

Minutes of the meeting of Sonning Common Parish Council held on Monday 16 April 2012 at 20.00 hrs in the Village Hall

Present: Mr Kedge (Chairman); Mr Stoves; Mrs Diwell; Mr Fort; Mr Greenwood; Miss Hunt; Mr Jones; Ms Noble; Mrs Phillips-Tilbury; Mr Reynolds; Mrs Lewis and Mrs MacGowan.

Also present: Mr P Simms (Henley Standard) and District Councillor Harrison.

- 13/001 Apologies for absence: County Councillor Viney
- 13/002 Declarations of Interests by Members on Agenda Items: Mr Kedge and Mr Stoves declared non-prejudicial interests in the Chiltern Edge Horticultural Society – item 13/914.
- 13/003 Public Question Time under Section 30 of Standing Orders: No members of the public present
- 13/004 The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 4 April 2012 were presented approved and ratified.
- 13/005 The Minutes of previous meetings:
- 005.01 Planning Committee held on 19 March and 2 April 2012 – were presented and approved.
 - 005.02 Parish Council meeting held on 19 March 2012 – were presented and approved.
- 13/006 The Police Report – no representative present.
- 13/007 The County Councillor's Report: Councillor Viney had sent her apologies and a note asking for information on projects that could be considered for the locality funding budget. It was resolved that Mr Stoves and Ms Noble would liaise with Councillor Viney regarding our footpaths. The state of Ashford Avenue was also put forward for consideration.
- 13/008 The District Councillor's Report: Councillor Harrison advised that: there is a 50% reduction in car park season tickets for SODC residents in SODC car parks; SODC was rated in the top six councils in the UK Best Councils awards; concessionary fares are now operated by OCC and not SODC; there are a number Olympics and sports related opportunities available in the area and are described on official websites.
- 13/009 Parish Clerk's Report: Members were asked to note that the yellow lines and new waste bins are being pursued to try to get the results required.
- 13/010 Skatepark: The Parish Clerk advised the meeting that:
- SODC has stated "*that planning permission would not be required for the use of the land as it would fit within the existing outdoor recreational use, however, it would be required for the operational development to construct the skate park.*" Thus selection of a supplier and a final design has to precede permission and only then can the purchase proceed.
 - Productive discussions are ongoing with the Footpaths Officer, RUFC and the adjacent landowner to resolve the access issue from the footpath. Resolution of this also has to precede purchase.
 - An invitation has been received to take a party of interested people of all ages to the new Chalgrove Skatepark on 19 May to hear how they managed the whole project and for those who wish to do so to try out the facility.
- After discussion it was resolved to authorise the Parish Clerk to continue negotiations on access, to accept the invitation to Chalgrove (for which a coach should be supplied by the Parish Council), to identify lay members (young people and interested adults) for the Working party and to identify and draw up terms of reference to put to three potential 'design and build' companies who will be asked to tender for the whole construction and commissioning. Because of time constraints the Parish Clerk will devise and circulate for approval by email a means of selection for places on the coach.
- 13/011 Widmore Pond: It was agreed that in order to get to the right conclusion the discussion of this matter was deferred at least until the AMPC on 14 May. Mrs Diwell will bring the matter when ready.
- 13/012 Neighbourhood Plan: Mr Greenwood reminded the meeting that the NPWP is clearly focused on producing a Sites and Allocations Plan for the village and only once that has been done will it consider recommending going further. He stressed the importance of working with neighbouring parishes - to this end contacts have been made with Kidmore End and Rotherfield Peppard. The key milestone is the Design day being held on 28 April which should produce strong involvement from many residents of all ages.

Mr Reynolds reminded the meeting of the need for each member to try to get 10 people to attend the day and make it a great success. Mr Kedge commented from the Chair on the excellence of the work of the Neighbourhood Planning Working Party and how fortunate the village was to have a working party of this degree of commitment and professionalism.

13/013 Standing Orders and Financial Regulations: Amendments proposed by the Finance Committee were circulated and will be included in the complete set of both documents to be ratified at the AMPC on 14 May.

13/014 Horticultural Society Cup: Mr Kedge proposed that the Parish Council present an engraved cup to the Chiltern Edge Horticultural Society for their use as an annual award in recognition of the significant contribution the Society has made to the life of the village over many years as they see fit at a cost of around £70. After discussion of the name to be engraved the final decision was left to be agreed between Mr Kedge and the Society with a preference for the words 'Sonning Common Parish Council' appearing somewhere on it.

13/015 Poor's Land Charity Representation: it was resolved to nominate Mr D R Hepburn as one of the Parish Council's representative Trustees from 1 January 2012 until 31 December 2015. Miss Hunt questioned how her nomination earlier in the year related and the Parish Clerk undertook to investigate and resolve any confusion.

13/016 Annual Parish Meeting on 14 May: It was resolved that each Councillor should have three to five minutes to address the meeting on areas or societies/groups of particular interest to them. An update on twinning would be asked for and any other brief contributions from residents will be welcomed.

13/017 Matters for future consideration:

Young Authors: Mr Greenwood suggested that the Parish Council consider contributing to allow the Young Authors competition to be held again. Mr Jones welcomed the idea and will make a proposal.

Dog mess: Mrs Phillips-Tilbury asked that new posters and guidelines for the disposal should be investigated.

The meeting closed at 20.52

The next Meetings will be:

Monday 14 May 2012 at 18.30 – Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Monday 14 May 2012 at 19.30 – Annual Parish Meeting of Electors

Monday 21 May at 20.00.

Chairman Dated