

Minutes of the meeting of Sonning Common Parish Council held on Monday 15 January 2018 in the Village Hall

Present: Mrs Lewis (Chairman); Mrs Diwell; Mr Kedge; Mrs Phillips-Tilbury; Mr Rawlins; Mr Rinta-Suksi; Mr Rust and Mr Stoves. Also: Mr Collings (Parish Clerk) and Mrs Varnes (Deputy Parish Clerk).
Also present: Cllr D Bartholomew; Cllr P Harrison; Mr C McLoughlin Henley Standard; four members of the public.

- 18/125 Apologies for absence: Mr Fort, Mr Greenwood, Mr Howe and Mr Jones. No declarations of interests.
- 18/126 Public Question Time: Ms Bernice Ellis asked for any news on the problems with the bus stop by Brinds Close. The Parish Clerk advised that enquiries are continuing into the cost of a replacement which is likely to exceed £5K. After discussion it was agreed that as an alternative Rob Smith should be asked to cost modifying the present structure as this is likely to be less expensive. Review at next meeting.
- 18/127 Police Report – circulated by email and noted.
- 18/128 Minutes of previous meetings:
- 128.01 Finance Committee held on 3 January 2017 were presented and approved.
- 128.02 Planning Committee held on 20 November, 4 and 18 December 2017 were presented and approved.
- 128.03 Parish Council meeting held on 18 December 2017 were presented and approved.
- 18/129 FISH – Mr Clive Mills thanked the council for its donation of last year as the IT that it helped to fund saved they day after the recent damage to the office. He reported on a successful year and especially the growth in home visits with 20 volunteer visitors already.
- 18/130 County Councillor’s Report: In addition to his emailed report Cllr Bartholomew looked forward to the 18 January meeting about the 3rd Bridge having considered the Reading Local Plan. Action of Horsepond Road flooding is likely to take time.
- 18/131 District Councillor’s Report: In his report (emailed) Cllr Harrison referred to the £150K of improvements at Henley Leisure Centre. Mrs Phillips-Tilbury queried their value from her observations.
- 18/132 Parish Clerk’s Report – costs for speed limit change on B481 still awaited.
- 18/133 Memorial Hall Field Working Party (MHFWP): The Parish Clerk advised that it is hoped to complete the land transfer within a couple of weeks.
- 18/134 Village Centre Working Party (VCWP): In Mr Howe’s absence the report from Ben Hamilton-Baillie was discussed as part of item 18/130 where it was noted for future action.
- 18/135 Environment Working Party: Mr Rust reported on progress with clearing around Widmore Pond, tree planting including one in memory of Linda Webb and plans to clear holly in the new woodland area. It was agreed to put warning notices on the pond wall.
- 18/136 It was resolved to ratify the motion proposed by Mr Rawlins at the last meeting ‘That Sonning Common Parish Council, using its general power of competence, will support Eye & Dunsden Parish Council and CAGE (the association of local parishes and Reading residents’ associations) in opposing the Gladman/Phillimore application P16-s3630 for 245 new homes to be built to the north of Emmer Green at Appeal or indeed Recovery by the Secretary of State. SCPC will support rule 6 status at appeal or other expenditure on expert evidence and witnesses up to a limit of £4,000. Such support shall be conditional on other parties pledging to provide at least twice as much funding and will be further limited by this ratio.’
- 18/137 Matters for future agendas. Widmore Pond wall and Brinds Corner Bus shelter.
- Meeting closed at 21.16. Next meeting: Monday 19 February 2018 at 20.00.

Chairman:

Dated: