

Minutes of the meeting of Sonning Common Parish Council held on Monday 21 July 2014 in the Village Hall.

Present: Mr Kedge (Chairman); Mrs Diwell; Mr Fort; Mr Greenwood; Mr Jones; Mrs Lewis; Ms Noble; Mrs Phillips-Tilbury; Mr Rawlins; Mr Stoves and Mr Collings (Parish Clerk).

Also present: County Councillor Bartholomew (for item 15/047); District Councillors Harrison and Rooke; Ms H Patchett (Henley Standard) and one member of the public.

Before the meeting opened Mr Kedge informed the meeting of the very successful twinning visit that took place over the weekend ending with the unveiling of the plaque now in the Village Hall lobby.

- 15/042 Apologies for absence and declarations of interests: Miss Hunt and Mr Reynolds. No declarations.
- 15/043 Public Question Time under Section 30 of Standing Orders. None.
- 15/044 Police Report: the Parish Clerk advised that as PCSO Boyes is still on medical leave the only report available was the generic one sent out by TV Police.
- 15/045 Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 9 July 2014 were presented and ratified.
- 15/046 Minutes of previous meetings:
046.01 Planning Committee held on 16 June 2014 were presented and approved.
046.02 Parish Council meeting held on 16 June 2014 were presented and approved.
046.03 Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on 25 June 2014 were presented and approved.
- 15/047 County Councillor's Report: Cllr Bartholomew reported that the four week OFSTED inspection of OCC's Children's Services had resulted in Good ratings in all categories; he advised of progress in the Connecting Oxfordshire round of meetings; of plans for two new children's homes and an Assessment Centre; of a review of Learning Disability Services; that the Wokingham traffic modelling re the third bridge is incomplete; that road repair at Playhatch may require a closure; that OCC would be unable to fund parking improvements for Pages Orchard; that regarding Kennylands Road '*The site has been checked and all safety defects dealt with. Any minor defects are within tolerance. There are no proposals for surfacing here.*' During discussion he advised that if the Parish Council were to carry a detailed survey a change of mind is possible but unlikely.
- 15/048 District Councillor's Report: Councillor Harrison reminded that the SHMA consultation ends on 23 July but might be extended; that of the options he would favour 'C'; that invitations have gone out to the Towns & Parishes Forum on 12 November; that due to a Biffa lorry problem some food waste collections had gone awry. Cllr Harrison then began raising questions about the Parish Council itself and was ruled out of order.
- 15/049 Parish Clerk's Report – Noted. Questions asked about hedges continuing to grow over footpaths. Parish Clerk to follow up.
- 15/050 Community Governance Review – Mr Kedge reported on the SODC meeting of 17 July and its unsatisfactory outcome. After discussion it was resolved that a formal letter should be sent to SODC Planning about the allocation to us from RPPC houses. *The letter to say: 'No other Large Village in South Oxfordshire has a housing allocation based on Settlement and/or Census Output Areas outside their Parish Boundaries. Now that your Council has voted formally to exclude a significant part of the Sonning Common Settlement and the associated Census Output Areas from this Parish, a part that accounts for some 17% of our housing allocation, we believe it would now be entirely correct and appropriate for you to reduce our current allocation by 23 homes.'*

- 15/051 Neighbourhood Development Plan progress: Mr Greenwood advised that further meetings had taken place local residents around SON site, with Chilterns Conservation Board, with SOHA and SODC Housing (jointly) as well as with interested developers. Drafting of the actual NDP continues.
Outside the scope of the NDP the invitations to members to a preview of the planned exhibition by Bewley Homes was discussed. It was resolved that the invitation would be refused and that members, if the so wish, would attend the public session purely as residents.
- 15/052 Skatepark project: Mrs Lewis showed plans that have been agreed with all parties including members of Club SC. Fundraising continues for the £15K balance needed. Rotherfield Peppard PC has kindly agreed to sponsor a seat at the site. After praising the progress and thanking Mrs Lewis, Mrs Phillips-Tilbury went on to comment on the Britain in Bloom inspection that had visited 31 sites in the village. There was general agreement that the Village Gardeners' efforts had been outstanding with much unsolicited public praise for the way everything looks. Mr Kedge thanked Mrs Phillips-Tilbury and all the Village Gardeners for their magnificent efforts.
- 15/053 General Power of Competence: It was resolved unanimously that the Parish Council continues to meet the criteria needed to use this power.
- 15/054 SHMA - The SODC Local Plan 2031 consultation. The information provided for this and the 15 page response form were distributed at the meeting. It was agreed that time constraints precluded the meeting dealing with all the questions other than that of the choice of options put forward. After strong discussion it was agreed that the meeting preferred only options C and D. It was agreed that Mr Greenwood and Mr Rawlins would complete the remainder o meet the submission deadline.
- 15/055 33/35 Peppard Road. No real progress.
- 15/056 Matters for future consideration. It was resolved to delegate the Council's powers to the Finance Committee during August.
- 15/056A Motion under the 10 O'clock rule. It was resolved to advise OCC who administer the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) that:
1. Linda Collison should no longer be shown as eligible for pension contributions from SCPC; and
 2. Ros Varnes as Deputy Parish Clerk is eligible under her contract of employment to be a member of the LGPS.

Chairman: Dated: