

Minutes of the meeting of Sonning Common Parish Council held on Monday 18 November 2013 in the Village Hall.

Present: Mr Kedge (Chairman); Mrs Diwell; Mr Fort; Mr Greenwood; Miss Hunt; Mr Jones; Mrs Lewis; Ms Noble; Mrs Phillips-Tilbury; Mr Rawlins; Mr Reynolds and Mr Stoves. Mr D Robinson, Henley Standard and one member of the public.

District Councillor P Harrison and County Councillor D Bartholomew were also present for part of the meeting.

- 14/085 Apologies for absence and declarations of interests: None.
- 14/086 Public Question Time under Section 30 of Standing Orders. No questions raised. The Parish Clerk confirmed that the amendment to Standing Orders agreed at the last meeting – minute 14/069.01 – had now been published.
- 14/087 Police Report: members were reminded that PCSO Boyes' report had been circulated by email. Mr Kedge advised that he had attended the first meeting of the Neighbourhood Action Group at Henley Police Station (Minute 14/054 refers). Inspector Harling briefed the seven parishes represented about TVP's plans to focus on rural crime and to raise people's awareness of 'what is happening now'. The discussion was useful and further meetings have been planned.
- 14/088 Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 6 November 2013 were presented and ratified.
- 14/089 Minutes of previous meetings:
089.01 Planning Committees held on 21 October and 4 November 2013 were presented and approved.
089.02 Parish Council meeting held on 21 October 2013 were presented and approved.
- 14/090 County Councillor's Report: Councillor Bartholomew reported: That 'Talking Oxfordshire' road shows about the further £61 million of savings needed have been attended by over 1,000 people and online consultation continues. Meetings continue to consult on possible changes to the Home to School transport policy. The second dropped kerb has been completed. Work continues to see if hedge cutting can be devolved to make savings.
- 14/091 District Councillor's Report: Councillor Harrison advised on a 13.7% reduction in the Council Tax Reduction Scheme that may affect precept income. The European Week for Waste Reduction runs from 16 – 24 November with events in support. The current Community Investment Fund closes to applications on 21 December. A new fund is likely next year. Efforts are being made to try to raise recycling rates with a focus on Christmas.
- 14/092 Parish Clerk's Report – Noted.
- 14/093 Grant Aid Policy – Mr Stoves proposed that this policy already approved by the Finance Committee be adopted with immediate effect. It was resolved to do this and for the policy to be published on the website.
- 14/094 Neighbourhood Development Plan progress: Mr Greenwood reported that a first draft Concept Design Statement has been prepared and when complete will be used in discussions with landowners or their agents before Christmas. Design Statements will be used to guide potential developers as well as to protect amenities, landscapes and facilities. The NDP should help to enhance community facilities and amenities. There will be meetings with residents around the proposed sites will be held in January. The drop in day held on 16 November had been attended by 150+ people including some from outside the village. It has become clear that the team's professionalism is earning the respect of potential developers. Thanks are due to all those who helped make the day a success – Helen Lewis, Jo Stoves, Helen Gavin, Chris Harding, Margaret Moola, Elaine Williams, Chrissie Phillips-Tilbury, Fiona Berry, John Pearman, Keith Whitelaw, Ros Varnes and Sue Rawlins as well as all the members of the NDP Working Party.
- 14/095 Skatepark: Mrs Lewis advised on good progress towards obtaining significant grant funding and that local donations continue to come in.
- 14/096 Village Hall: It was resolved to recognise that the heating, plumbing and insulation (sound and thermal) will require significant expenditure over the next year or two and to authorise that this be taken into account in the forthcoming budget and precept setting.

14/097 Community Governance Review (Parish boundaries): Mr Stoves proposed the resolutions as set out in the agenda and an amendment to the original 14/097.01. After discussion and some rewording it was agreed as follows:

14/097.01 It was resolved that, in accordance with the criteria set out in the Terms of Reference and fully supported by the LGBCE Guidance on community governance reviews 2010, we wish to state that it is now our view that the three boundary changes marked in brown on the attached map show clearly what we regard as the boundary changes necessary to meet those criteria. In addition, as shown on the map and defined by SODC Planning, the actual settlement of Sonning Common extends to the north-west of Gallowstree Road as far as Wyfold Lane. Despite the criteria of the Community Governance Review and the LGBCE Guidance suggesting otherwise, we understand that local sentiment in Rotherfield Peppard Parish is that that area is truly part of that parish. Thus we are prepared to forbear from proposing that this area be included in our parish - leaving it in Rotherfield Peppard Parish – if residents therein strongly wish this and the SODC review team concurs.

14/097.02 It was resolved to approve the insertion in the December issue of the Sonning Common Magazine of an SCPC produced and funded flyer explaining the facts around the SODC Community Governance Review and how residents can register their views on it with SODC. The cost of this is to be no more than £250. A draft flyer was circulated and it was then resolved that with two small wording changes this should be used.

14/098 2014/15 meeting dates: It was resolved to adopt the calendar distributed as the final version.

14/099 Matters for future consideration: Budgets.

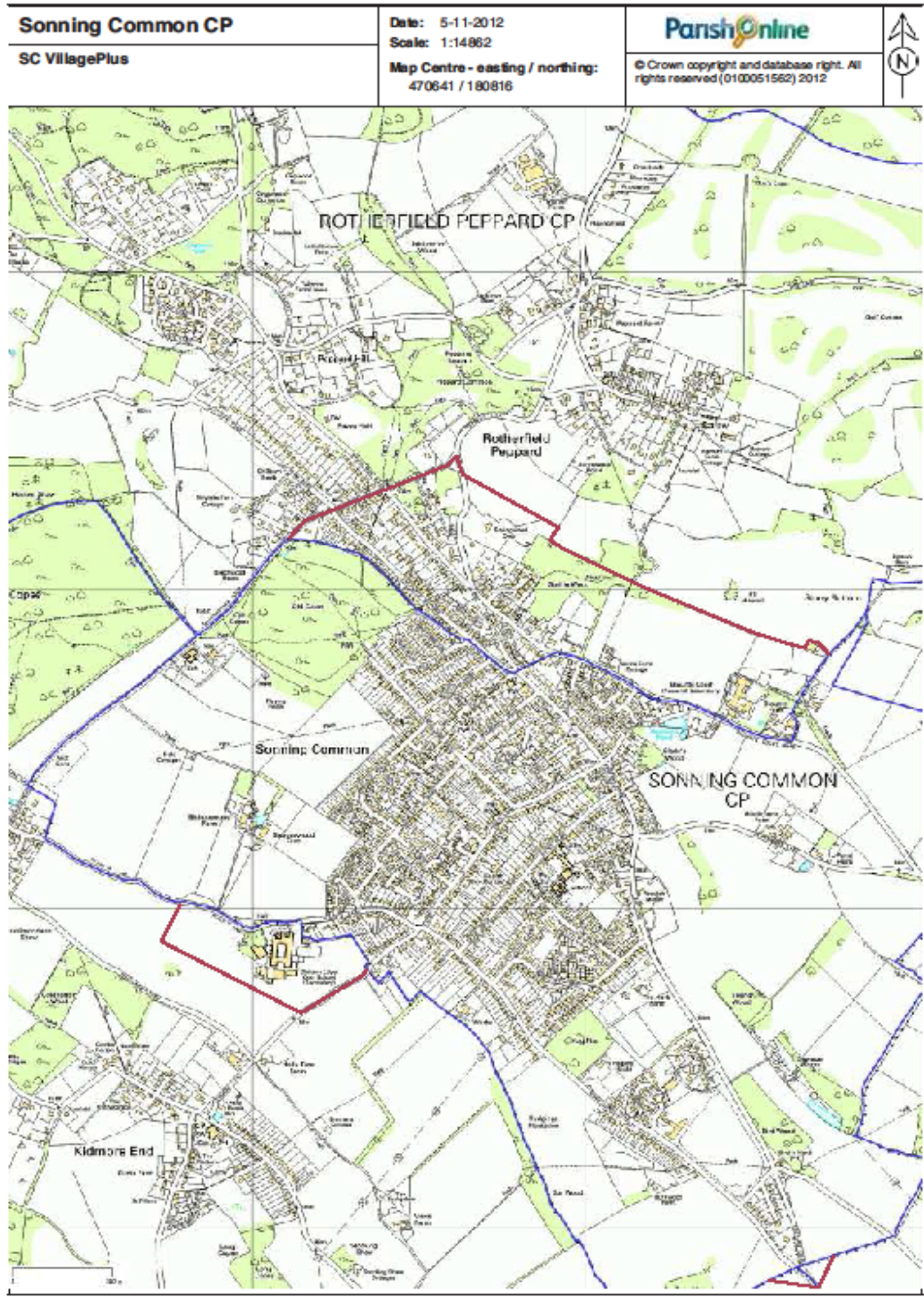
The meeting closed at 21.28.

The map attached forms part of these minutes.

Next meeting: Monday 16 December 2013 at 20.00.

Chairman: Dated:

Map showing the proposed boundary changes in brown:



Chairman:

Dated: