

Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 6th September 2012

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

<u>Matters Arising</u>		
Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	None	
Minutes of last meeting	These were approved and signed.	
Sydenham Voice, represented by Carol Carney	<p>The Chinnor Pump is now available each month from the Information Kiosk on the green and at the Inn at Emmington. Unfortunately the Thame Gazette is not available.</p> <p>A query has been raised as to whether the law regarding 20mph limits has changed recently - HM to speak to Highways to clarify the situation.</p> <p>OSR - the idea of a projector screen and equipment has been suggested, and Phil Archer is obtaining quotes. The parish council are applying for Big Society Funding towards this project, and a proposal outlining the costs needs to be submitted to Councillor Newton for approval. It may also be possible to obtain a grant for community funding.</p> <p>Broadband speed - this varies greatly throughout the village and has been raised as a problem. BT have been consulted as to what speed should be available and what, if any, plans there are to improve the speed locally. In conjunction with the OCC OxOnline project, a survey was completed recently and a high response came from Sydenham, highlighting the residents' concern. Support for improved broadband coverage in rural areas has been obtained from MP John Howell, and a meeting in early October has been arranged with two other small parishes who have a similar level of interest. JP and RB to attend from the parish council.</p>	<p>HM</p> <p>AI</p> <p>JP/RB</p>
B4445 path	This was due to have been treated with weed killer in June and September, but unfortunately the contractor only treated a short section. There is a meeting later this month to report on progress, which PS will attend.	PS
Dog Fouling	Chinnor parish council to be asked for an update regarding our request for a rubbish bin at Emmington that can be used for normal and dog waste.	HM
Phoenix Trail link	No further update.	RB
Speed data project	Three poster designs have been received. These are to be reproduced on A3 correx board so that they can be put up around the village. To maximise their impact they can be swapped around and relocated at regular intervals.	RB
Playing Field	Advice has been sought from the Highways Department regarding vehicles parking outside the playing field. Highways replied that it does not constitute a safety defect and they would not action any work to deter parking. Highways were satisfied that even with cars parked on the verge there was sufficient visibility for traffic to see children leaving the playing field.	

Signed Date

	<p>A quote has been given for wooden posts. This work would have to be carried out by Highways as they own the land and there are cables and pipes underground. The estimated cost is £250 per post and the recommended number of posts for this site would be 6-8. This work would have to be funded by the parish council or the Area Stewards Fund, but Highways felt that this would not be a good use of public funding.</p> <p>The jubilee bench for the green has now been delivered, so the existing bench from the green is to be relocated to the verge by the playing field, and positioned in such a way as to deter parking. William Munday to be asked to help with the installation of both benches.</p> <p>Parking in front of the gate is very unusual, and there is now the notice on the gate requesting that the entrance is kept clear.</p> <p>A summary of the enquiry with the Highways Department to be put in the next newsletter.</p> <p>The playing field inspection report has been received. There are a few low action points to be carried out, including raking the bark surface where it has been compacted. The last routine inspection of the playing field showed that the bottom strut of one of the goalposts has cracked. It was suggested that maybe these goalposts should be replaced next summer with a more sturdy model, but in the meantime the cracked strip should be replaced - spare part to be ordered. RB will be attending a training course for playground inspections.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>PS</p> <p>All</p> <p>RB</p> <p>RB</p>
Area Stewards Fund	It was decided that the priority was refurbishing the road markings to reduce speeding. The 'Slow' markings on red tarmac at each of the village gates need to be redone, and Highways are to be asked if they will redo these from their repair budget. If not, Cllr Newton to be asked for funding to do this work, together with the an additional round 30 marking in the road near Slade Farm .	<p>HM</p> <p>HM</p>
Sewells Lane	PS has a meeting with the Rights of Way officer on 18th September to discuss why we think the first 60m is a road not a bridleway. If proof is provided that this stretch was a road before 1940 it could be exempt from the modification process. Part of this proof can be shown by photograph.	PS
Park View	The signs have been installed (one had to be relocated) and residents have already commented on the improvement.	
Clerk's performance review	This is in hand and will be carried out before the next meeting.	RB
Risk Assessment	Changes to be made as highlighted and document circulated to parish councillors.	HM
<u>Finance</u>	<p>The following items have been authorised for payment:</p> <p>£20.00 OFPA training course for playground inspections (approved by email communication as no August meeting)</p> <p>£40.00 HM Revenue PAYE to 5.8.12</p> <p>£40.00 HM Revenue PAYE to 5.9.12</p> <p>£7.45 Aon Insurance for Jubilee bench</p> <p>£75.60 Playsafety RoSPA inspection of playing field</p> <p>Will Munday is due payments for grass cutting to the churchyard and village greens. Amounts to be confirmed.</p> <p>Bank signatories - the forms have been completed and can be taken to Natwest.</p>	<p>HM</p> <p>HM</p>

