

Sonning Common Parish Council
Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of Annual Meeting of the
Village Centre and Environment Committee held on
Tuesday 15th June 2021 at 20.00 hrs in the Village Hall.

Present: Mr Bidgood; Ms Boorman; Mr Cann; Mrs Diwell; Mr Howe with Mrs Jenkins (Deputy Clerk). Mr Rawlins joined the meeting at 20.35.

Apologies: Mr Giles

- VCEC 21/001 Ms Boorman proposed that Mr Howe be elected the Chairman of the VCEC this was seconded by Mr Bidgood and resolved unanimously.
- VCEC 21/002 Mr Cann proposed that Ms Boorman be elected the Vice Chairman of the VCEC this was seconded by Mrs Diwell and resolved unanimously.
- VCEC 21/003 Apologies for absence: Apologies were received for Mr Giles and these were accepted.
- VECE 21/004 Declarations of pecuniary interest: None declared.
- VCEC 21/005 Public Question Time: One member of the public was present, but had no questions to ask of the committee.
- VCEC 21/006 It was resolved unanimously to accept the Terms of Reference for the VCEC on the condition of minor amendments as follows:
- Add 'traffic management' as a separate item in point 2
 - State that the Chairman will be the spokesperson for the committee and will be quoted in the press in liaison with the Parish Office in (point 11).

The VCEC will recommend these TOR to full council on the meeting of Monday 21st June 2021.

Mr Rawlins joined the meeting at 20.35

- VCEC 21/007 Mr Cann provided an overview of workstreams for the committee and lead members for workstreams were decided as follows:
- Village Centre – Mr Howe
 - Finance – Mr Cann
 - Traffic Management – Mr Bidgood
 - Environment – Ms Boorman
 - Widmore Pond – Mrs Diwell
- VCEC 21/008 It was resolved to recommend to the full council meeting of 21st June 2021, the proposal by Ms Boorman to develop an Environmental Strategy for Sonning Common Parish Council, including holding a workshop in July to discuss aspirations and actions. This was seconded by Mr Cann and a unanimous decision.
- VCEC 21/009 Mr Bidgood and Ms Boorman volunteered to investigate the request by Councillor Bartholomew to assess the risk regarding the short-cut/desire line which has been created across the grass next to the crossing at Widmore Triangle. Findings will be reported on at the next meeting.
- VCEC 21/010 It was resolved to allow Mr Bidgood to submit a proposal concerning a cycle lane adjacent to the B481, linking Sonning Common to Emmer Green. This was proposed by Mr Cann, seconded by Mrs Diwell and voted for

unanimously.

Standing items:

- VCEC 21/011 **Youth Club:** Mrs Jenkins provided an overview of the youth club.
- VCEC 21/012 **Village Halls:** Mrs Jenkins provided an overview of the village halls.
- VCEC 21/013 **Village Centre:** Mr Howe provided an overview of the Village Centre improvements and explained that funding opportunities are currently being sought by Stantec.
- VCEC 21/014 **Allotments:** It was resolved to request that Mr Stoves considers join the VCEC to take the lead on the allotments for this committee.
- VCEC 21/015 **Widmore Pond:** Mrs Diwell updated the group on various wildlife at the pond and explained that bread attracting rats can still be a problem.
- VCEC 21/016 It was suggested by Mr Rawlins that the VCEC meet on a Monday between planning/full council and the Parks and Recreation Committee. Dates to be confirmed by the Parish Office.
- VCEC 21/017 Matters for future agendas:
- Village Centre funding preparations (Mr Howe)
 - Village Environment Vision (Ms Boorman)
 - Mr Bidgood will prepare a presentation regarding a cycle path on the B481
 - Mr Bidgood will prepare a presentation regarding Ben Hamilton Baillie's Placemaker vision for Sonning Common.

Meeting Closed: 10pm