

Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of Annual Meeting of the Parish Council 6th October 2016

Present: Alison Isherwood
 Janet Potts
 David Wilkins
 Mike May
 Stephanie Johns attended to minute the meeting, prior to taking the role as Clerk / RFO from 01/11/16

Apologies: Rachel Blake

<u>Matters Arising</u>		
Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	There were no declarations of interests.	
Approval of minutes	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.	
Neighbourhood Planning	<p>With all the surrounding villages actively looking at a Neighbourhood Plan, the concern is that the need for one for Sydenham is becoming even more of a priority.</p> <p>Various people have shown an interest in helping if a Neighbourhood Plan is agreed. One of the interested parties is to be contacted to see whether they would be interested in Chairing the group if it is formed.</p> <p>All interested parties will be emailed and invited to the next meeting for a discussion.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">MM</p> <p style="text-align: right;">AI</p>
Development of Sydenham Grove	<p>A meeting with SOHA took place on 14th September to discuss progress.</p> <p>Indications are that a planning application may be submitted towards the end of the year. Further discussions / meetings are to be arranged.</p>	MM
SSE electricity supply	The Land Agent has responded on behalf of the land owner and discussions are continuing on the wayleaves with some progress being made.	MM
Broadband	<p>The current rollout is scheduled for December 2017, however there is no guarantee of this.</p> <p>Craig Bower, leader of Better Broadband for Oxon is to be asked to a meeting to discuss. All affected parties will be contacted and invited to attend.</p>	AI
Grass cutting	<p>Keith Stenning confirmed if the PC accepted the grant and ownership of grass cutting, liability would lie with the PC should an accident occur as a result of grass not being cut at the junction. The insurance would need to cover this.</p> <p>MM suggested that OCC continue with the current cut and the PC forfeit the grant.</p> <p>The Fair Committee will be asked (next year) to pay for an additional cut and any necessary Junction cuts will be paid for by the PC.</p> <p>Discussion reviewing the hedges and verges are ongoing.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">MM</p> <p style="text-align: right;">MM</p>

Signed Date

Emergency plan and funds for resilience grant	<p>The best storage location for the generator is being discussed with the OSR Committee.</p> <p>Discussions are ongoing and further discussions will be had regarding the best storage location. If a location is agreed, a quote will be obtained for building a safe place for the generator. JP will advise the Councillors by the end of the week and a decision will be made before the next meeting as this needs to progress quickly as the risk of a power cut increases.</p>	JP
Footpaths, TOE2	<p>TOE2 grant to be applied for the stiles etc. when the next grant application window opens.</p> <p>In order to apply for a TOE2 grant, 2 quotes are needed to improve the stiles past the Jays. This is ongoing but is proving to be difficult as it is a relatively small job.</p>	JP JP
Speeding – Conclusion and way forward	<p>Prior to the PC Meeting, a village meeting was held to discuss speed reduction schemes. The meeting welcomed by Keith Stenning from OCC Highway to answer questions and was also pleased to welcome 23 members of the public.</p> <p>Various options were discussed and questions asked. It was agreed that some sort of speeding restrictions are needed.</p> <p>Keith confirmed that there is very little accident history on the road with only 1 minor and no major incidents reported.</p> <p>All options have an associated cost which the PC would need to fund as there is no available funding available from OCC.</p> <p>Any installation would be the responsibility of the PC until it is 'handed back' and adopted by OCC. This period is approximately 12 months and the PC / relevant contractor would be responsible in the meantime for any maintenance. The actual costs would depend on whether the PC are able to employ their own contractor. This would need to be agreed with Highways.</p> <p>Four options were considered viable:</p> <p>Tables: These would lie across the road and would be white in colour. They are considered more effective than cushions (approx.. £5.5k) but do create more noise and are also more expensive. 2 of these would be needed over a distance of approx. 100m. This is considered to be the most effective method.</p> <p>Extend the verges to make the road narrower and create passing spaces: The cost of this is unknown but can be investigated. It was also suggested that a pavement could be created but this would be very expensive. This would be in keeping with the rural environment and was considered to be somewhat effective.</p> <p>Fake speed camera: This would need to be installed on private land and could be moved about to give the impression that it is genuine. This was considered to be somewhat effective.</p> <p>SID (Speed indicator Device): An LED sign showing the mileage people are driving. Again, this was considered to be somewhat effective.</p> <p>A chicane was not considered to be an effective measure due to the road being straight so drivers would have a clear view ahead. This measure also requires street lights which are not desirable. There are exceptions such as illuminated boards but these are not ideal.</p> <p>Before making a decision on the above, a speed survey will be carried, which involves placing equipment at various sections of the road, in order that data can be collected about the average speeds. This will be used to help decide what the next step should be.</p> <p>2 x 'Dangerous bend' signs (one to be installed on each side of the road) were</p>	

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	<p>also requested and Keith seemed to think this would be possible.</p> <p>A letter of thanks will be sent to Keith Stenning for his time and advice and a further meeting will be held once more information and costs are known. A formal request for the speed survey will also be made.</p>	AI
New Clerk RFO support plan	The new clerk will officially begin the role on 1 st November 2016. A meeting will be arranged for some basic training. This will be ongoing.	AI / RB
<u>Finance</u>	<p>Confirmation of the previous budget to be distributed to all showing precept in and expenditure against it.</p> <p>It was noted that the audit has now been approved by BDO and the summary report is on the Noticeboards</p> <p>The following items were approved for payment: £120.00 BDO Audit Payment £300.00 Chris Hooper - Hedges</p>	AI
NatWest Current a/c: b/f £2,903.03	<p><i>September</i></p> <p>Payments: £157.94 Will Munday for Gate repairs on entrance to village by Box Cottages £ 3.07 Southern Electric – defibrillator supply</p> <p>Receipts: £4500.00 Precept (second instalment)</p>	Closing balance at 30.09.16
Natwest Reserve a/c: b/f £14,250.12	£0.59 September interest received	£7,242.02 £14,250.71
<u>Planning</u> P16/S1237/FUL	<p>1 Holliers Close</p> <p>This was approved at the Planning Committee Meeting on 4th October on the condition that the materials used are in keeping with the area.</p>	
<u>Correspondence</u> None		
<u>Any Other Business</u>	DW reported that a parishioner had requested reimbursement of £270 for materials used for work on a drain to create a soak-away for excess water on private land. Enquiries will be made to OCC Highways about responsibilities.	DW
<p>There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.15pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd November in the Old School Room at 7.30pm.</p>		

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