

Minutes of the Meeting of Sonning Common Parish Council held on Monday 17 October 2022 in the Village Hall

Present: Mr Stoves (Chairman), Ms Boorman, Mr Bidgood, Mrs Diwell, Mr James, Mr Rawlins, Mr Robinson and Mr Collings (Parish Clerk), Mrs Underwood (Deputy Clerk) and Cllr D Bartholomew.

23/050 Apologies for absence: Mrs Lewis, Mr Howe and Mrs Pearman. No declarations.

23/051 Public Question Time – none present.

23/052 Minutes of the following meetings were presented and approved:

052.01 Planning Committee held on 3 October.

052.02 Parish Council held on 21 September.

052.03 Finance Committee held on 14 September – Minute only.

23/053 County Councillor's Report - Cllr Bartholomew commented on his emailed report.

23/054 District Councillor's Report – - Cllr Rawlins commented on his emailed report.

23/055 Parish Clerk's Report – the need for members to review the accuracy of their Register of Interests entries on SODC website was noted.

23/056 SC Youth Club update – Mrs Underwood reported that the club continues to thrive and is operating at its maximum capacity.

23/057 Mr Bidgood reported that the Village Centre Working Party is making good progress on all the matters to do with speed limits and signage including yellow lines. Enforcement will be an issue.

23/058 The meeting reviewed and approved the Cycleway Working Party Terms of reference with the proviso that it should conform with the SCPC Media policy and not conduct separate social media activities.

23/059 The meeting considered the national Civility and Respect Pledge and resolved that once SCPC is able to agree all the conditions listed below it will formally sign up.

Statements to be agreed to:

Our council has agreed that it will treat all councillors, clerk and all employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations, and volunteers, with civility and respect in their role.

Our council has put in place a training programme for councillors and staff.

Our council has signed up to Code of Conduct for councillors.

Our council has good governance arrangements in place including, staff contracts, and a dignity at work policy.

Our council will commit to seeking professional help in the early stages should civility and respect issues arise.

Our council will commit to calling out bullying and harassment if and when it happens.

Our council will continue to learn from best practice in the sector and aspire to being a role model/champion council e.g., via the Local Council Award Scheme.

Our council supports the continued lobbying for the change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge, including sanctions for elected members where appropriate.

23/060 Matters for future agendas:

Ms Boorman's paper on Working Parties and Committees; The Councillor's Manual; Cycleway progress reports.

Meeting closed at 20.45 - next meeting: 14 November 2022

Chairman:

Dated: