

Minutes of the meeting of Sonning Common Parish Council held on Monday 17 November 2014 in the Village Hall.

Present: Mr Kedge (Chairman); Mrs Diwell; Mr Fort; Mr Greenwood; Miss Hunt; Mrs Lewis; Ms Noble; Mrs Phillips-Tilbury; Mr Rawlins; Mr Reynolds; Mr Stoves and Mr Collings (Parish Clerk) and Mrs Varnes (Deputy Clerk).

Also present: Six members of the public; County Councillor Bartholomew; District Councillor Harrison and Ms H Patchett (Henley Standard).

- 15/086 Apologies for absence: Mr Jones. No declarations.
- 15/087 Public Question Time under Section 30 of Standing Orders. Residents from Pages Orchard asked if there had been progress on the parking problem discussed at the last meeting. The Parish Clerk advised that work is progressing to obtain quotations and once they are in the council will to seek funding in order to progress. Residents were assured that the problem will not be allowed to slip away.
- 15/088 Police Report previously circulated. Noted. Mr Fort proposed and it was resolved that Thames Valley Police should be asked formally to act to enforce the double yellow lines on the corners of Wood Lane/Woodlands Road and Sedgewell Road/ Peppard Road.
- 15/089 Minutes of Finance Committee meetings held on 8 October and 5 November 2014 were presented and ratified.
- 15/090 Minutes of previous meetings:
- 090.01 Planning Committee held on 20 October 2014 were presented and approved.
- 090.02 Parish Council meeting held on 20 October 2014 were presented and approved.
- 15/091 County Councillor's Report: Cllr Bartholomew reported that 58.6% of Oxfordshire students gained five A* to C graded GCSEs including English and Maths in 2014; that the van and trailer permit scheme for household waste disposal has now been made electronic; that there is a free electric blanket testing service; that works to the road connecting Sonning Bridge to the Playhatch roundabout have been completed early; the reconstruction of the Bix dual carriageway is due to be completed a week earlier than planned; that the bollard he is funding through the residue of his Councillor Highways fund will be installed this week in Wood Lane opposite Woodlands Road; that Highways reassessed the Crowsley Way defects and have completed more extensive repairs; that parking solutions in Pages Orchard are still being pursued and that the Highways drainage team has now resolved the flooding issues on Sedgewell Road. Mr Greenwood noted, to general approval, how much Cllr Bartholmew's continuing efforts are appreciated in the village.
- 15/092 District Councillor's Report: Cllr Harrison reported on changes resulting from changes on Henley Town Council; that there are concerns about how Oxford City Council has assessed its housing land availability and it has been asked to review its plan; there will be an effort to keep up recycling rates over Christmas; SODC is trying to help those most affected by the 'spare bedroom tax'.
- 15/093 Parish Clerk's Report - Appendix A attached – noted.
- 15/094 Play Area Inspections: After discussion it was resolved to:
- Train two people to carry out quarterly and monthly routine inspections of play area equipment on the council's behalf at a cost of £400.
 - Carry out necessary repairs and maintenance work, as recommended by the 2014 annual inspection reports.
 - Adopt a simple form for recording details of routine playground inspections.
 - Erect signs at all play areas with the council's contact details for reporting damage/accidents and to advise that the use of play area equipment is at the user's own risk.

- 15/095 Dates for 2015/16 were agreed with a modification of the start of the APM to 19.30.
- 15/096 Openness in Local Government Regulations: The Deputy Clerk circulated a briefing note and the matter will be discussed at the December meeting.
- 15/097 Neighbourhood Development Plan progress. Mr Greenwood confirmed that residents meetings have been held about SON2 and SONs2&3;
 He reported on the successful weekend display just held which was attended by over 250 people of whom 188 had completed detailed questionnaires. Those responses showed that 80% or more support the principles and policies; the least favoured item attracted over 60% support.
 7th February 2015 is the date now committed for publication of the final draft of the NDP for consultation.
- 15/098 Skatepark project: Mrs Lewis reported on frustratingly slow progress in finalising the legalities but it is still expected that the build will be completed in the spring of 2015.
- 15/099 Matters for future consideration.
 The next meeting has to consider the budget for 2015/16 and the Openness in Local Government Regulations.

Meeting closed at 21.10.

Next meeting: Monday 15 December 2014 at 20.00.

Chairman: Dated: