Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 5th March 2015

Present: Paul Stancliffe

Alison Isherwood Janet Potts

Heather Mullins

Apologies: Roy Harrison

Rachel Blake

The meeting was pleased to welcome Mr J Smith.

Matters Arising		
Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	None.	
Approval of minutes	These were approved and signed.	
	The order of the agenda was amended to enable discussion of a particular planning application and item of interest with an attending member of the public.	
Broadband	The high speed broadband cabinet is to be positioned on the green between the existing cabinet and the telephone kiosk. Fibre optic cable will run to the box, and connections between the box and individual houses will be copper. BT hope that the speed to the box will be 80mb and so connection speeds will be considerably faster, depending on the distance of a property from the box. The estimated date for the cabinet to be installed is between March and June. The broadband connection for the Emmington end of the village has not yet been resolved. The connections are in the ground and are therefore known as direct exchange lines. It is hoped once the supply to Chinnor is upgraded there will be an incidental improvement for the properties on direct exchange lines, but negotiations are ongoing with BT to upgrade the lines affected. The full number of properties and postcodes affected by the 'copper re-arrange' at the Emmington junction have been discussed with Craig Bower at Better Broadband. An update is expected in late April.	
Planning		
P15/S0129/HH	1 The Cottage, Brookstones Two storey rear extension and porch No strong views	
P15/S0107/HH and P15/S0108/LB	2 The Thatched Cottages, 2 Sydenham Road a) single storey conservatory to the rear of the property, b) the placing of a new external light fitting to the front external wall at the front of the property No strong views	
Playing field	The Community Capital bid has been successful, and has awarded 60% of the cost of upgrading the playing field equipment. A sum of money has also been promised from the Fayre committee together with the sum budgeted by the parish council, so the project can proceed. It is hoped that the equipment can be in place for this summer. The hedge laying has been completed.	

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Speeding on B4445	Mark Francis at Highways has advised that any consultation for pinch points would not be a stand alone procedure but would form part of the entire project if it was agreed that the work should go ahead. Details of the application procedure have been provided. There was a discussion on the consultation process, the speed limits, the location of the pinch point and possible increase of traffic through the village if a second pinch point is installed by the garden centre site as part of Chinnor development. The matter is to be referred to the Area Steward (Keith Stenning) at the proposed meeting of local parish councils, and raised as a major priority. Al to attend this meeting, and PS to liaise with Peter Gibbons regarding when the meeting should be held around the forthcoming elections. CIL funding to Chinnor parish council had previously been queried - a parish council with a local plan receives 25% for their neighbourhood portion, and a parish council without a local plan receives 15%. This would be paid every six months in October and April unless otherwise agreed between the charging authority and the council.	38 PS
Safeguarding	The policy has been uploaded on to the website and the contact numbers are	
Children Policy	displayed on each of the parish notice boards. A separate page to be created on the parish council website to display all policies - to include standing orders, financial regulations and the publication scheme.	НМ
Clerk's annual review	Internet banking has been applied for and will be set up shortly. A new email address has been set up for the parish council and a Dropbox account created. The SLCC membership fee is approved for payment. A letter to NatWest was signed to amend the salary standing order. Contact has been made with the archive service in Oxford regarding storage of older parish council records, including minutes and accounts. Once a full check has been made on the records held at the OSR, an archivist will advise which records should be kept at the records office and an appointment can be made to deposit the items. This is done free of charge.	НМ
Footpath sign	The repair work has been agreed with Peter Quainton and will be carried out in the near future.	
Salt bin	A query has been raised with Highways who are arranging to fill the bin in the next couple of weeks.	
Planning query	The homeowner has been advised that in the view of the parish council their project conforms to the rules in all but one minor way. The owner will be checking with the planning department who will advise if a retrospective application is required.	
Burial Records	The original records need to be returned to the archive cabinet.	
Sydenham Grove development	SOHA have been contacted regarding the Grove. The existing tenants are being locally relocated to new houses in Kingston Blount. The vacant properties in The Grove will then be decommissioned and SOHA will complete a financial appraisal of the available options. Once a scheme is agreed planning permission will be applied for. Their intention is to replace the existing housing with modern affordable family housing. Mr McCaffrey of SOHA to be invited to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting on 2nd April.	

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<u>Finance</u>	The following items was authorised for payment: £180.00 OSR hall hire for meetings during year 14/15 £500.00 OSR annual grant £600.00 Sydenham newsletter annual grant £950.00 W Munday hedging works £128.00 SLCC membership £100.00 donation to Thame Citizens Advice Bureau £250.00 donation to Chinnor village centre	39
NatWest Current a/c: b/f £3,482.38	Payments: £182.21 Clerk's salary £3.06 Southern Electric - supply to defibrillator Receipts: £762.00 BT Openreach for broadband wayleave	Closing balance at 28.02.15
Natwest Reserve a/c: b/f £10,740.30	£0.41 interest received	£10,740.71
Correspondence		
SODC	Parish guide to elections Precepts 2015/16 CIL draft charging schedule consultation Local Plan 2031 refined options consultation Neighbourhood planning conference	
OCC SSE	Connecting Oxfordshire - Local Transport Plan 4 consultation Customer relations letter clarifying the proposals for the scheme	
Any Other Business		
New councillors	A pack for new councillors to be compiled for the elections.	НМ
There being no other business the meeting closed at 22.00 pm. The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 2nd April in the OSR at 8pm.		

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