

Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 2nd December 2013

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

The meeting was pleased to welcome Councillor Dorothy Brown, Councillor David Wilmshurst, Gilly Harrison and Will Browning.

<u>Matters Arising</u>		
Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	None	
Minutes of last meeting	These were approved and signed.	
Sydenham Voice	No report to make.	
Defibrillator report by Gilly Harrison	The equipment has been installed in the telephone box on the green and is functioning and registered with the ambulance service. The official opening ceremony will be on Jan 15th. The electricity supply was still available which made connection easy. BT have provided the paint for the box to be redecorated and this work has been arranged by the defibrillator group. There will be a training and information session in due course although no training is necessary to operate the equipment. The defibrillator group have arranged for routine weekly checks, and are confirming the insurance situation regarding liability. HM to check with parish council insurance company. The information notice board in the kiosk has been repositioned, and the notices and information are to be updated.	HM PS
Sydenham Grange bridleway	David Wilmshurst reported that Nick Carter has met with Andy Sylvester and that the next step is to have a site meeting. Tony Clarke from the Ramblers Association has been asked to walk the 'long route' which currently requires permission from the landowner. This has been given and he and Janet Potts are walking the route on Thursday 5th. Nick Carter and Andy Sylvester to be invited to join them, or if this is not convenient a site meeting will be held on a date to suit within the next ten days.	DW
County Council report from David Wilmshurst	Meetings and consultancy are still underway regarding funding issues. Children's centres may now not be affected but this cannot be finalised until the new year. The government settlement will be known on 19th December, and the final budget will be signed off in February. There will be a drop-in meeting for Chinnor library on 10th December for anyone wishing to volunteer to help staff the library.	
District Council report from Dorothy Brown	Budgets are being set at the moment, but the council are not looking for any savings and will not be increasing council tax. SODC and VOWH are operating a joint working system to save on expenses, and departments have been amalgamated. Some of these joint departments will be moving into empty offices at Crowmarsh in the new year. The council have employed more planning staff due to a shortage and this has proved very successful. Ideally more enforcement officers are required as well.	

Signed Date

	There are new planning laws in place for house extensions and any queries can be clarified with the Planning Department.	27
Speeding	Having had a site meeting with Jacky Madden a suitable location has been found for the SDR to be carried out with good visibility in both directions, subject to permission from the owners of the property concerned. Jacky is going to apply for us to have the equipment for two weeks, during which time we will receive training and be accompanied on the first couple of sessions. We need to check with our insurance company regarding cover. AI suggested that several parishes might be able to jointly purchase a set of the equipment - HM to investigate prices. Stickers reminding drivers of the 30mph speed limit to be purchased for residents' wheelie bins, to act as a weekly visual deterrent. These will be given to the houses on the main route through the village. The payment of £125 was authorised, and RB to place order.	HM HM RB
Playing field	Will Munday will be trimming the overgrown hedge behind the swings and replacing the post on the adventure trail. One of the goalposts needs repair and the company concerned have been very helpful with swift advice and issue of replacement parts.	RH/PS
Tree Maintenance	c/fwd	PS
Standing Orders	Due to the complexity of the new model standing orders, the views of other councillors were sought - PS and HM to meet and discuss.	PS/HM
<u>Finance</u>	Based on the proposed budget for 2014/15, it was agreed that the precept should remain at £8,000. HM to complete application. The estimated CTRS grant is £202.00. There were no payments for authorisation.	HM
NatWest Current a/c: b/f £6,204.90	Payments: £172.50 Clerk's salary £96.72 clerk's expenses £25.00 safe custody hold fee	Closing balance at 30.11.13 £5,910.68
Natwest Reserve a/c: b/f £7,735.65	No transactions	£7,735.65
<u>Planning</u>	None	
<u>Correspondence</u>		
NHS Central/ Southern Commissioning Support Unit	Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Strategic Direction: 2013 - 2018	n/l

Signed Date

<u>Any Other Business</u>		28
Blocked gully	The road drains by the Mill House are blocked and the gullies need to be emptied. JP to report online to Highways and the website link to be given to residents.	JP
SSE electricity supply	The Performance Manager from SSE has been to a site meeting on the Stert corner to discuss the 12 power cuts since the start of 2012. SSE are proposing to change the supply system to make it more reliable, by burying two sections of overhead cable that have been repeatedly affected by trees. If authorised, this work should be carried out in 2014. It is vital that the supply to the new pumping station is reliable, and the work on the new station is due to start in March 2014.	
Damaged verge	The verge opposite Plough Corner has been damaged. It was agreed that this should be made good using existing supplies of top soil. A quote to be sought, and the work put in hand as the budget for maintenance work will allow for this.	PS
Smartwater marking kits	The information about these security marking kits provided by Jacky Madden to be included in the newsletter and on the website.	n/l / HM
<p>There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd January in the OSR at 8pm.</p>		

Signed Date