

Minutes of the meeting of South Hinksey Parish Council held at South Hinksey Village Hall on Monday 4th October 2021

Present: Michael Cochrane (Chairman), Christine Chater, Linda Goodhead, Patricia Jones (Vice-Chair) and Janet Lester
Geoffrey Ferres (Clerk).

Other attendees: Cllr Emily Smith (VoWHDC) and Fiona Newton.

Time commenced: 7.02pm

Procedural items

21/79. Apologies

Cllr Bob Johnston (OxonCC) and Cllr Debby Hallett (VoWHDC).

21/80. Declarations of interest

All members declared an interest in relation to the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme, the Oxford-Cambridge Arc and the A34 Improvement Project.

21/81. Public questions, comments or representations

None.

21/82. Minutes of the last ordinary meeting

The Council **agreed** the minutes of the September 2021 meeting and the Chairman signed them on each page. **Action: Clerk to publish signed minutes on website**

Business items

21/83. Vacancy

There was nothing to report regarding the remaining vacancy in the Village ward.

21/84. Finance – payments and receipts

a) Payments

The Council **approved** the following payments:

Reason	Amount	Payee	Power to act
External audit	£240.00	Moore	s7 LAAA 2014
Annual website fees	£308.00	Parish Council Websites	s142 LGA 1972
Clerk expenses 2021-22 Q2	£53.00	Geoffrey Ferres	s112 LGA 1972

The Chairman and CC signed the payments and initialled the supporting paperwork.

Action for Clerk: send payments to Moore and Town & Parish Council Websites

Signed: _____

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b) Receipts

The Clerk notified the Council of the following receipt since its last meeting:

Reason	Amount	Payer
Wayleaves	£21.01	SSE

21/85. County Councillor's report

BJ had sent his apologies and a written report.

21/86. District Councillors' report

DH and ES had kindly circulated a written report, which ES introduced. Points were made about the disruption to the garden waste service. It was understood that the village is due to have a collection on 14th October.

The Vice-Chair expressed concern about the lack of attention to the housing needs of keyworkers in Oxfordshire Plan 2050. ES said that the Future Oxfordshire Partnership's Affordable Housing Sub-Group has decided the issue was better handled in the individual councils' local plans.

21/87. Planning applications

None.

21/88. Correspondence

None.

21/89. Standing Orders

The Council considered a paper presented by the Clerk and **agreed** in principle to move to standing orders based on the Model Standing Orders published by the National Association of Local Councils.

The Chairman offered to host an informal meeting in the New Year at his home to discuss the gaps and the options to which the Clerk's paper had drawn attention.

21/90. Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme

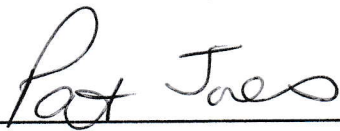
The Vice-Chair reported on a recent meeting of the Council's Flood Alleviation Committee. The Committee had decided to meet the Environment Agency (EA) before submitting a Freedom of Information request. The Vice-Chair has asked OxonCC's Chief Planning Officer what checks it makes on environmental assessments.

The Committee had concluded that if the EA were unwilling to consider anything further to reduce the impact of its scheme on the village, then it would be necessary to investigate whether there were other schemes that would have less impact on the village.

The Vice-Chair said there seem to be three viable flood alleviation schemes: the EA scheme, the scheme put forward by the Hinksey & Osney Environment Group and a third scheme that would improve the flow of water without digging a new channel.

ES said the Sponsor Group has not been made aware of any other scheme apart from the HOEG scheme. She also said she understood that the EA's planning application has been delayed due to new guidance on climate change from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Signed: _____



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The Vice-Chair said she was also concerned whether the bund proposed by the EA might have the effect of trapping in the village the sewage that backs up into the village when there is a flood unless Thames Water tackles the cause of the sewage backing up into the village.

The Vice-Chair said she would be writing to all of the parish's elected representatives asking them if they support the parish's concerns about the implementation of the scheme in general and the compound in particular. She read from the reply she has already received from Layla Moran MP.

Action: Vice-Chair to contact the parish's elected representatives

21/91. Oxford-Cambridge Arc/A34 Improvement Project

The Vice-Chair was concerned that the Council has still not been told the location of the air quality monitoring device installed by VoWHDC. **Action: Clerk**

21/92. Banking

The Clerk said he has now learnt that the Council can only use the Current Account Switch scheme if the signatories on its new account and its existing account are the same so it will not be possible to change the signatories until after the change of bank.

