

Sonning Common Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE held at the Village Hall on Monday 19 December 2011 commencing at 19.30 hrs

Chairman: Mr Greenwood

Present: Ms Noble, Mrs Lewis, Mr Reynolds and Mr Kedge (ex officio). Mr Simms (Henley Standard) and Mrs Symons

P12/87 Apologies for absence: Miss Hunt and Mr Rooke

P12/88 Declarations of Interest: None

P12/89 Public Question Time: No questions.

P12/90 New Applications:

P90.01 P11/E1976

Erection of porch and veranda at 6 Bird Wood Court. The Committee recommended that this be approved.

P12/91 Applications Granted: The following were noted:

P11/E1349/RLB Retrospective Listed Building Application for the structural repair and stabilisation of the existing building fabric at Pond Farm Cottage.

P11/E1713 Remove existing conservatory, construct single storey garden room & store at rear of house at 32a Grove Road.

P11/E1725 To erect a single storey conservatory to the rear of 16a Woodlands Road.

P12/92 Kennylands Road Appeal:

Mr Greenwood led a constructive discussion in which it was agreed in outline how he and Ms Noble would present the SCPC views to the Inspector. In this context it was agreed that the draft letter to the SODC Head of Planning (appended) regarding the Neighbourhood Plan should be delivered by hand on 20 December (done) as it will form part of the appeal submission. It was also agreed unanimously to recommend to the full Council that £10,000 be set aside in the current financial year to begin the work set out in the letter. The contract for this work would be let to Mr J Bishop of BDOR and his Localism Network advisers.

P12/93 Matters for future consideration: Lea Meadow – next steps. After consideration of a request by Mr S Lilly, it was agreed that he should be offered time to address the full Council at its meeting on 16 January although noted that Mr Greenwood will be away

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 3 January 2012 at 19.30 (Not Monday as shown on the agenda)

Chairman

Dated

SONNING COMMON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office

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Mr A Duffield
Head of Planning
South Oxfordshire District Council
Crowmarsh Gifford
Wallingford OX10 8NJ

19 December 2011

Dear Mr Duffield

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PROPOSAL

I write as Chairman of this Parish Council's Planning Committee and with the support of the whole Council. As a Parish Council we are of course a fully qualifying body under the Localism Act and it is therefore our intention to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan. We are aware that the Act does not become fully operational until around April 2012 but there are several local factors that suggest a need for us to act speedily to get plan preparation work underway.

To that end we have:

- Taken and will continue to take appropriate professional advice.
- Set up a Working Party of councillors and local residents.
- Set aside sufficient funds in the current financial year to support as much work as is possible in the time available as well as budgeting for sufficient further funds in the 2012-13 financial year.
- Approached our neighbouring parishes of Rotherfield Peppard and Kidmore End to seek their co-operation with us in this work.

We are also aware that at some point your authority will be legally obliged to help us draw up this plan. We are however keen to find ways to minimise the demand on officer time in this challenging period of restraint. We already have some ideas of how we might best achieve this. They include:

- a. Undertaking, in a format to be agreed with yourselves, the necessary Sites and Allocations evidence base work to feed into your overall Core Strategy.
- b. Working to produce a Parish Landscape and Design Statement, again to feed into your work but also to provide us with a key building block in our own plan.

These activities will be informed by the evidence collected in preparing our Community Plan last year.

We would wish to discuss with you these and all the other activities that will be needed once we receive your formal support to prepare our Neighbourhood Plan.

At this point we seek your formal acknowledgement of receipt of this letter by the return of a copy countersigned below. Thereafter we would like to hear that whatever processes are necessary to assess and support our intentions are underway. In all matters relating to our Neighbourhood Plan we ask for and will offer the maximum of co-operation for mutual benefit between us.

Yours sincerely

G B Greenwood
Chairman, Planning Committee

Copies to:

Councillor Mrs Pearl Slatter – SODC
Councillor The Reverend Angie Paterson – SODC
Councillor Alan Rooke – SODC
Councillor Paul Harrison – SODC
Anna Robinson Strategic Director - SODC

Acknowledgement of receipt of this letter addressed to Mr A Duffield, Head of Planning, South Oxfordshire District Council.

Signature

Name

Position

Date