

Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 6th August 2015

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

The meeting was pleased to welcome District Councillors Lynn Lloyd and Ian White

<u>Matters Arising</u>		
Co-option	David Wilkins was formally co-opted and welcomed to the parish council, and the Acceptance of Office form was signed.	
Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	None	
Approval of minutes	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.	
Neighbourhood Planning briefing	<p>Mike May and Janet Potts attended the ORCC Community Planning Workshop, which was a very informative event describing the difference between Community Led Plans and Neighbourhood Plans.</p> <p>A neighbourhood plan sets out proposals for the future development of a neighbourhood and would enable the village to identify preferred sites for development. If adopted, the neighbourhood plan forms part of the statutory development plan for the area in question, and local authority and planning inspectors have to take the plan into account when making planning decisions. This gives neighbourhood plans more weight than other types such as parish or community plans. A neighbourhood plan allows more involvement in how CIL funds resulting from development are allocated. The CIL funds can only be spent on infrastructure items, and a higher percentage of funds are allocated to villages with a neighbourhood plan.</p> <p>A type of Community Led Plan has already been carried out in Sydenham, which led to the formation of Sydenham Voice. In 2011 and again in 2013 a survey was undertaken asking which issues the villagers felt were important. A subsequent survey could be undertaken to see which subjects of importance remain on the agenda, and a more formal document produced.</p> <p>A neighbourhood plan is expensive to undertake (an average cost of £20,000 for smaller villages) but grants are available towards this. There would be a considerable amount of work involved, undertaken by a group of volunteers, and expert advice and resources could be brought in as required. A neighbourhood plan involves several stages of consultation and is inspected in the same way as the District Local Plan.</p> <p>Lynn Lloyd has arranged for a senior planning officer from SODC to speak to the parish council about Neighbourhood Planning and the options available. This is scheduled for the September meeting.</p>	
Speeding on the B4445	As yet there is no process in place for a parish council to pay for infrastructure under approval from the Highways Department, but AI continues to liaise with Keith Stenning at OCC regarding a pinch point on the B4445.	AI

Signed Date

Development of Sydenham Grove	Meetings continue to take place with Soha. Preliminary maintenance has been carried out on the site, and a monthly maintenance agreement is in place with a contractor. Demolition has been delayed to avoid unnecessary disturbance for the existing residents.	17
Playing field	The demonstration model has been tested and approved and the quantity of scramble nets required has been discussed. The nets are in production, ground clearance starts on Monday 10th and it is hoped that the structure will be complete by the end of the week. Spare bark has been requested to top up the levels around other equipment. The grant has been received from SODC. Gate security and access were discussed - options to be priced for consideration include a collapsible lockable bollard and alternative gates. Rospa to be consulted about gate requirements for playing fields.	RB/JP/HM RB
Speeding sign design competition	Entries to be judged at the September meeting. A query was raised about the cleanliness of the 30mph signs throughout the village - it was suggested that these could be added to the next village clean up, as they just need a wipe over.	
Road defects	Drainage gullies have been reported online - one remains blocked and HM to chase again. The vegetation at the Emmington junction has been cut back as requested.	HM
SSE electricity supply	Two wayleaves for the undergrounding project remain in negotiation. MM to meet with SSE next week with alternative solutions for consideration.	MM
Broadband	The power supply to the cabinet is currently being laid, although as yet there is no date from BT for the connection to go live. AI continues to liaise with Better Broadband for Oxfordshire.	AI
Grass cutting	Larger scale plans in colour have been requested from Highways to allow the schedule to be sent out for alternative quotations.	HM
Winter preparedness	Storage for spare salt is no longer available at Chinnor, but after discussion it was decided that the autumn top up of the salt bin would be sufficient.	HM
Improving mobile coverage	No response has been received yet. There was discussion regarding traffic for other networks.	AI
Sustrans	The Phoenix Trail link has been suggested to Chinnor Parish Council for possible CIL funding. The suggested route for the trail link to be walked again and the new residents along the footpath stretch to be approached. Permissive rights to cycle on the footpath are still required before the link could be formed.	RB
Online mapping	This can be revisited in the future if required.	
Dog walking	PCSO Jacky Madden has confirmed that the owners of the dog in question are complying with all requirements.	
Road cleaning	The hedges near Holliers Close have been cut back and Highways have trimmed the verges under discussion, so the road sweeper can be booked. Litter picking to be included if offered.	HM
Emergency Plan	To be redistributed with updated contact numbers for power cuts.	RB

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<u>Finance</u>	There were no items to be authorised for payment.	18
NatWest Current a/c: b/f £1,420.77	Payments: £183.92 Clerk's salary £ 58.16 Clerk's expenses £ 7.19 Samba Sports, goal repair £138.20 HMRC, PAYE for May-Jul £ 3.06 Southern electricity, supply to defibrillator Receipts: £3,000.00 Community Capital Grant for playing field equipment	Closing balance at 31.07.15 £4,030.24
Natwest Reserve a/c: b/f £10,742.52	£0.46 Interest received	£10,742.98
<u>Planning</u>		
P15/S2091/HH	2 The Cottage, Brookstones Proposed two and single storey rear extension and front entrance porch <i>No strong views / No objections</i>	
P15/S2189/HH	Harmony Cottage, Brookstones Proposed outbuilding - ancillary use to existing property <i>No strong views / No objections</i>	
P15/S2287/HH	Wheatsheaf Barn, Sydenham Road Convert existing hovel to accommodate home office, play room and utility <i>No strong views / No objections</i>	
P15/S2420/HH	Brookside, Brookstones Window alterations to front elevation. Addition of roof lights to side facing roof slopes <i>No strong views / No objections</i>	
<u>Correspondence</u>		
SODC	South Oxfordshire open space, playing pitch and sports facilities audit Neighbourhood Planning Conference 2nd September	HM HM
OCC	Oxfordshire County Council Minerals and Waste Local Plan Core Strategy Funds for resilience Town and Parish Councils Event Meetings with John Howell MP - September Conference Recess	RB/JP/HM HM
<u>Any Other Business</u>	None	
There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.10pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd September in the OSR at 8pm.		

Signed Date