

Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th October 2023 at the Old School Room

Present: Michael May (MM) – Chair
 Vicki Roe (VR) - Vice Chair
 Tara Glen (TG)
 David Wilkins (DW)
 Hayley Smith (HS)
 Heather Mullins (HM) – Clerk

100	Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	None	
101	Minutes of previous meeting	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.	
102	Planning	<p>APP/Q3115/W/23/3323268 Land west of Thame Road Chinnor Outline planning application for up to 150 residential dwellings. Preparations for and communications regarding the appeal were discussed.</p> <p>P23/S1345/FUL Greenways, Sewells Lane, Sydenham Removal of existing dwelling, construction of replacement two storey detached dwelling with car port, access, car parking and associated works <i>Approved at SODC Planning Committee on 4th October</i></p> <p>P23/S2716/HH Kingsland Barn, Thame Road, Sydenham, Chinnor OX39 4LA Part garage conversion to studio/gym with skylights <i>SODC decision – permission granted</i></p>	
103	Finance	<p>The following items were approved for payment:</p> <p>£7.96 Virtual Landline £4.62 SSE electricity supply for defibrillator £451.25 Clerk's salary £36.00 Pet Waste Solutions £90.00 Play Safety RoSPA inspection £42.84 DW expenses – fuel for mower £18.00 printer cartridges</p>	
	NatWest Current a/c: b/f £696.31	<p>Payments:</p> <p>£451.25 Clerk's salary for August £36.00 Pet Waste Solutions, dog bin emptying for August £600.00 Grafham Construction Limited, footbridge repairs £80.00 S. Williams - strimming playing field area and ditch £8,000.00 transfer to reserve account £7.96 Virtual Landline</p>	Closing balance at 30/09/23

Signed Date

		<p>£200.00 Morris team - fayre beneficiary £200.00 Chinnor Activity Club amazon voucher - Fayre beneficiary £500.00 S. McKee Sydenham Choir - Fayre beneficiary £300.00 H.Smith village planting - Fayre beneficiary £4.62 SSE Southern Electric - supply to defibrillator</p> <p>Receipts: £10,000.00 SODC precept second instalment £500.00 transfer from reserve account £300.00 village planting monies - keep in a/c for draw down</p> <p>Payments: £500.00 transfer to current account</p> <p>Receipts: £8,000.00 transfer from current account £50.49 interest received</p>	<p>£1,116.48</p> <p>£46,964.54</p>
		Initial draft of the budget for 2024/2025 to be circulated in advance of the November meeting for discussion.	
104	Matters carried forward	<p>Playing field An excellent RoSPA inspection report has been received – thanks as ever go to David Wilkins for his unstinting work. Work to the hedging was discussed, including grading and topping. Following contact with TOE, an application to be made for a grant to replace the front hedge. Two estimates for the work are required.</p>	DW
105		<p>Chicane installation on B4445 It is anticipated that there will be an increase in through traffic whilst the B4445 road closure is in place (23-27 October), despite this not being the official diversion route.</p>	
106		<p>20mph zone OCC have approved the scheme for replacement VAS signs and will let us know in due course when Sydenham’s can be done.</p>	
107		<p>Village repairs and maintenance Hedge cutting has been agreed. OPC have been contacted regarding drain clearance, with further communication required to ensure that the grills in the pavement edges are included. Photos of the ditches and grits to be submitted to SODC with a request for them to be cleared. Drainage by the ditch network was discussed and landowner to be approached with a maintenance request. Whilst discussing trees on the village green a suggestion was made about Christmas lighting – cost to be investigated. The tree surgeon is applying for the necessary permission to fell the oak on the lower greens. Resulting wood chips could be used at the allotment or footpath routes for weed suppression. Sunday morning has been suggested as a good time for working parties. Upcoming jobs to be discussed.</p>	<p>DW</p> <p>DW</p> <p>DW</p> <p>DW</p> <p>MM</p> <p>MM</p>

Signed Date

108		Footpaths and bridleways The placement of hardcore on Sewells Lane bridleway has made an enormous improvement and has been well received. Cuts to both Sewells Lane and the Jays path have been agreed.	DW
109		Fayre Committee report Most external beneficiary payments have now been made and funding for village projects can be drawn down from the Fayre account as required. It has been agreed there will not be a SOP for donations and will be at the discretion of the fayre committee. PC members are on this subcommittee.	VR/HS
110		Coronation Stone A mock-up has been requested from the stonemasons for use in the faculty application.	HM
111		APM Feedback Date confirmed as 26 th April 2024 – hall booking to be finalised. Format to include a quiz.	HM
112		Salt bins and stocks It was agreed to order one new salt bin for the Plough Corner end of the village, located towards the Inn at Emmington to provide maximum benefit. Expenditure of £250 plus VAT approved. Routine fill of all existing bins will be undertaken – locations to be confirmed with OCC. No salt bags to be ordered.	HM HM
113		Grant of access over Registered Village Green Following the extraordinary meeting on 22 nd September Sydenham PC has instructed a solicitor, and the necessary forms and ID checks are being completed.	VR/HS
114	Matters Arising	Neighbourhood Plan update Funding for the necessary update is being applied for, and the review will take place in the spring. Discussion included site allocation, assessing housing need, timescales and examination. The extent of change will determine whether a referendum will be required.	TG
115		Community Speedwatch Scheme Following an enquiry about volunteering, it was decided that considering the scheme should be deferred until the VAS signs have been changed.	
116		Boundary dispute in Kingston Blount There has been correspondence between Aston Rowant and Sydenham Parish Councils but no solution has been agreed. Will suggest to landowner that they get advice from a land agent.	MM
117	Correspondence	Power for People – community energy grants for renewable energy OCC – Town & Parish Council Charter Summit 26 th Oct	
118	AOB	Date of next meeting – to be moved to 9th November at 7pm. Hall to be booked accordingly.	HM
<p style="text-align: center;">There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 9th November at 7.00pm in the Old School Room.</p>			

Signed Date