

Sonning Common Parish Council

Minutes of the FINANCE COMMITTEE Meeting held in the Parish Office, Sonning
Common on 3 August 2011 commencing at 7.30pm.

Chairman: Miss J Hunt

- F12/44 Apologies for absence: None
- F12/45 Declarations of Interest: None
- F12/46 Public Question Time: No members of the public present
- F12/47 Reconciliation of accounts as at 30 July 2011: The RFO explained that the bank statement to 31.07.2011 had not arrived and so the reconciliations could not be produced. To be circulated to members as soon as available. (Note: This was done by 10 August)
- F12/48 Review of Financial Information: This were presented and approved.
- F12/49 Accounts for payment: The following accounts for payment were individually reviewed and their payment authorised:

Docket	Payee	Amount
201112-036	BioAcoustics	3,422.52
201112-037	Grundon (Waste Wheeler)	86.52
201112-038	BCB Grass/hedges	717.00
201112-039	SVHMC	682.50
201112-040	Absolute window films	726.00
201112-041	B D Willis	150.00
201112-042	Office Depot	326.30
201112-043	G Stevens	250.00
201112-044	Healthmatic	16.80
201112-045	PC - Amazon/Screwfix	51.99
201112-046	R A Watson	200.00
201112-047	mh-p Ltd Website work	36.00
201112-048	A B Walker	8,500.00
201112-049	A Parisi	439.20
201112-050	J Kinghorn	472.50
201112-051	A Little	126.00
201112-052	P Collings	1,099.33
201112-053	HMRC Tax + NIC	493.17
201112-054	Petty cash	50.00
	Total payments	£17,845.83

- F12/50 Donations: None requested.

- F12/51 Allotment Rentals: The Committee reviewed the information provided by the RFO as summarised below:

	Rental @ £15	Rental @ £20	Rental @ £25
Income:	658.13	877.50	1096.88
Costs:			
Rental to Poor Lands	300.00	300.00	300.00
Water	225.00	225.00	225.00
Paths/hedges	250.00	250.00	250.00
Admin	110.00	110.00	110.00
Total Costs	885	885	885
Gain/loss	-227	-8	212

The income line is what would be received if all of the allotments were let for the full year. Recently 4-5 have been allowed to be empty so actual income has been some £60-£75 less. The table shows that at the present rental of £15 per full sized plot, pro-rated for smaller ones, the Parish Council is currently losing between £225 and £280 per annum. At a rental of £20 there is near break even and at £25 the Parish Council makes a small profit that could contribute towards improvements to the site.

It was therefore resolved that tenants should be advised that the full plot rental will be increased from 1 October 2011 to £20 per plot, pro-rated for smaller ones and be warned that it may be necessary to effect a further increase next year depending on a review of actual costs and any increase in rental for the site. The increase still places the rental at the lower end of what is charged nationally – for instance a full plot in Henley cost £36 per annum.

F12/52 Matters for future consideration. The Committee was advised that a question has arisen about who is responsible for the repair of the foul drains manhole cover in the flower bed outside the One Stop as the retaining wall is shortly to be rebuilt at a cost of £900. The Parish Clerk was instructed to liaise with Thames Water to seek the most cost effective resolution prior to the rebuild which the committee authorised.

Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 7 September 2011

Chairman..... Dated.....