

## Minutes of the meeting of Sonning Common Parish Council held on Monday 19 September 2011 at 20.00 hrs in The Village Hall Sonning Common.

Present: Mr Rooke, Chairman. Mr Fort; Mr Greenwood; Mr Jones; Mr Kedge; Mrs Lewis; Ms Noble; Mrs Phillips-Tilbury and Mrs Diwell.

Also present: County Councillor Viney, District Councillor Harrison, four members of the public, one journalist.

- 12/66 Apologies for absence: Ms. Hunt and Mr. Reynolds both unable to attend
- 12/67 Declarations of Interests by Members on Agenda Items: None
- 12/68 Public Question Time under Section 30 of Standing Orders: Mrs. Symons requested the removal of the damaged notice in Essex Way to avoid further vandalism. Mr. Rooke agreed to get this done.
- 12/69 To ratify the Minutes of the Finance Committees held on 3 August and 7 September 2011. Approved and ratified.
- 12/70 To receive and approve the Minutes of previous meetings:
  - 70.01 Planning Committees held on 1 and 15 August 2011. Both approved.
  - 70.02 Parish Council held on 18 July 2011. Approved.
- 12/71 To receive the Police Report. PCSO Colin Boyes reported that parking in the Village was improving; motor bike riding in the woods had ceased; speed indicator devices are to be installed. Theft of scrap metal is becoming a big problem. Problems with the Play Areas: Churchill Crescent – bushes and undergrowth need to be removed to stop youths congregating. Lea Road – three residents told the Council about the unacceptable unruly behaviour of older teenagers. Locks on the Play Area gates should be considered and also notices with an upper age limit for those children using these Areas. Mr. Rooke agreed to meet with the Police to discuss this matter. Mr. Jones raised the question of enforcing speed limits at the Bird in Hand junction.
- 12/72 To receive the County Councillor's Report: Councillor Viney presented her report. She is hoping to get the Library funding increased from one third to two thirds. Mr. Stoves asked her to put pressure on the Council to get large potholes filled in Woodlands Road.
- 12/73 To receive District Councillor's Report: Councillor Harrison reported on the outcome of the Manor Farm Planning application appeal. He advised that if the Lea Meadow development was to be approved it would be regarded as 'windfall' and not part of the core strategy allocation. He reported on excellent recycling rates in Sonning Common/Peppard in the best Ward in the District. In answer to a question Mr. Harrison considered that a Neighbourhood Plan was critical but did not feel that at present there were funds available to Sonning Common for its production.
- 12/74 Parish Clerk's Report: This was circulated to the committee prior to the meeting.
- 12/75 Footpath improvements: Mr. Stoves reported on the work carried out by the Working Party. Although three quotations will be sought for the work, an initial indication was that circa £5,700 would be required to carry out the work. Mr. Kedge requested that a priority list be drawn up. In response to a comment made by Mr. Jones about damage caused by tree roots from neighbouring gardens the Park Clerk was instructed to look at the legalities here.
- 12/76 Community Resilience: Mr. Jones presented his report for discussion and it was suggested that this could be linked to the Winter Preparedness item below. He will speak to OCC to find out exact rules and regulations.
- 12/77 Winter preparedness: Mr. Jones presented his report. Mr. Greenwood proposed accepting all the proposals made. It was resolved unanimously to proceed with all due urgency.
- 12/78 Neighbourhood Plan: Mr. Greenwood presented his proposal. It was proposed that Mrs. Symons and Mrs. Capaldi be invited to join the Working Party. It was resolved to proceed as proposed with Mr. Rooke as Working Party Chairman with Mr. Fort, Mr. Greenwood, Ms. Noble and Mr. Reynolds forming the rest of the Committee together with two residents.
- 12/79 Widmore Pond: Mrs. Diwell presented her report (as Chairman/Secretary) and advised that she is now a second cheque signatory. It was resolved that building works etc. required should be paid for out of Widmore Pond funds.

- 12/80 Friends of Sonning Common Library. The motion sent to OCC after the public meeting held on 12 September 2011 was discussed and endorsed unanimously.
- 12/81 Brinds Wood: Ms. Noble presented her initial report and it was resolved that she and the Parish Clerk would further research the matter and report back to the Council.
- 12/82 Matters for future consideration
  - Welfare Education Trust – Mrs. Diwell to attend.
  - Parking.
  - Vacant property – Peppard Road.

The next Meeting will be on 17 October 2011 at 20.00 hrs.

Chairman.....

Dated.....