The Clerk said he still requires a few pieces of information from the other three signatories before he can submit the application. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk informed the Council that he and the Chairman had submitted a request to HSBC to close the deposit account and transfer all the money it contained into the Current Account so that it would be covered by the Current Account Switch Guarantee.

21/93. External Auditor Report

The Clerk said he had checked his daybook and could assure the Council that he had displayed the Notice of Exercise of Public Rights on Saturday 26th June, the date that appeared on the notice, so the period for the exercise of public rights had started on Monday 28th June and had lasted the required 30 working days.

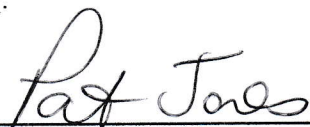
The Council **agreed** it would therefore be entirely right to record a "Yes" to the question in the Annual Governance Statement in the 2021-22 Annual Governance and Accountability Return whether it had "provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations".

21/94. Burial ground

The Clerk had circulated four proposed notices to be displayed in the new noticeboard and said he would take on board all comments received before displaying them. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk informed the Council that the CDS Group has confirmed the advice from Darryl Kelly regarding the ditch across the road from the cemetery on its southern side and will now undertake the digital mapping exercise and the preparation of the tender documents for the work.

The Clerk reported that he has received an application to purchase for the burial of a non-resident. JL reported that she had received a visit from Father James on the same matter.

Signed: 

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The Council **agreed** to sell a Category D, 50-year Exclusive Right of Burial to the family of the deceased in view of the family's past social links with the village and their ongoing connection with the churchyard.

JL said she has emptied the two general waste bins and will endeavour to ensure they do not get refilled. **Action: Janet**

The Vice-Chair questioned why the Clerk had not yet communicated the Council's plans for the burial ground with the parish via Shinfo. The Clerk explained that he had not wished to publicise the agreed design until the CDS Group had confirmed there would be no need to change it and that had happened less than a week ago. **Action: Clerk**

21/95. Community woodland

CC said she will write to Julian Cooper from Oxford Direct Services setting out what had been agreed when he met the Woodland Committee on site on 21st June.

Action: CC

21/96. Insurance

This item was deferred to the next meeting due to lack of time.

21/97. Business continuity

This item was deferred to the next meeting due to lack of time.

21/98. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The Vice-Chair said she believed the village would probably favour a street party.

Action: Clerk to circulate the amount spent by the Council on celebrating HM the Queen's 90th birthday in 2016.

The Council also expressed a wish to consider something permanent to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee.

21/99. Dates of meetings for 2022

The Council considered further the possible dates of its meetings in 2022 and the Chairman expressed doubt that it would be wise to meet on the first Monday in June due to the preceding Thursday and Friday being public holidays to mark the Platinum Jubilee. **Action: Clerk to contact Village Hall Committee regarding the second Monday in June**

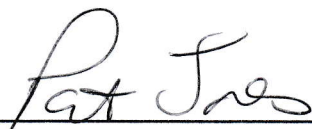
21/100. Maintenance issues

The Vice-Chair said she was still concerned about the contractor's apparent failure to attend to the land next to where the public telephone box used to be. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk reported that he keeps confirming with FixMyStreet that Highways England has not yet replaced the lamppost on the mini-roundabout at the entrance to the village.

The Vice-Chair was concerned about the appearance of graffiti on the Thames Water structure beside the A34 and wanted the Clerk to report the problem. **Action: Clerk**

Signed: _____



Date: Monday 1st November 2021

Village councillors expressed concern about the condition of the Devil's Backbone surface. They felt cracks were now so wide as to be a danger to cyclists. The Chairman said he would take a look. **Action: Chairman**
The Vice-Chair believed the last resurfacing had been achieved in some way via VoWHDC and asked the Clerk to investigate. **Action: Clerk**

21/101. Traffic issues

The Council agreed that the Clerk should make a permanent note of the date, Tuesday 21st September 2021, when traffic was disrupted over a wide area after Thames Water had to close a short stretch of a single lane of the Ring Road to carry out urgent repairs. **Action: Clerk**

21/102. Feedback from members of the public

None.

Time concluded: 9.23pm

MINUTES SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Date of the next Parish Council meeting: Monday 1st November 2021

Signed: _____



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