

Sydenham Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 7th February 2013

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

Mike May and Siobhan McKee

<u>Matters Arising</u>		
Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	<p>Following Paul Stancliffe declaring an interest in the resurfacing of Sewell's Lane, the advice from OALC is that: "I don't believe that the councillor has a disclosable pecuniary interest just because they live along the road that the council will be seeking action on. I say this because the matter on the agenda is not the councillor's property. However, the matter could relate to or affect the councillor's interest so I think it's more about public perception and the general obligations within the code of conduct i.e. councillors serving only the public interest, not putting themselves in a situation where their honesty and integrity may be questioned because they may be seen to be improperly conferring an advantage or disadvantage on a person (including themselves). As such the councillor can take part although they may choose not to if there would be adverse public reaction to it. Either way it would be best for the councillor to say that they have considered their position, what action they will take (take part/step down) and their reasons for doing so. I advise that this information is entered in the minutes."</p> <p>Paul therefore wants it recorded that he has considered his position and believes that the public perception is that he is acting in the public interest on behalf of the village, and since he has handled the detail of the matter so far, will continue to do so.</p>	
Minutes of last meeting	These were approved and signed.	
Brookstones foul water issues and problems with pumping station and floodbank	<p>New pumping station likely to be on Mrs Wallington's land south of her farm, taking all effluent from that point across to Henton. Planning permission required and wildlife survey; if all goes to plan trenches will be dug for new piping after the crops are harvested in 2013. Project will take 3-4 months. Groundwater situation at the time of digging may lead to a delay if too high. Project has to go through Thames Water's investment committee in February 2013 before commencement.</p> <p>Replacement pump in Brookstones pumping station is pumping at 6 litres per second slower than the one it replaced hence further issues. Thames Water are constantly sending different personnel to the pumping station hence no continuity and effluent continues to pour out of manholes at Emmington.</p> <p>Until the project is implemented there will be a continual problem with erosion of the flood bank by the tanker drivers visiting the pumping station. Mike May has negotiated a solution with Thames Water to install a granite kerb against the flood bank to protect it and Paul has had agreement that they will reinstate the verges throughout the village in spring. Full agreement to the kerb solution. Photographic evidence of damage needs to be taken.</p> <p>Monthly progress meetings requested throughout the course of the project, suggest meetings in Sydenham.</p>	

Signed Date

	Thames Water's communication system is thoroughly flawed so residents will have to continue to make a nuisance of themselves to ensure action is taken. Frequent power cuts have a detrimental effect upon the pumping station if the standby generator doesn't work and a back-up generator needs to be included in the new pumping station.	32																
Sydenham Voice	Audit of bulbs when they bloom in the spring, note gaps and plan to fill in the autumn. Survey to village to review projects so far and request any other projects that villagers would like to see happen. Village cinema project; perhaps concept should be agreed rather than make the decision on cost.																	
Broadband	Meeting in Chalgrove tomorrow, Paul Stancliffe, Gordon McLeod and Jeff Ludgate attending; Bill Murphy of BT will explain about the concept of fibre optic broadband to constituents of John Howell MP and Nick Carter OCC will attend, the County Council have £10m for roll out of rural broadband. Nick Carter coming to Sydenham on 19.2.13 to talk to villagers.																	
Big Society funding for OSR project	A query was raised as to whether the Big Society funds earmarked for the OSR scheme could be spent on a different scheme - perhaps new goalposts in the playing field? Paul has asked Caroline Newton if we can transfer funding to goalposts and awaiting a reply.	PS																
Phoenix Trail link	Rachel and Peter Hetherington spoke to Penn Farm, they are going to move, and spoke to some horse riders along the route who would like to join the group.	RB																
Rights of Way Improvement Plan	Rachel and Paul completed consultation on-line, Rachel encouraged others on link group to complete.	RB																
<u>Finance</u>	The following items have been authorised for payment: £100.00 Donation to the CAB £45.00 ORCC new membership scheme £42.60 PAYE to 5.2.13 The precept has been confirmed by SODC.																	
NatWest Current a/c: b/f £4,324.00	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>£170.79</td> <td>Clerk's salary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£42.70</td> <td>repay H Mullins for PAYE to 05.12.12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£24.40</td> <td>SODC dog hygiene bin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£42.70</td> <td>PAYE to 5.1.13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£500.00</td> <td>Annual grant to OSR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£1,000.00</td> <td>Grant to Sydenham Newsletter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£180.00</td> <td>Hire of OSR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£456.00</td> <td>J M Wallington - hedges and verges</td> </tr> </table>	£170.79	Clerk's salary	£42.70	repay H Mullins for PAYE to 05.12.12	£24.40	SODC dog hygiene bin	£42.70	PAYE to 5.1.13	£500.00	Annual grant to OSR	£1,000.00	Grant to Sydenham Newsletter	£180.00	Hire of OSR	£456.00	J M Wallington - hedges and verges	Closing balance at 31.01.13
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Natwest Reserve a/c: b/f £7,733.33	No transactions	£1,907.41 £7,733.33																

Signed Date

