

Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 4th September 2014

Present: Paul Stancliffe
Alison Isherwood
Janet Potts
Rachel Blake
Heather Mullins
Apologies: Roy Harrison

<u>Matters Arising</u>		
Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	None.	
Approval of minutes	These were approved and signed.	
Drainage and flooding	<p>The ditches on Sydenham Road between Windmill Cottage and Slade Farm have been dug out as far as possible whilst the road closure was in place. There is a major gas main to be avoided, which can be done by digging the ditch further into the hedge once the hedge itself has been cut back. This work has been authorised by the landowner and can be carried out with the road re-opened. The ditch will then be better able to deal with the stream from Kingston Blount.</p> <p>The pumping station construction continues to progress, and a blockage has been discovered in the main pipe under one of the Emmington fields which Thames Water / Clancy Docwra are to investigate.</p>	
Defibrillator	<p>The Unmetered supplies department have issued a supply certificate containing details of the MPAN and the energy consumption for the kiosk. These details have then been provided to the supplier of choice (SSE) to request that an account be opened in the name of the parish council.</p> <p>An electricity confirmation contract has been issued - this was signed and will be returned. The estimated cost for a 12 month contract period is £35.20.</p>	HM
Playing field	<p>The annual inspection was carried out in July.</p> <p>The posts for replacement are the main swing uprights, some of obstacle course and parts of the A-frame.</p> <p>The adventure trail has been identified as the next piece of equipment that would need replacement. A couple of different pieces of apparatus to be priced, which will appeal to a wide range of ages. Opinion/preference can then be sought from the village.</p>	PS/RH RB
Community response / emergency plan	<p>Thames Water have kindly donated two road closed signs for the village to use in case of emergency. Final storage places to be agreed - permission to be sought from landowners at either end of the village.</p> <p>Evacuation plans are being drawn up for different scenarios, and a list of people with key skills is being compiled.</p> <p>The emergency planning survey from OCC to be completed.</p> <p>The Plan will be in place before end of October, and can presented at November meeting. An article to go in the newsletter, and can include a reminder that residents will be responsible for sourcing their own sand bags if required.</p>	RB JP RB

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Village archives	<p>The typed documents have already been collected and the originals are to be collected shortly.</p> <p>There have been visits from two separate Australian families during the summer, co-incidentally both researching the same family that emigrated from Sydenham in the 1840s. Copies of relevant documents from the village archives have been of interest in both cases, and the two researchers have been put in contact with each other.</p>	19 RB
Speeding on the B4445	<p>One of the residents on the Thame road raised a query regarding speeding on the B4445. PCSO Jacky Madden had also been contacted. The parish council are liaising with the police to see what measures can be taken, and have requested that the camera van is deployed in the layby by the Inn at Emmington as regularly as possible.</p> <p>The parish council will be requesting the use of the SID equipment again, to be booked as soon as possible before the daylight hours restrict it's use.</p> <p>The potential of physical speed measures such as speed bumps or pinch points was discussed. The Highways Department, the OCC Area Steward and Cllr David Wilmshurst to be contacted to ask for advice on possible options in the 30mph zone on the main road.</p> <p>The possibility of sharing the ownership of SID equipment with other local parishes was discussed.</p> <p>The lack of visibility at the Emmington junction has been reported to Highways, together with fact that the 30mph and junction warning signs are obscured by trees for traffic approaching from the Chinnor direction.</p>	HM AI PS/HM
Broadband coverage	<p>The latest rollout map shows that the main part of the village will have access to faster broadband by December 2015, but that the Emmington end of the village are still not included in BTs plans. The green telephone box on the B4445 was undergrounded a few years ago having been hit by a car. This has now created an impasse as there is no cabinet for BT to consider, even though we have reported the existence of the undergrounded box. The Better Broadband Team for Oxfordshire to be contacted with as much information as possible regarding this case.</p> <p>The dates of Cllr Carter's surgeries in Thame were requested.</p>	PS/RB AI
<u>Finance</u>	<p>The annual audit return has been received from BDO with no matters arising. This annual return is approved and accepted by the Parish Council, and the required notice will be displayed.</p> <p>There is no applicable annual audit fee as the income/expenditure band is £5001-£10,000.</p> <p>A donation has been gratefully received towards the cost of clearing the large ditch in the churchyard earlier in the year.</p> <p>The following items have been authorised for payment: £12.56 SODC dog hygiene bin £78.00 Playsafety Limited, playing field inspection £75.00 estimate for purchase of weed treatment £500.00 estimate for hedge trimming (to include Emmington junction verge if required. OCC Countryside Services to be contacted regarding the overgrowth on the Sewells Lane bridleway)</p> <p>The bank reconciliation was approved and signed.</p>	HM HM JP

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NatWest Current a/c: b/f £6,819.31	Payments: £135.00 RJS (IA) Ltd, internal audit £762.00 Solargen VAS repairs £172.50 Clerk's salary (July) £129.20 HMRC PAYE for May-Jul 14 £106.76 Clerk's expenses, tax repayment and backdated salary increase £178.30 Clerk's salary (August) Receipts: £13.10 Aon refund for insurance incorrectly charged £250.00 Sydenham Fayre donation for grass cutting	Closing balance at 30.08.14 £5,598.65
Natwest Reserve a/c: b/f £7,737.96	No transactions	£7,737.96
<u>Planning</u>		
APP/Q3115/A/14/22 21592	Thatchings, Sydenham Road Erection of a detached two-storey two bedroom dwelling with parking, access and amenity space. <i>Notification of planning appeal</i>	
P14/S1247/HH	The Folly, Chalford Demolition of existing lean-to extension and rear conservatory. Erection of a new two storey extension. <i>Permission REFUSED</i>	
P14/S2744/LB	2-3 Crossways, Sydenham Proposed structural repairs and alterations to South and East elevations Approved - grade 2 listed needs to be preserved for future generations To preserve an important cottage in the centre of the village. <i>Recommended for approval</i>	
<u>Correspondence</u>		
SODC	Briefing note on Leisure Facilities Assessment and Strategy	
OCC	Public Rights of Way - limited trial approach to categorising paths Draft flood risk management strategy consultation Community resilience public events	JP PS
OALC	Revised legal topic notes - Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014	HM
Playsafety	Annual play area inspection report	
<u>Any Other Business</u>		
Flood risk management	Following discussion about the flood risk management consultation, Gordon Hunt to be asked for update regarding ditch clearance by landowners along the B4445, and Richard Cooper to be asked about progress with stream clearance.	PS

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Notice board	The locks on the notice board at Plough Corner will soon need replacement.	21 PS
Cycling	Following the article in the newsletter regarding cycle clubs using the route through the village there has been feedback regarding noise. Cyclists in the early morning are not making any effort to keep their voices low. Next season the local clubs to be contacted to say that although cyclists are welcome in the village, consideration would be appreciated. The National Association to be contacted regarding fixtures.	RB
Reclaiming the Streets initiative	This is a government play initiative that could be explored for next summer for the children to have games/play space via brief road closures.	RB
Postal collection	The royal mail will shortly be reducing postal collections from Sydenham to just once a day - details will be in the next newsletter.	
Electricity supply	A revised proposal has been put forward which includes more undergrounding instead of overhead cables. This latest proposal is awaiting approval from the residents affected.	
Submitted Development Sites	The planning team at SODC have been contacted to ask how this map can be updated, for example if a site has changed ownership. The landowners of the sites listed can submit updated information, which will then be uploaded on to the database.	
<p style="text-align: center;">There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.40pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd October in the OSR at 8pm.</p>		

Signed Date