

**Minutes of the South Hinksey Parish Council
at South Hinksey Village Hall**

Monday 11th June 2012

Present: Sandra Bingham, Sheridan Edward (Clerk), Liz LeFevre, Maggie Rawcliffe (Chair)

Parishioners: Carol Colclough, Peter Rawcliffe

1. Apologies

Sarah Balaam (Vice-Chair)

2. Declarations of interest

MR – Village Hall.

3. Co-option of Parish Councillor

SE reported that there had been no expressions of interest for the parish councillor vacancy and would ask the advice of the Elections Team at VoWHDC for the next steps.

4. Parishioners Comments

PR attended to update the parish on A34 issues, and these are discussed under Project Updates. He also updated the Council on the progress of the footbridge over the railway. He restated that Nicola Blackwood MP's office had contacted the head of Network Rail, and that work was due to be carried out on the bridge before Christmas. PR stated that he had spoken to a Community Relationships spokesperson at Network Rail who was to speak to their design team and report back by the end of the week on the feasibility of improving access. PR felt that should they not be willing to improve the current access, it should be escalated further, possibly involving Andrew Smith MP, Oxford City Council, Arash Fatemian (OxonCC), VoWHDC and Sustrans, and undertaking a press campaign and petition. **Action: PR to report back once he has heard from Network Rail.**

5. Minutes of May 2012 Meeting

Read and agreed.

6. Matters arising

Footpath to North Hinksey. AF was not at the meeting to update the Council. **Action: AF to update Council at July meeting.**

Stile on Devil's Backbone. MR had been in contact with Mark Sumner, Footpath Officer, regarding repairing the stile, but had not heard back. **Action: MR to chase.**

7. Finance – payments and receipts

Payments

Darbys	Village Hall conveyancing	£402.40
Auditing Solutions	2011/12 Internal Audit	£240.00
Oxford City Council	Street lamp easements	£0.13
Harvey Fielding	Community Land fencing	£220.00
Came & Company	2012/13 Insurance	£494.63
David Rawcliffe	Website expenses	£18.18
BGG Garden and Tree Care	April and May maintenance	£960.00
Sheridan Edward	Apr-Jun wages and May expenses	£506.87
Maggie Rawcliffe	May expenses	£16.25
Peter Rawcliffe	Wildflower meadow seeds	£23.40

Receipts

VoWHDC	1 st half precept 2012/13	£2010.00
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8. Planning applications

P12/V0375 Land adjacent to no. 4 St Lawrence Road Conversion of existing barn into dwelling house

This is an amended plan for an application previously objected to by the Council and Carol Colclough attended the meeting to seek the Council's views on the proposed plan and answer any questions. It was noted by the Council that the new plans had taken on board the Council's concerns. The only remaining question was regarding the windows on the first floor overlooking Manor Road, and whether they would be frosted glass. Carol confirmed that the specification for the windows was as per the approved original application. The Council raised no objections to the new plan.

P12/V0861 9 Manor Road Two storey side extension and single storey rear kitchen extension

The Council raised no objections.

P12/V0963 23 Manor Road Replace doors and windows to change garage to workshop

The Council raised no objections.

9. Correspondence

Consultation on external auditor. The Audit Commission wrote to consult the Council on the reappointment of the current auditor, BDO Stoy Hayward as external auditors. SE noted that fees are set for the next five years and are not affected by the supplier, and SE stated he was very happy with the level of service provided by BDO and had no objections to their reappointment.

Better Broadband for Oxfordshire. OxOnline, a partnership of six local authorities, set up to take advantage of the government's Broadband Delivery initiative, has asked the Council to circulate a survey to local residents and businesses to gauge the level of demand for better broadband. **Action: SE to forward details on SHInfo.**

Oxford University Hospitals Trust wrote to the Parish Council to inform residents that they are working to become a Foundation Trust, which they stated would allow them more freedom from central government, but more accountability to local communities, and they were to hold consultation meetings on the proposals. **Action: SE to forward details on SHInfo.**

Interim Housing Supply Policy. VoWHDC had written to inform the Council that the Interim Housing Supply policy has now been dropped. **Action: SE to forward press release to councillors.**

10. County Councillor's Report

None.

11. District Councillor's Report

None.

12. Project updates

A34 Issues. PR noted that a Route Management Strategy for the A34 had been formulated in 2004 and should probably be up for review shortly. He had phoned the Highways Agency to ask if this was the case, and he should hear back within 15 days, and would report back to the Council then. He noted too that the next General Election will be in 2015 and suggested that this could provide an ideal opportunity to campaign for changes to the speed limit along the South Hinksey stretch of the A34. **Action: PR to report back to the Council.**

Hinksey Hill traffic issues. LLF stated that PCSO Andy McCormack had visited Hinksey Hill with a speed indicator device and reported that only 20% of vehicles were obeying the speed limit. There was no news on the area stewardship fund application to cut back vegetation on the footways along Hinksey Hill, or the SID to be shared between parishes, and there was also no news on the replacement anti-skid surface. **Action: SE to follow-up on applications with Arash Fatemian and Tracy Morton.**

Village Hall ownership. SE stated that now the conveyancing had been completed he would investigate the Council's obligations as trustees. **Action: SE to investigate and report back to Council.**

Community Woodland. SE reported that the development plan for the woodland was still being drafted and would be circulated to the Council shortly, to be discussed at the July Council meeting. **Action: SE to forward draft development plan to Council.**

Community Land (Old Car Park). SE had received a revised lease agreement and would sign and return it. This requires users of the land to tell the PC and that they be informed re the terms and conditions of use. SE reported that the terms and conditions for the land were still being drafted. MR and several parishioners had carried out a lot of work clearing the land of hazards and obstacles, and the fencing at the front of the plot had been replaced. **Action: SE to forward draft T&C to Council, and to circulate on SHInfo.**

13. Code of Conduct

Following new legislation with the Localism Act 2011, the Council was advised by VoWHDC to adopt a new Code of Conduct and had drafted a model code of conduct for the Council to adopt. It was noted that the new code appeared to be a simplification and clarification of the current code, and the Council agreed to adopt the new model Code of Conduct as a replacement for the current code.

14. Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

The Council reviewed the current Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. They felt that no changes were needed and agreed to keep the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations unchanged.

15. Any other business

Traffic island on Hinksey Hill. LLF reported that Scottish and Southern Energy had carried out work under the traffic island on Hinksey Hill but had not carried out sufficient remedial work on the grass. **Action: LLF to chase SSE.**

Meeting dates. MR stated that another hirer had asked to book the village hall regularly on a Tuesday evening and asked the Council if there were any objections to moving back to Monday evenings. There were no objections and from September, the Council meetings would move back to Mondays.

19. Parishioners' feedback

None.

**Date of next meeting:
Monday 2nd July at Craigellachie, Hinksey Hill, OX1 5BQ**