

Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 4th February 2016

Present: Alison Isherwood
Rachel Blake
Mike May
Heather Mullins
Apologies: David Wilkins
Janet Potts

The meeting was pleased to welcome Paul Stancliffe.

<u>Matters Arising</u>		
Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	None	
Approval of minutes	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.	
Improving mobile signal coverage	The Vodafone Sure Signal scheme opens again in March. Vodafone have confirmed that boxes can be on private buildings provided permission is given and a suitable supply is available. The range is 250m, so it is likely that the village would require one box in the centre, one down Brookstones and one near the Inn at Emmington. EE to be asked for a proposal as well so that the two schemes can be compared.	AI
Neighbourhood Planning briefing	The village meeting on the 28th was very successful, animated and informative. No conclusions were reached on the night, but there was a sway towards considering a neighbourhood plan if communities around us were going to do them. The Aston Rowant meeting on 10th February to be attended, and following this bullet points can be circulated on a Sydenham Mail. A Housing Needs Survey would need to be undertaken as a first step, and it was felt that a quote for this should be obtained from Oxfordshire First. A piece to be put on the village website showing links to the example plans provided by the Planning Officer from the 28th, together with details of the Thame Town Council website as several questions were asked about the Thame Neighbourhood Plan.	HM HM
Speeding	The quotes for gates and alligator road markings were considered, together with an alternative quotation for the supply of gates - supplier to be asked if they also do installation. The effectiveness of gates and road markings was discussed, and it was felt that a physical calming measure would be more effective. Highways to be asked for a quotation for a pinch point, both lit and unlit options. It was suggested that the bin stickers be distributed with the next newsletter - a Sydenham Mail to be sent out. There has been a request for an extra speeding sign by Box Cottages.	HM HM HM AI

Signed Date

Playing field	Following the RoSPA inspection the repairs to the toddlers swing are in hand. A quotation has been requested for replacing the A-frame under the slide (a grant may be available for this), and also for ropes on the new equipment and replacing the cross beam on the toddler swing. The bark area around the new equipment is being extended. John Heathfield is trying to make contact with the SODC tree officer regarding the proposed works to the cherry tree.	36 RB
Development of Sydenham Grove	SOHA have not responded to the proposed meeting dates. An update is required as the last meeting was in November.	MM/RB
SSE electricity supply	The various options are being discussed.	MM
Broadband	There has been no response from Ed Vaizey or the MP's office despite repeated requests. The next newsletter summary to include a query so that we can understand the range and extent of broadband problems being experienced within the village, and then a sample of these could be described to Craig at Better Broadband.	RB
Grass cutting	The grass cutting grant to be calculated and compared to the quote received. The grant application for a mower was discussed and discounted for now. However the grant process is now available, and other suggestions welcomed for the next meeting. Tubs/planters were suggested - the grant conditions to be checked to see if this would be eligible.	HM All RB
Sustrans	The section of footpath previously under discussion is signed as footpath with no bikes or horses allowed, although a bike can be pushed along. OCC have been contacted to ask if the permissive path inferred by the new owners is now the official route.	AI
Emergency plan and funds for resilience grant	A quote and options for the switch are being looked at, together with different models of generator and a suitable trolley for storage - c/fwd. The equipment for the emergency kit to be ordered in the next couple of weeks, plus a suitable storage box.	DW RB
Munday's Charity	The trustees have agreed with Jonathan Beale which gates should be replaced on Footpaths 3 and 13, and also by the stream into the allotments. OALC to be consulted on whether payment should be made via the parish council or directly between OCC and the charity.	HM
Annual Parish Meeting	The OSR has been booked for 12th May.	
The Queens's 90th birthday celebrations	It was suggested that a daytime event was organised, such as a treasure hunt and picnic in the playing field, as the OSR is fully booked for the weekend. This would work around any events that the two village pubs might be planning. This led to discussion about the Sydenham Mail guidelines that currently do not allow events at the two pubs being advertised on village email. It was agreed that the pubs are important social hubs for the village, and that this rule should be changed.	
<u>Finance</u>	The following items were approved for payment: £234.00 John Heathfield - climbing net and fixings for the playing field £1000.00 Heathfield Tree Services, final balance for new apparatus £96.00 J M Wallington - hedge and verge cutting £200.37 Clerk's expenses It was agreed that £6,000 should be transferred to the Reserve Account.	

Signed Date

NatWest Current a/c: b/f £4,942.94	Payments: £253.74 Clerk's salary £ 3.07 Southern Electricity £261.60 PlaySafety Limited - RoSPA inspection £105.60 Resource Digital Graphics - speed signs £330.00 HMRC - PAYE Nov-Jan £600.00 Will Munday - grass cutting to village greens and churchyard (o/s) £150.00 Extra cut of churchyard (o/s) Receipts: £7,905.00 Grant from SSE	Closing balance at 31.01.16
Natwest Reserve a/c: b/f £10,745.24	£0.43 Interest received	£11,893.93 £10,745.67
<u>Planning</u> P15/S4281/LB	Coopers Yard, Sydenham Road Two additional windows to the south barn. Minor alterations to a modern shelter to provide a garage space and smaller store rooms; garage doors and stable doors added. <i>No strong views / no objections</i>	
<u>Correspondence</u> SODC OCC	Town and parish council forum, final report and presentation Submission of Oxfordshire minerals and waste Local Plan: Plan 1 Core Strategy	
<u>Any Other Business</u> County Councillors' report	In their monthly report, Ian White mentions working with Chinnor PC regarding traffic calming measures agreed for the Thame Road - more detail to be requested.	HM
Website	The accounts page has been completed to comply with the transparency code.	
Document review	Standard documents to be circulated for review prior to the annual meeting.	HM
Clerk's appraisal	An appraisal to be carried out during the next month	RB/HM
There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.10pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd March in the OSR at 7.30pm.		

Signed Date