

Minutes of the meeting of South Hinksey Parish Council held at South Hinksey Village Hall on Monday 6th December 2021

Present: Christine Chater, Michael Cochrane (Chairman), Linda Goodhead and Janet Lester.
Cllr Bob Johnston (OxonCC) and Geoffrey Ferres (Clerk)

Other attendees: None.

Time commenced: 7.00pm

Procedural items

21/126. Apologies

Patricia Jones (Vice-Chair), Cllr Debby Hallett (VoWHDC) and Cllr Emily Smith (VoWHDC).

21/127. 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.

21/128. Public questions, comments or representations

OxonCC's Jordan Rayner gave a presentation on proposals for the south-facing slip roads to be constructed at Lodge Hill on the A34. A copy of her presentation had been circulated in advance to councillors.

CC asked about the likely increase of traffic on Hinksey Hill. Jordan Rayner said the figures are not yet in the public domain. She said OxonCC is carrying out a transport assessment but it is still in progress. Jordan Rayner mentioned a strategic model. She acknowledged that she is responsible for the traffic monitoring currently happening on Hinksey Hill and Foxcombe Road. She said she can give the Council that data.

The Chairman complained that traffic monitoring equipment has been attached to a tree that belongs to him but that he had not been asked for permission. He said he felt he was entitled to a written apology.

The Chairman was concerned that the Council had not been adequately consulted. Jordan Rayner acknowledged that agreements had been made by her predecessor with other parish councils closer to the new slip roads.

The Council reiterated its requests for: a weight restriction to prevent lorries using Hinksey Hill as a through route; enforcement of the 30mph speed restriction already in place on Hinksey Hill; and measures to enable pedestrians and cyclists to use Hinksey Hill safely.

Jordan Rayner offered to send the Council a summary of the points raised in the discussion.

CC offered to write to Jordan Rayner. The Council **agreed** that a weight limit on heavy good vehicles is its top priority for limiting the harm to parishioners from the new Lodge Hill slip roads. **Action: CC**

Signed: Michael Cochrane

Date: Monday 10th January 2022

21/129. Minutes of the last ordinary meeting

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

Business items

21/130. Finance – payments and receipts

a) Payments

The Council **approved** the following payments:

Reason	Amount	Payee	Power to act
VAT training for Clerk	£60.00	Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils	s111 LGA 1972
Data breach insurance cover	£29.30	BHIB Ltd	s140 LGA 1972

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

Actions for Clerk: make both payments via Faster Payments

b) Receipts

None.

21/131. County Councillor's report

The Council had **agreed** to change the order of business so that BJ could give his report before the presentation by OxonCC's Jordan Rayner.

BJ reported that OxonCC is likely to increase the Council Tax by 4.99% for 2022-23 including the extra 1% allowed for adult social care. BJ said OxonCC is facing spending pressures not only from adult but also children's social services.

BJ said that the A34 Lodge Hill slip roads work will be split into two due to a finance shortfall. He would shortly be meeting with Highways and is expecting a comprehensive package of measures to protect local communities.

CC offered to re-send to BJ her message outlining the Council's three requests: a restriction on HGVs; enforcement of the 30mph speed limit; and provision of pedestrian crossings.

CC explained the Council is trying to obtain traffic data. BJ advised her to ask OxonCC's Jordan Rayner.

BJ left the meeting before any planning application was discussed.

21/132. District Councillors' report

DH and ES had sent their apologies as well as a written report, which had been circulated in advance.

21/133. Planning applications

a) 30 Manor Road: Prior approval for additional storey on existing dwelling [P21/V3155/PDS] [Consultation deadline: Thursday 9th December 2021].

The Council **instructed** the Clerk not to object to the application but to request that a condition be imposed that builders' materials and vehicles should not be allowed to block the road or the pavement, and should instead be restricted to the applicant's own property. **Action: Clerk**

Signed: Paul Cochrane

Date: Monday 10th January 2022

b) Pinsgrove, Chilswell Lane (Sunningwell parish): Proposed Garage, Gym & Storage [[P21/V3155/PDS] [Consultation deadline: Thursday 23rd December 2021].

