

Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th December 2023 at the Old School Room

Present: Michael May (MM) – Chair
David Wilkins (DW)
Hayley Smith (HS)
Heather Mullins (HM) – Clerk

Apologies: Vicki Roe (VR) - Vice Chair
Tara Glen (TG)

The meeting was pleased to welcome District Councillor Ali Gordon-Creed.

142	Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	None	
143	Minutes of previous meeting	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.	
144	Planning	Public Planning Inquiry PINS Ref: APP/Q3115/W/23/3323268 Original Planning Application P22/S4643/O 150 residential dwellings off of Thame Road, Chinnor <i>Planning Inspectorate decision – appeal dismissed</i>	
145	Finance	The following items were approved for payment: £8.75 Virtual Landline £5.06 SSE electricity supply for defibrillator £676.25 Clerk's salary (includes backdated pay award) £36.00 Pet Waste Solutions £380.62 Cyan Teak Furniture – bench £1,500.00 Professional fees for Neighbourhood Plan review £5.00 Sainsbury – printer paper £39.45 Amazon – printer cartridges £73.98 Planting – Fayre beneficiary £13.99 Amazon – sleigh items, Fayre £119.88 GoDaddy website builder renewal (1 year) £23.98 GoDaddy domain renewal (2 years) £30.00 DW expenses – fuel for machines £40.00 S. Williams – playing field maintenance £880.00 hedging for playing field £540.00 Two Oaks Landscapes – tree and stump removal £13.98 Amazon – sleigh boxes, Fayre £80.00 2x sets of pads for defibrillator £58.99 Padlock and keys for playing field	
	NatWest Current a/c: b/f £164.57	Payments: £451.25 Clerk's salary for October £36.00 Pet Waste Solutions, dog bin emptying for October £953.52 Grafham Construction Limited, Sewells Lane surfacing £8.75 Virtual Landline £50.00 ONPA membership £1,500.00 FTB Professional fees for NP advice	Closing balance at 30/11/23

Signed Date

	NatWest Reserve a/c: b/f £46,023.97	<p>£5.00 Sainsbury - A4 paper</p> <p>£380.62 Cyan Teak Garden Furniture - bench for Brookstones</p> <p>£39.45 Amazon printer cartridges</p> <p>£200.00 voucher as thanks for telephone box painting</p> <p>£73.98 HS - fayre beneficiary planting tubs</p> <p>£13.99 Amazon - santa items for sleigh</p> <p>Receipts:</p> <p>500.00 transfer from reserve account</p> <p>1000.00 transfer from reserve account</p> <p>1500.00 transfer from reserve account</p> <p>600.00 transfer from reserve account</p> <p>500.00 transfer from reserve account</p> <p>Payments:</p> <p>500.00 transfer to reserve account</p> <p>1000.00 transfer to reserve account</p> <p>1500.00 transfer to reserve account</p> <p>600.00 transfer to reserve account</p> <p>500.00 transfer to reserve account</p> <p>Receipts:</p> <p>£52.81 interest received</p>	<p>£552.01</p> <p>£41,976.78</p>
		The draft budget for 2024/2025 was discussed, with a final version to be approved at the January meeting and the precept set accordingly.	
146	Matters carried forward	<p>Playing field</p> <p>A hedging quote of £880.00 has been accepted, and the plants should be arriving in the next few weeks. It is hoped to have the hedge in place before Christmas.</p> <p>The hedging/trees behind the swings and slide have been trimmed back, the ditches cleared and the nettles removed to prepare for front hedge planting.</p>	<p>DW</p> <p>DW</p>
147		<p>Chicane installation on B4445</p> <p>The solar light has been installed but is not working correctly.</p>	MM
148		<p>VAS signs and speeding</p> <p>Update awaited from OCC for the replacement VAS signs – contacts have changed under a restructure.</p> <p>A request to be made via Sydenham Mail for volunteers to man the speed gun.</p>	<p>MM</p> <p>HM</p>
149		<p>Village repairs and maintenance</p> <p>Road sweeper to be requested for road through village, with particular request for clearance around chicane and pinch point.</p> <p>Re point 148, new contact for flooding issues, enquiries made.</p> <p>Verges to be tidied following dredging, daffodils to be purchased if possible and planted this week.</p> <p>Brookstones bench installed, with concrete base to be completed in new year.</p>	<p>HM</p> <p>DW</p> <p>HS</p> <p>DW</p>
150		<p>Footpaths and bridleways</p> <p>Quote for flailing both bridleways obtained, others to be sought for discussion in January.</p>	DW

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151		Fayre Committee The committee will meet in the new year.	
152		Coronation Stone Church wardens to be contacted regarding the faculty application.	HM
153		Grant of access over Registered Village Green Completed, with a request for original documents to be given to the Parish Council.	
154		Neighbourhood Plan update The barrister's opinion has been received, and Oxfordshire Neighbourhood Plans Alliance have been asked for advice regarding site allocation. There appears to be a contradiction of compliance between the Local Plan and the requirements of NPPF. Investigation of this continues. The current members of the Neighbourhood Plan team are willing to continue.	
155		Boundary dispute in Kingston Blount The resident concerned will be advised to ask for legal advice.	MM
156		Sydenham Village Facebook Group It is not viable to set up a separate public service Parish Council Facebook page. A new page has been set up on the village website on a trial basis.	HM
157		Community Energy Awards The application process for grants is due to open imminently. The council hopes to apply for a grant to undertake a feasibility study.	MM
158		Brookstones tree works These are complete and the new Sweet Chestnut should be planted in the next few weeks.	
159	Matters Arising	Joint Local Plan consultation The consultation starts in January, and depending on progress with legal advice the planning inconsistency between the Local Plan and NPPF may need to be flagged up.	
160	Correspondence	SODC Communications – Joint Local Plan consultation update Parish Precepts 2024-2025	All HM
161	AOB	January meeting to be moved to Wednesday 10 th .	
<p style="text-align: center;">There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.10pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th January at 7.00pm at 12 Park View.</p>			

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