles Stephens had resigned his position at WBC to take up a similar post closer to his home. WBC were interviewing potential replacements.

Tree Work Thames Street 18/02/19 to 21/02/19. Notice had been given of this.

SLTC Sinking Fund. A request to reduce the 2019/20 contribution had been received as the fund was adequate. A similar request to not pay into the fund had been agreed several years previously on the proviso that any shortfall in the cost of resurfacing the tennis courts should be met by SLTC. It was agreed to allow the request for either a nil contribution or any other amount of SLTC's choice with the same proviso attached.

Request for Speed Indicator in Sonning Lane. The Society had made this request and the Clerk had informed them that moving the mobile SID to Sonning Lane was on the proposed list.

WBC Mayors Ball 9 March. The Mayors Charity for 2019 was Me3 and proceeds from the Ball were to go to this Charity. Tickets were available at £60 per head.

New Food Waste Service Update 21 Feb 6-7pm and 14 March 5-6pm. The Chairman agreed to attend this on 14 March.

Road Hump in Charvil lane. The Society had written to WBC asking for a new Road hump due to the additional traffic onto Charvil Lane from the new August Field development.

Litter Pick 24 March. Mrs Fielder was arranging this.

10278: PLANNING.

Report. The Chairman said that, surprisingly, Cedar Cottage Thames Street (181196) had been approved. The following had also been approved: The Old School House (183210 & 183211): 24 Sonning Meadows (181936): Acre Field (183160): Ranmoore (183319). York Cottage (183224 & 183227): Saxon House (183166): 12 Glebe Lane (190030).

Local Plan Update. The Council's comments had been submitted to WBC.

The following applications were on going): The Great House (172697): The Atrium (180770): The Atrium (180857): August Field (181082): The Great House (181058): Home Park Farm House (181161): Star Court (182612): Land to the Rear of The Lawns, Mustard Lane (182797): Saxon House (183166). Charfield Cottage (183476): Sonning Dene (190186). Householder application for the proposed erection of a single rear extension also a single side extension to form porch with two roof-lights and changes to fenestration following removal of chimney and changes to roof. Additional copper standing

10278: PLANNING (Cont'd).

to existing dormer re-pitching of roof over existing rear projection. Replacement of existing masonry wall to the front to include timber access gates. 28/02/19

The following applications had been approved: See above

The following applications had been refused. No applications had been refused.

The following new applications had been received. 2 South Drive (190281). Householder application for the proposed erection of a two storey front/side and rear extensions to dwelling following demolition. 18/03/19: 21 West Drive (190228). Application to vary condition 2 of the planning consent 152218 dated 16/11/15 for the erection of 1 no dwelling and demolition of existing. Condition 2 relates to approved drawings and requests approval of revised drawings Nos. 706/04 rev.D, 05 rev.D and 06 rev.D. 06/03/19

10279: QUESTIONS FOR BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

There were no further questions for Cllr. Haines, who took his leave at 8.30pm.

10280: PARISHIONER QUESTIONS.

There were no questions from the public.

10281: FINANCE.

- a) Report. The Clerk had prepared a report which was noted.
- b) Payment of Accounts Feb (1-31 Jan 19). The Chairman proposed making the following payments, Mrs Pownall seconded and these were approved unanimously.

SPC PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS FEB '19 (1 TO 31 JAN) '19

Date	Chq	Name	Service item	Gross	VAT	Net	Committee	Sub-committee
06/01/19	556	Brit. Legion	Donation WW1	350.21	0.00	350.21	ADMIN	Other
02 /01/19	557	A E Farnese	Christmas Drinks	18.39	0.00	18.39	ADMIN	Other
06/01/19	558	Tivoli	Dog Bins Dec	156.00	26.00	130.00	ENVIRONMENT	Office Rent
06/01/19	559	L A Bates	Honorarium	2636.20	0.00	2636.20	CLERK	Salary
06/01/19	559	L A Bates	Telephone	40.00	0.00	40.00	ADMIN	Tel. Post
06/01/19	560	Inland Rev	Tax	163.80	0.00	163.80	CLERK	Tax
06/01/19	560	Inland Rev	NIC	112.12	0.00	112.12	CLERK	NIC
10/01/19	561	SMC Lands	Double gates & fit sign Wharf	1100.00	0.00	1100.00	ENVIRONMENT	Wharf M'tnce
10/01/19	562	SSE	Repairs 4 lights	370.00	61.81	308.19	HIGH & LIGHT	St Light Repair
				4946.72	87.81	4858.91		

10282: HIGHWAYS

School Crossing. Mr Fisher said that he had heard from Sara Allman following SPC's rejecting the WBC proposals to action the Pound Lane scheme for £28,000. Mr Fisher had indicated that SPC would rather upgrade the crossing. Ms Allman had said that highways would need to carry out the survey at a cost of £1,000 and the cost for the scheme might be reduced to £24,000, or less, depending on findings. To upgrade the crossing would be about £15,000 and the speed signs would need to be moved. Ms Allman would also cost a TRO.

