

# Sydenham Parish Council

## Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Present: Paul Stancliffe  
Roy Harrison  
Alison Isherwood  
Janet Potts  
Rachel Blake  
Heather Mullins

The meeting was pleased to welcome our District Councillor Dorothy Brown

<u>Matters Arising</u>		
New Parish Councillor	Rachel Blake was welcomed as a new parish councillor following the Parish Council election on 5th May, the other elected members being Paul Stancliffe, Roy Harrison, Alison Isherwood and Janet Potts . The Declarations of Acceptance of Office were duly completed and witnessed.	
Election of Officers	The officers of the council were elected as follows: Chairman - Paul Stancliffe was proposed by Roy Harrison and seconded by Alison Isherwood Vice Chairman - Roy Harrison was proposed by Paul Stancliffe and seconded by Alison Isherwood  There followed a discussion about the sharing of knowledge and information within the parish council with a view to the succession of officers, and the possibility of each councillor taking on certain roles/responsibilities.	
Approval of the 2010 APM minutes	The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 6th May 2010 were approved and signed.	
District Council Annual Report	Dorothy Brown gave her annual report which included recycling, council tax, smarter working with councils sharing officers (eg SODC and the Vale of the White Horse), the core strategy, the cattle market in Thame and SOHA's development of sites such as Sydenham Grove.	
Tree on green	Clerk to check previous correspondence with the Tree Officer to see the size the hornbeam planted last year has to achieve before the ash tree behind the bush shelter can be felled.	HM
Road Cleaning	Although Verdant's road cleaning vehicle has now visited the village, certain areas have been missed (Plough Corner) and the weeds at the sides of the road have not been dealt with. These are now the responsibility of Highways, so a separate request to be made. Verdant to be asked to complete Plough Corner.	HM HM
Website	The layout to date was commented on and suggestions welcomed for further content. The website is due to go live during June.	
<u>Finance</u>	The annual accounts return for the year ending 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2011 was examined and approved. The Parish Council members acknowledged their responsibility for the preparation of accounts, and confirmed, to the best of their knowledge and belief, with respect to the council's accounts for the year ending 31.3.11 that the points of the Annual Governance Statement had all been completed satisfactorily.	

Signed ..... Date .....

<p>The following items have been authorised for payment:          £396.04 Peter Quainton, display sign on the green          £263.00 M P Printers, May/June newsletter          £40.00 PAYE deductions for clerk's salary</p>		
<u>Any Other Business</u>		
Filming in the village	Bentley Productions have generously donated £850 to the Parish Council to compensate for the general disruption caused by the filming of Midsomer Murders during May. A letter of thanks to be written.	HM
VAS signs	Both the large VAS signs on the B4445 have stopped working, although the sign nearer Thame has an intermittent fault. Both signs to be reported to Solargen.	HM
Blocked drains	Clerk to check with OCC Highways when the annual drain cleaning is due to be carried out.	HM
Footpaths	The footpath next to Cape Cottage is collapsing into the ditch - to be reported to OCC Countryside Services. At the same time the department to be thanked for the excellent repairs on Footpath 2 from Sewells Lane.	HM
Road Closure	An application for the Fayre road closure has been received. Recommended for approval.	HM
<p>There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.00pm.          The next meeting date to be held on 2nd June in the OSR at 8pm.</p>		

Signed ..... Date .....