

Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of virtual Parish Council meeting 5th November 2020 at 7.00pm

Present: Michael May (MM) - Vice Chair
 David Wilkins (DW)
 Cheryl Belson (CB)
 Hayley Smith (HS)
 Heather Mullins (HM) – Clerk

Apologies: Alison Isherwood (AI) - Chair

Under the current restrictions concerning Coronavirus it was not possible for the scheduled meeting of the Parish Council to take place in the Old School Room. In line with The Corona Virus Act 2020 section 78(2) this meeting was held remotely. Meetings will continue to take place virtually until otherwise advised as per guidance from OALC. The meeting was pleased to welcome a member of the public.

128	Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	No interests declared.	
129	Approval of minutes	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and will be signed in due course.	
130	Planning	<p>P20/S2575/FUL 18 Holliers Close, Sydenham OX39 4NG Proposed front, side and rear extensions to dwelling and subdivision of extended dwelling into two separate 1 bedroom dwellings Resubmission of approved scheme (P/17/S4117/FUL) with associated external works. <i>SODC advise application has been withdrawn by applicant</i></p> <p>P20/S3824/HH Thoraby Cottage, Sydenham Road, Sydenham OX39 4LN Demolition of porch and detached garage. Single storey extension. <i>Parish Council recommendation: supports</i></p>	
131	Finance	<p>The following items were approved for payment:</p> <p>£3.17 SSE telephone box £7.96 Buzz Networks virtual landline £418.75 Clerk's salary for November £4.12 Clerk's expenses, postage for insurance documents £23.81 DW expenses – fuel for mower £59.88 GoDaddy renewal for Neighbourhood Plan email £4.12 Clerk expenses - postage for insurance documents £53.82 SODC dog bin emptying to 30.9.20 £12.00 Scoop Dotty Dog dog bin emptying from 5.10.20</p>	

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132	<p>NatWest Current a/c: b/f £4,039.81</p> <p>NatWest Reserve a/c: b/f £30,619.16</p>	<p>Payments:</p> <p>£407.98 Clerk's salary for September £240.00 Moore Stevens (East Midlands) – external audit £28.00 Clerk expenses – colour printer cartridge £29.35 DW expenses – fuel for mower £7.96 Buzz Network virtual landline – repay clerk £3.17 SSE supply for the defibrillator £483.37 Clerk's salary for October</p> <p>Receipts:</p> <p>£940.00 Kindertons Accident Management – van insurance payment £5,234.50 SODC Community Infrastructure Levy</p> <p>Receipts:</p> <p>£0.25 Interest for October</p>	<p>Closing balance at 30/10/20</p> <p>£9,014.48</p> <p>£30,619.41</p>
133		A draft budget was discussed, and some changes made. The amended budget to be circulated prior to the December meeting.	HM
134	Matters carried forward	<p>Feltham Construction</p> <p>The site foreman to be contacted regarding any update for the village newsletter.</p>	HM
135		<p>Playing field</p> <p>The field can remain open during the current lockdown. A further delivery of bark will be required in the spring, and repairs to the surrounding wooden edge. Two poles will be replaced, and the small bench.</p>	DW
136		<p>Speeding and proposed chicane</p> <p>A reminder of the road closure (23rd to 27th November) to be sent on Sydenham Mail.</p> <p>The option of swapping the existing VAS screens to be investigated.</p>	CB/AI DW
137		<p>Traffic survey on B4445</p> <p>There is potentially a grant available to support infrastructure traffic calming measures, such as a 20mph zone or chicane/pinch point. Speed data is being examined and the viability of a chicane on the B4445 is being investigated.</p>	MM
138		<p>Wildflower meadow</p> <p>Inspired by the David Attenborough program on extinction, a villager has suggested that a wildflower meadow be planted to increase biodiversity and to create a village asset. The parish council would be pleased to support this financially and additional fundraising or grant options can be explored.</p> <p>The maintenance required and varieties of planting is to be researched together with a possible location, and costs explored. It might be possible to plant a small pilot area in the first instance.</p>	MM

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139		Village repairs and maintenance A quote of £700 has been obtained to carry out ditch clearance in two areas - between Slade Farm and the village, and along Brookstones. This was approved for the work to be put in hand.	DW
140		Reported footpath issues The Sewells Lane bridleway surface works have been carried out together with some widening, but there is a continued problem with deep ruts forming due to tractor use. The option of forming a firmer base using hardcore is being considered. Solutions for the Bridleway 11 to be investigated over the winter. It may be possible to apply for a grant for these projects.	DW/MM HM
141		TOE grant for Thame Park footpath The footbridge repairs will require sleepers and posts, which were approved for order. The deadline for claiming the TOE grant is 14 th December.	MM/DW
142		Annual audit actions The model publication scheme for the Freedom of Information Act will be used for a further review of the council's policy.	HM
143		Parish Council van The insurance company deemed the vehicle a category N total loss. The pre accident value of £965 was accepted and the vehicle is no longer the property of the Parish Council. DVLA has issued a road tax refund and there will be a refund of remaining insurance premium.	
144	Matters Arising	OSR record storage As one of the cabinets has become damaged and the OSR committee would like to look at alternative storage with a boxed-in arrangement, the cost of two 3 drawer cabinets has been researched. A provisional cost of £150 was approved.	HM
145	Correspondence	Children's Air Ambulance – request for donation SODC Waste team – litter picking Infrastructure Development Team – annual monitoring report	HM
146	Any Other Business	Future planning in the event of a councillor vacancy Blocked drain – should be reported on Fix My Street	HM
<p style="text-align: center;">There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55pm The next meeting date will be Thursday 3rd December at the earlier time of 6.30pm – virtual meeting</p>			

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