10282: HIGHWAYS (Cont'd)

Speed Indicator. Mr Fisher said that Mr Runnalls had assisted in the change-over of the SID in Charvil Lane. Mr Fisher had downloaded the information on 24 January. The maximum speed had been 60mph on 21 January at 9pm, and the majority of drivers were travelling at 30mph or lower. In pound lane the average speed had been 23.5, possible due to the queues of standing traffic. Of the 3,800 vehicles, south bound in Pound Lane the average speed had been 21.7.

Speed Lorry Watch. Mr Fisher and his colleague had arranged a date but TV Police were carrying out an update and the machine hadn't been available. They would try again at the end of February.

Liguge Way. It was hoped to arrange a meeting with the school to discuss the problems.

10283: RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT W.G.

- a) Field maintenance. Mr Travers wished to clarify the arrangement for the field maintenance. Junior football had created many problems due to the smaller pitches placed all over the field rather than in one place. Over the winter SCC had spent £1500 on maintenance but more grass was needed to improve the outfield. Mr Travers said that the outfield would benefit from being spiked, seeded, scarified and seeded using a spiking machine in the spring. Top dressing would be ideal but not essential. The Clerk would ask Henley Landscapes to quote for this work but would be guided by their advice. Mr Travers said that SCC might be prepared to make a contribution if the quote was more than SPC had budgeted. The Chairman asked Mr Travers if the cricket coaches were DBS checked and Mr Travers confirmed that they were.
- b) Safety Checks. Mrs Pownall had checked the exercise machines.
- c) Pavilion Fund Raising. Mrs Pownall said the Community Asset Scheme offered funds of up to £150,000 and she was completing the forms with information from SCC and the Clerk.
- d) Beech Lodge Licence. Beech Lodge needed had agreed the revisions and the Clerk would arrange for the Licence to be signed.
- e) ROSPA Report. This would be done in the spring.
- f) Recreation Path. The Chairman said that the route would depend on the tree report and would be discussed once this was to hand.
- g) Pagoda Light. The Chairman was arranging this.
- h) Charvil Football Club Property. The Clerk would chase this up.

10284: TECHNICAL SERVICES.

Safety Checks. The Chairman had carried out the safety checks on the Wharf.

Lighting Upgrade. Mr Fisher said that SEC could no longer obtain replacement parts for MBFU or SOX lights and had suggested that they should be replaced. Mr Fisher had asked WBC if they could do this. Over half of SPC lights had already been changed.

10285: CHILD PROTECTION POLICY.

The Clerk understood that it was only necessary to have a Policy if SPC dealt with children direct. As I was the sports clubs had junior members and they had Child protection Policies. However the Clerk had drawn up a draft and it was agreed to adopt this in case SPC needed to deal with children in the future. The Chairman proposed adopting the policy, Mr Fisher seconded and this was unanimously agreed. The Chairman signed the document

10286: POLICE AND SECURITY.

Mr Fisher said that Mrs Harvey had attended the NAG meeting. A burglary had taken place a few houses away from Mrs Harvey and she had seen the intruders.

10287: ALLOTMENTS.

Survey Report & Recommendations. The Clerk had written to all allotment holders explaining that plastic sheets and pieces of carpet should no longer be used to deter weeds as these were likely to break down in time and particles would enter the soil and was not good for the environment. The Clerk had also asked those with derelict structures on their allotments to remove them and had asked 2 allotment holders to bring their plots up to bring the allotment back to an acceptable condition. The holder of allotment 2 had responded to say he wished to give up his allotment and the allotment would be offered to the next person on the waiting list.

10288: WEB SITE.

This continued to work well and Mr Morrison was making the necessary changes to the Councillors information.

10289: ACTION LIST.

This was reviewed and updated.

10290: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AND ANNUAL PARISH MEETING.

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 12 March 2019 at 7.00pm.
The Annual Parish meeting would be held on 14 May immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Council.

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