

Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 3rd October 2013

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

The meeting was pleased to welcome Councillor David Wilmshurst, Des O'Flanagan and William 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, represented by Des O'Flanagan	<p>The bulbs for planting have been shared out to volunteers. This project could be repeated in future years to build up the flowering display throughout the village. The village survey has been compiled and will be circulated shortly. Suggestions are welcomed for the location of the owl boxes.</p> <p>A query was raised about ivy growing out of hand and potentially killing certain trees in the village. One of the trees is on village green land and a ring is to be taken out of the ivy around the trunk to protect the tree. The owners of the other tree in question to be contacted.</p> <p>A progress update was requested on the B4445 footpath. Councillor Wilmshurst confirmed that this is a county responsibility but that funding is not available to carry out any further work. Councillor Wilmshurst will raise the matter with Keith Stenning from the Highways department, and the parish council will continue to liaise with Chinnor PC.</p>	PS PS
Broadband	Since the last meeting the issue of the green box at the Emmington end of the village has been investigated, as it appears that this is not included in the broadband rollout. We think that the connections for the Plough Corner and Emmington area are in an underground box at the side of the main road, and may therefore have been missed out of the BT scheme. Councillor Nick Carter has been contacted regarding this, and has been asked to confirm the situation with BT. It is hoped that these connections could easily be included as they are so close to the cable that connects Thame and Chinnor. Nick Carter to be asked for an update.	HM
Playing Field	The bench fixing has been examined and will be completed before the next meeting. The refurbishment of the base areas to be discussed at a site meeting.	PS RB/RH
Footpath map	To reproduce the map on the back of an acrylic sheet would cost £100. This is based on a finished dimension that will fit into the existing rebate of the frame and can then be sealed. This will allow for expansion/contraction in different temperatures. This expenditure was approved, and the repair will proceed without the need to claim on the insurance policy.	PS

Signed Date

Sydenham Grange Bridleway	Councillor Nick Carter is co-ordinating a site meeting with Mr Sylvester from OCC and Councillor Wilmshurst. Will Browning and Janet Potts to also attend. DW to prompt NC.	21
Brookstones flood bund	OCC Highways department are planning to start this work on Monday 7th October. High kerbs will be installed for the full length of the raised bank to prevent it being worn away. At the Thames Water meeting this week it was announced that work on the new pumping station will commence in March 2014, and the intention is to have the new station working by autumn 2014.	
Salt bin	All salt bins in the county will be filled at the start of November, and it has been verified that the Sydenham bin is on the list.	
Speeding	To print stickers from a colouring competition would be too expensive, so pre-printed stickers are being looked at as an alternative. The suggestion is for each house to be issued with two stickers so that each bin collection will be effective. Having received an advert from a company promoting community speed watch product, HM to investigate the option of renting a SID.	HM
Footpaths	Will Munday has been asked to trim the path from Holliers Close, and also to top the sides of the Sewells Lane bridleway. This work is in hand.	
Defibrillator	So far £950 has been raised and there are ongoing events. Munday's Charity has agreed to match the fayre donation. There may be a problem connecting electricity to the phone box, and Southern Electricity are to be asked for a quotation. Once the cost is known the parish council will decide whether it will support the fund by paying for the connection or by making a general grant. The parish council agreed that the telephone box could be used to house the defibrillator.	
County Council report from David Wilmshurst	In December the council will be advised what their budget will be for the next financial year, and is currently planning towards this. Savings will need to be made and this will include redundancies. There has already been a major reduction in the head count, which is down by 30% in the general work force and by 40% for the manager element. All the libraries in Oxfordshire have been saved, but on reduced staffing. One of the libraries looking for volunteers is Chinnor. DW to forward a piece for the newsletter, which can also be used to promote the mobile library service.	
<u>Finance</u>	The following items have been authorised for payment: £131.00 PAYE for the quarter Aug-Oct £12.04 backdated pay award for the clerk £34.99 Roy Harrison expenses	
NatWest Current a/c: b/f £3,592.51	Payments: £170.79 Clerk's salary £40.00 OPFA membership renewal (o/s) £78.00 PlaySafety inspection (o/s) £750.00 Will Munday for mowing greens and churchyard (o/s)	Closing balance at 30.09.13 £3,421.72
Natwest Reserve a/c: b/f £7,734.85	£0.80 interest received	£7,735.65

Signed Date

<u>Planning</u>	None	22
<u>Correspondence</u>		
South & Vale	Town and parish forum	
OCC	Draft local list - information requirements for planning applications Talking Oxfordshire - public events and online consultation	HM
TVP	Neighbourhood Team report	
Rural Services Network	Rural funding petition	HM
Dogs Trust	Free microchipping	HM
<u>Any Other Business</u>		
SOHA repairs	A resident has asked for useful contacts.	RB
Chinnor housing allocation	There was a discussion about the SODC presentation in Chinnor, and possible implications for the Phoenix Trail link.	RB
<p>There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.00pm. The next meeting will be held on 7th November in the OSR at 8pm.</p>		

Signed Date