## Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm in the Old School Room

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

117	Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	None.	
118	Approval of minutes	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.	
119	Planning	P21/S2977/HH and P21/S2978/LB Forge Cottage, Sydenham Road, OX39 4LT Double storey side extension (amended plans received 23 August 2021 showing reduction to depth of proposed rear extension and reduction to height of proposed side extension with a single storey rear aspect and rear dormer. Further amended plans received 23 September 2021 detailing further external works proposed) <i>SODC decision - planning permission granted</i>	
120	Finance	The following items were approved for payment£4.55SSE telephone box£7.96Buzz Networks virtual landline£418.75Clerk's salary£25.56DW expenses, fuel for machines£31.20Pet Waste Solutions, dog bin emptying for October£34.95Clerk's expenses, printer cartridges£157.09Helpful Hirings, machine hire for footpath repair£1500.00Grafham Construction Ltd (est) – footpath works	
	NatWest Current a/c: b/f £1,582.82	Payments:£418.75Clerk's salary – September£82.20Playsafety RoSPA playground inspection£7.96Buzz Networks virtual landline, reimburse clerk£549.99Purchase of parish council laptop – reimburse clerk£46.80Community Heartbeat – defibrillator electrodes£4.55SSE Telephone box supply, account for June£15.60Pet Waste Solutions – dog bin emptyingReceipts:£500.00£500.00transfer from reserve account	Closing balance at 31/10/21 £956.97
	Signed	Date	

Signed ..... Date .....

## 212208/2

	NatWest Reserve a/c:	Receipts: £0.25 interest in October	
	b/f £31,071.69	Payments: £500.00 transfer to current account	£30,571.94
		The draft budget for 2022/2023 was discussed. Calculations to be made for increasing the precept to determine the impact on the Council Tax bills.	НМ
21	Matters carried forward	<b>Feltham Construction</b> The problem with the front door colours has been resolved. Welcome packs have been given to the new residents.	
122		<ul> <li>Playing field</li> <li>A very successful working party tackled strimming and raking - many thanks to the volunteers.</li> <li>The hedges have been cut, and a stretch of 20-30m plus infill marked for replanting. A budget of £500 is approved to purchase suitably sized hedging for planting in February.</li> <li>Once Oxfordshire Highways complete the roadworks outside the playing field the soakaway arrangement in the ditch will be capped and the ditch reinstated.</li> </ul>	
123		<ul> <li>Speeding on B4445 and through the village</li> <li>A 20mph toolkit has been received from the 20 is Plenty group, including suggestions for a village campaign and how to register the village with Oxfordshire County Council for being a 20mph zone.</li> <li>Councillor Matelot started this process, and it will be followed up with the new County Councillors.</li> <li>An application for grant funding to be made to the District Councillors for a hand held speed gun for use with Community Speedwatch and to promote the 20mph campaign. Expenditure approved for the purchase of promotional bin stickers.</li> </ul>	AI HM
		The consultation process for the B4445 pinch point to be discussed with OCC Highways. OCC to be contacted regarding ringfencing the allocated £20k CIL funding at financial year end. A presentation was made to Chinnor Parish Council's Finance Committee on 18 <sup>th</sup> October, seeking the balance of funding for the	MM
124		<ul> <li>project. CPC to be contacted regarding the next steps of this process.</li> <li>Wildflower meadow and Queens Canopy trees from Woodland Trust The tree delivery has been delayed. The area for planting is being agreed.</li> <li>No further update on the wildflower area.</li> <li>It was suggested that another working party would be helpful to keep the brook maintenance in hand.</li> <li>The bench by the playing field will be moved up to the wildflower area.</li> </ul>	HM

## 212208/3

125	Village repairs and maintenance	
	The hedging works for the parish council have been carried out, and	
	local landowners are also undertaking hedge cuts.	
	Now that the hedging debris can be cleared the ditching works will be	
	carried out. A close watch will be kept on known problem areas of	
	drainage to minimise the flood risk.	DW
	The hedge opposite the entrance to Holliers Close to be reported on	
	FixMyStreet as it overhangs the road on a bend causing a safety issue	
	for traffic.	HM
	The village entrance gate on the Stert side of the village needs a post	
	replaced – expenditure approved. The two signs on these gates are	DW
	damaged and in need of replacement – County Council to be	
	contacted.	HM
	The OCC drainage improvement works outside Ryders Farm could not	
	be completed during the road closure, as the pipe run had to avoid	
	other utilities, resulting in a lower fallout level into the playing field	
	ditch. Further work is required to create a crate system as a	
	soakaway, after which the ditch can be reinstated. Traffic	
	management will be required but the road will not need to be closed.	
	This is scheduled for December.	
126	Footpaths and bridleways	
	The surfacing works for the Jays bridleway have been successfully	
	undertaken and very positive feedback received.	
	A query regarding changes to the drainage has been resolved by	
	digging a holding pond.	
	A grant application has been made to TOE for funding towards a	
	replacement gate and improved access to footpath 378. The grant	
	panel meet in January to assess the applications for this quarter.	
	An update on the Heavy Vegetation Clearance and the vehicle access	
	on Sewells Lane bridleway is awaited from the Countryside Team.	
127	Faster broadband	
	DCMS funding approval has been given and the project is moving to	
	the Openreach delivery phase. Installation surveys will be	
	undertaken, and the scheme should be implanted in the first half of	
	2022.	
128	Dog bin emptying service	
	The ongoing service is being monitored. The sack by the allotment	
	field bin to be reported.	HM
129	Sydenham Newsletter	
	Rachel has successfully applied for a grant to re-establish the printed	
	newsletter. The new colour edition for October has been well	
	received.	
	MM to be interviewed for a newsletter article.	MM

Signed ..... Date .....

## 212208/4

130	Matters arising	NatWest bank security box	
		This can be accessed by the RFO and one other authorised signatory	
		with at least 24 hours' notice.	HM/HS
131		The sign for the Old Sun The post for the sign is rotten, and an estimate for repairs has been	
		received for £830. As the post is on parish council land the owner of	
		the Old Sun has offered to pay for half of the repair costs.	
		Expenditure for half the work upto a value of £500 was authorised, in grateful recognition of all the voluntary work done by the owner for	
		the good of the village.	
132		Sydenham Neighbourhood Plan	
		The final amendments document has been received for approval.	MM
		The Neighbourhood Plan Group email address does not need to be renewed in January.	
133	Correspondence	None	
134	Any Other Business	<b>New bench</b> – arriving in November. Presentation arrangements were	
TOA	Any other business	discussed.	
		There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.	
The next meeting date will be Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm in the Old School Room			om