Signed Date

NatWest Current a/c: b/f £3,665.04	£160.00 Clerk's salary July £40.00 PAYE for period ending 5.7.12 £12.20 SODC dog hygiene bin £91.84 Clerk's expenses £20.00 OPFA training course £160.00 Clerk's salary Aug £40.00 HMRC for period ending 5.8.12 £570.00 Will Munday - work to green by Burrows Farm (o/s)	Closing balance at 31.8.12 £3,141.00
Natwest Reserve a/c: b/f £7,731.76	No activity	£7,731.76
<u>Planning</u>	Councillor responses for the following two planning applications were sought by email as there was no parish council meeting before the submission date:	
P12/S1295/HH	Paul Stancliffe did not comment on this application due to a disclosable pecuniary interest. Vine Cottage, The Lane Single storey rear extension <i>No strong views</i>	
P12/S1494/HH	Old Byre House, Sydenham Road Demolition of existing glazed conservatory and construction of new hardwood timber orangery on back elevation corner of property <i>No strong views</i>	
P12/S0815/HH	The Old Vicarage, Sydenham Road Extension, conversion and alteration of existing single storey outbuildings to form a one bedroom annex <i>Permission GRANTED</i>	
P12/S1295/HH	Vine Cottage, The Lane Single storey rear extension <i>Permission GRANTED</i>	
<u>Correspondence</u>		
SODC	Planning Policy South, parish training Planning Services, further examination on schedule of main modifications for South Oxfordshire Core Strategy	All AI
OCC	Proposed Diversion of part of bridleway no.7 - reply to be sent saying that parish council would accept either the 1980 or 2003 route providing that the surface was a compacted all weather one suitable for walking, horse riders and cyclists.	JP
Thame Town Council Audit Commission Jacky Madden John Howell	Thame Neighbourhood Plan - consultation Appointment of BDO as external auditor from 2012/12 Police report Village tour and drop in sessions	Circulate Boards/web site

Signed Date

<u>Any Other Business</u>		18
Chinnor Post Office	A parishioner has asked MP John Howell for his support of Chinnor Post Office.	
Brookstones verges	The flood banks have been driven over by large vehicles. New turf has been put down with bricks to prevent further damage. The option of posts was discussed, but it was felt that in a rural area, on a narrow road used by agricultural vehicles, the posts would just get knocked out.	
Wild flower planting	A site meeting has been held with Highways, and the enquiry has been passed to the ecology department. No licence is required to plant, but mowing times need to be discussed.	HM
Road cleaner	Council contractor's schedule to be queried for the next visit of the road sweeper.	HM
Thames Water	A water meter cover on the green is defective - to be reported to Thames Water for repair.	HM
Parking on village green	Parking is strictly forbidden on all registered village green areas. As there is a parking problem in Brookstones, the residents concerned are to be shown the plans of the registered areas so that parking on the greens can be avoided. Registration map to be copied.	PS HM
Date of meeting	Due to other commitments on the scheduled October date, it was proposed that the next meeting be moved to Tuesday 2nd October. Hall availability to be checked.	HM
There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.25pm. The date of the next meeting to be confirmed.		

Signed Date