

Minutes of the South Hinksey Parish Council

at South Hinksey Village Hall

Monday 1st November 2010

Present: Sarah Balaam (Vice-Chair), Tom Barron, Sheridan Edward (Clerk), Elizabeth Halcro, Liz LeFevre, Maggie Rawcliffe (Chair)

Parishioners: Peter Rawcliffe

1. Apologies

Maria Banks (Police Sergeant and parishioner)

2. Declarations of Interest

EH and MR – Village Hall

3. Parishioners' Comments

Peter Rawcliffe reported back on the following:

Cycle ramp of railway bridge. Peter Challis at Sustrans had stated that he felt the electrification of the track was unlikely to proceed and therefore the bridge wouldn't be altered. He would therefore follow up with Network Rail as to whether the parish would be able to pay to install a ramp.

Flooding. PR and MR attended the Oxford Area Flood Partnership APM. The three points of relevance to the Council were that: a) VOWH would be putting culverts under the electric substation access road; b) more channeling clearing was due to get underway at Redbridge, and c) the railway track at Redbridge was not going to be raised. This was felt to be of benefit, as a raised track may have a damming effect.

Millennium Yew plaque. MR and PR had sourced a suitable stone for the plaque for free. The Council agreed that the stone should remain rough and the plaque inset for a cost of approx. £50.

4. Minutes of October 2010 Meeting

Page 1, last para should read: "... that a grit bin still needed..."

Read and agreed.

5. Matters Arising

Devil's Backbone and Manor Road verge. Matthew Ellett should be able to clear these areas in the next two weeks.

Planning Application. SB had reviewed the application and received objections from some parishioners regarding overlooking, possible flooding issues and the appearance of the development. The Council felt that there were no grounds for it to object but would highlight the parishioners concerns in a reply to the Planning Department.

A34 Noise Pollution. Tom had received a quote for a 3m high 500m long acoustic barrier for £70k. It was felt that although A34 noise reduction may be out of reach of the Parish Council, the item should still remain on the agenda and options investigated.

Grit Bins. OxonCC confirmed that they were unable to maintain the Spring Copse bin, even for a fee, and the residents also felt that it was not worth it. **Action: SE to cancel the installation of the bin and seek a refund.**

Leylandii in the Burial Ground. MR had obtained a quote from Simon Ringrose to trim back the leylandii at a cost of £300. The Council agreed to proceed with the work. **Action: MR to confirm with Simon Ringrose.**

Speed limit on Hinksey Hill. SE had complained to Mark Francis about the response of OxonCC, and AF had contacted Rodney Rose, cabinet member for transport at OxonCC, who replied stating that the work would be started on 11th November. LLF reported that there had been another serious incident that weekend and that it was critical that action be taken as soon as possible to prevent further incidents.

6. Finance – Payments and Receipts

Payments

Matthew Ellett	September Maintenance fee	£399.50
Village Hall	2010/11 venue hire fee	£240.00

Receipts

Highworth Memorials	Memorial fee	£60.00
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7. Planning Applications

None.

8. Correspondence

Parish Boundary Review. VoWHDC sent the Council notice that the Community Governance Review had been completed and that they had made a Reorganisation Order with regard to the parish's boundaries, which came into force on 1st October 2010.

9. County Councillor's Report

None.

10. District Councillor's Report

None.

11. Project Updates

Manor Road Ditch. SB had found a contractor willing to quote for the work. **Action: SB to obtain quote.**

Church Close Barrier. EH confirmed that Ian Matten at VOWHDC and residents were happy to proceed with the work but VOWH required confirmation from the Council that it would assume responsibility for the upkeep of the barrier. **Action: EH to ask Dave Cullen to proceed with the work. SE to send confirmation and invoice for 50% £485 +VAT to VOWH.**

Church Close Car Park. EH had spoken with Stuart Walker at the Planning Department who confirmed that they would support the application in principle. There were two concerns regarding the change of use of the land and exiting onto Parker Road. However, the Council felt that these issues could be overcome. **Action: SE to obtain a rough price from Jane Winfield at Oxford City Council for the purchase of the land.**

Community Land. TB reported that there had been a very good response to the call for committee members, with eight parishioners volunteering. The land had been cleared and a makeshift fence and gate put in place to prevent travellers from using the site. The committee had agreed on a scheme for the area involving an area of lawn, an area of gravel, a picket fence and a bench. **Action: Committee to get final costings and timescale.**

It had been reported that someone had been surveying the land. **Action: SE to confirm with Goldace whether there were any plans to develop the site in the near future.**

Village Hall. Philip Marsh at Darbys confirmed that Land Registry were happy with the existing plans and that once a survey and valuation had been received, they could proceed with the conveyancing. **Action: SE to order the survey and valuation.**

12. Verge Maintenance

SE had created a clearer map showing the Council's responsibility, which included most of the verges within the village and along Hinksey Hill. This plan would be incorporated into the tender documents for next year's maintenance contract. There were also reports of overgrown weeds along the roads. It was suggested that the probationers be asked to do this work. **Action: SE to compile a draft maintenance brief to include weed control and verge maintenance. MR to include weed control in work for NPS.**

13. AOB

Firewood. SB reported that she had discovered that the bonfire was over power lines, which could be damaged by the fire. **Action: SE to contact Nick Frearson to ask to move the wood and SE to warn parishioners via SHInfo.**

Crime. LLF reported that there had been an incident of an attempted theft of a bull bar from a vehicle in the village. The criminal left empty-handed and the response from the police had been very good.

Probationers. MR reported that she had spoken to the National Probation Service and they would be happy to complete tasks in South Hinksey and would be available in approx. a month's time. **Action: Councillors to inform MR of tasks to be carried out.**

14. Parishioners' Feedback

None.

Date of next meeting: Monday 6th December 2010