

# Sydenham Parish Council

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 2nd October 2014

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

The meeting was pleased to welcome Tania Christie from Scottish and Southern Energy, and Councillor Dorothy Brown.

<u>Matters Arising</u>		
Members' declaration of interests (for items on the agenda)	None.	
Approval of minutes	These were approved and signed.	
Scottish and Southern Energy	<p>The new Customer and Community Advisor, Tania Christie, was introduced and spoke about her role within the community. The four main aspects are offering support to vulnerable customers, engaging in community events, supporting local councils with their Emergency Plans and taking customer feedback on board. As part of this work the team have a welfare van that will be used in emergencies, which will be stocked with food, drink, blankets, radios, charging points for phones etc.. Tania will also be able to source generators.</p> <p>The undergrounding project for the village electricity supply has had a further section of the route successfully agreed with the landowners, and a meeting is scheduled for tomorrow to discuss the remaining part of the route. Three options are available so it should be possible to find an agreeable solution.</p>	
Councillor Dorothy Brown	<p>Cllr Brown reported on the CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) briefing that she had just attended, regarding the s106 agreement for building on new sites. There will be a consultation shortly about how this is implemented, how records are kept and what types of housing would be included/excluded from the scheme.</p> <p>The Broadband rollout was discussed. We have now received confirmation from Oxfordshire Better Broadband that cabinet P11 in the centre of the village is in the coverage area and will be fibre enabled. However there still remains a question over the section from Slade Farm to Emmington, which is being evaluated for upgrading under funding from SODC and DCMS. PS has compiled a letter to Better Broadband detailing our suspicions as to why the connections in this area are not included in the rollout, including photos of the undergrounded connections that used to be in the cabinet on the B4445.</p> <p>The timescale for the planning appeal that has gone to the inspectorate was discussed. RB asked Cllr Brown's advice regarding the best contact for the 'Playing Out' initiative PS was pleased to report that Sewells Lane has been resurfaced by OCC, using a new high pressure technique.</p>	

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

Drainage and flooding	The hedging opposite Slade Farm has been completed, so the final stretch of ditch clearance can be completed. The brook upstream of the Mill House has mostly been cleared, and there are volunteers for any remaining work that may be required. Gordon Hunt to be contacted regarding landowner contacts for ditch clearance on the Thame Road The direct number for Gordon Hunt to be noted in the parish emergency plan as he needs to be notified if the Road Closed signs are deployed.	23  PS PS JP
Playing field	Various posts in the swing frame and A frame need to be replaced. Quotes for the work to be obtained. Options for new adventure trail equipment are being investigated, together with possible grant sources.	JP/RB  RB
Community response / emergency plan	The plan is nearly complete, and a summary will go in the next newsletter. Kingston Blount hall has been confirmed as an evacuation centre. The emergency planning survey has been completed and returned to OCC.	
Village archives	The original lists of births, deaths and marriages to be returned to the archive cabinet.	RB/RH
Overgrown verge	The hedge opposite Thatchings and Fuchsia Cottage is badly overgrown and is overhanging the road. This is causing problems for cars passing each other in the narrow road. The owners to be contacted to ask if it can be trimmed - offers of help have been made.	RH
Speeding on the B4445	The SID has been booked for the week starting 17th October, and a rota of volunteers is being compiled. PCSO Jacky Madden to attend the initial deployment. The trees and verges along the B4445 have been trimmed by Chris Cooper to expose the signs and improve visibility. Cllr Wilmshurst to be contacted before the next parish council meeting to discuss possible speed deterrent options. The Highways department have also been contacted and the advice of the Road Technician to be sought.	AI/HM  PS HM
Footpaths	The overgrown areas of the Sewells Lane bridlepath have been reported, and OCC were quick to respond and clarify the location. The public rights of way trial asking for paths to be categorised has been completed.	
Notice board repair	The lock has been oiled which has solved the problem. Mr Quanton to be asked about the footpath sign repair.	PS
OCC Review of Bus Services	Oxfordshire County Council are undertaking a review of subsidised bus services. Details of the consultation have been circulated by Sydenham Mail, and put on the notice boards and website.	
<u>Finance</u>	The following items have been authorised for payment: £40.00 Oxfordshire Playing Fields subscription £139.60 HMRC - PAYE for Aug-Oct £119.94 Roy Harrison expenses - weed treatment £600.00 Will Munday - mowing village greens and two cuts of the churchyard	

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

NatWest Current a/c: b/f £5,598.65	Payments: £78.00 Playsafety playground inspection £178.30 Clerk's salary	Closing balance at 30.09.14
	Receipts: £50.00 Donation	£5,392.35
Natwest Reserve a/c: b/f £7,737.96	£0.98 interest received	£7,738.94
<u>Planning</u>	None	
<u>Correspondence</u>		
SODC	Review of South Oxfordshire polling stations New voter registration system update	n/l
OCC	Review of subsidised bus services	
OPFA	Invitation to AGM	
Open spaces	Categorising paths	
<u>Any Other Business</u>		
Smartwater	More detail to be obtained about property marking kits.	HM
Janaury meeting date	The date of the January parish council meeting falls on a bank holiday - it was suggested that this be moved to Thursday 8th January. HM to ask about OSR availability and book the hall.	HM
<p>There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.10pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 6th November in the OSR at 8pm.</p>		

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