The Council **instructed** the Clerk not to object to the application.

21/134. Correspondence

The Clerk reported that VoWHDC's Steven Corrigan had written to advise that VoWHDC will be undertaking a Community Governance Review during 2022 and asking for any requests for matters to be considered to be submitted with supporting evidence by 21 January 2022.

The Council **instructed** the Clerk to place the matter on the agenda of the next meeting.

21/135. Budget 2022-23

The Council **noted** the change to the parish's Council Tax base, and the bank reconciliation and budget monitoring report presented by the Clerk in his capacity as Responsible Financial Officer.

The Council **agreed** the revised budget for the current year presented by the Clerk in his capacity as Responsible Financial Officer.

The Chairman asked the Council to consider whether it would be reasonable for the parish's Council Tax element to increase in line with inflation by, for example, 4%.

21/136. Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme

JL and the Clerk reported on a well-attended public meeting "The Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme – Will It Work?" held at West Oxford Community Centre on 19th November at which a wide range of views were expressed.

21/137. Oxford-Cambridge Arc/A34 Improvement Project

There was nothing to report.

21/138. Banking

The Clerk reported that Unity Trust Bank has made very little progress with the opening of the Council's new account but a message has now been placed on its website from its Chief Executive apologising for the current poor standard of customer service.

21/139. Burial ground

The Clerk said he had written an article for the latest issue of Echo explaining to parishioners what is happening with the burial ground.

The Vice-Chair has said she is not alone in finding the idea of a large area of tarmac undesirable in a rural cemetery and the Council instructed the Clerk to enquire whether there was an alternative, such as glued gravel. **Action: Clerk**

21/140. Community woodland

CC reported that Laura Harlock of Oxford Direct Services has asked the Council to provide a specification for the assistance it seeks with the management of the woodland. CC offered to contact Maggie Rawcliffe and try to arrange a meeting of the Woodland Committee. **Action: CC**

Signed: 

Date: Monday 10th January 2022

CC also reported that Andy Gunn is leaving the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust and the Council **instructed** the Clerk to write to him thanking him for all his help with the woodland. **Action: Clerk**

21/141. Business continuity

The Council agreed that the Clerk should continue trying to document the Council's most important procedures. **Action: Clerk**

21/142. Community Infrastructure Levy

The Council deferred this item to the next meeting when the budget will be considered.

21/143. Dates of meetings for 2022

The Clerk reported that the Village Hall Committee has said that the Council can, after all, meet there on the second meeting of January, May and June and the Council **agreed** that it would do so.

21/144. Maintenance issues

CC offered to measure the Hill noticeboard so the Council can order a replacement. **Action: CC**

21/145. Traffic issues

The Council **agreed** that it would seek to minimise disruption to parishioners from the forthcoming temporary closure of The Devil's Backbone. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk reported that he had received a call earlier in the day from Mike Wykes, a Sunningwell Parish Councillor, who wanted to discuss the effectiveness of measures such as vehicle-activated speed warning signs.

The Council **instructed** the Clerk to write to Mike Wykes offering to meet him to discuss how the two councils might assist each other in tackling speeding. **Action: Clerk**

LG said that at the ^{last} recent meeting of the Botley Traffic Advisory Committee it was reported that the new Police and Crime Commissioner is encouraging wider take up of the Speedwatch initiative. The Council **agreed** to explore whether this might be helpful in enforcing the current 30mph speed limit on Hinksey Hill. 

21/146. Feedback from members of the public

None.

Time concluded: 9.26pm

MINUTES SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Date of the next Parish Council meeting: Monday 10th January 2022

Signed: Mike Cochrane

Date: Monday 10th January 2022