

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

Monday 11th November 2013

Present: Christine Chater, Matthew Frohn, Liz LeFevre, Maggie Rawcliffe (Chair)
Sheridan Edward (Clerk)

Other attendees: Peter Rawcliffe

Time commenced: 7:30pm

1. Apologies

Sarah Balaam (Vice-Chair), Cllr Bob Johnston (Oxfordshire County Council)

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Public questions, comments or representations

Peter Rawcliffe attended the meeting to discuss item 15, sheep grazing on the wildflower meadow.

4. Minutes of October 2013 meeting

The Council **resolved** to agree the minutes of the October 2013 meeting.

5. Matters arising

Grounds maintenance. SE has obtained a quote from BGG for the cutting back of vegetation along Parker Road for £425 +VAT. It was felt that other quotes should be obtained before agreeing the work. **Action: LLF to forward contact to SE. SE to obtain quotes.**

HGV sign. The sign is now up.

Bagley Croft TPO. SE and CC reported that they had just received a response from Tim Stringer, after CC had spoken with Tim's line manager, Matt Gulliford, who has sent the owner's objection to the TPO. They object on grounds that the order is not needed as they claim the trees are under appropriate management; that the plans are too broad including non-woodland areas; that the order hasn't addressed what the reasons for the order were with regard to amenity. The TPO will remain in place if the objection is withdrawn, otherwise the TPO will go to the Planning Committee in January. **Action: CC to follow-up with Matt Gulliford in mid-December to ensure TPO goes to committee.**

Cycling on the Devil's Backbone. SE reported that he and SB had carried out a site visit and identified suitable places for the signs to be installed. SE had confirmed this with Dave Cullen and will be present when Dave installs the signs to ensure the correct position.

Gates on Redbridge to South Hinksey footpath. SE confirmed with Mark Sumner that the gates will be wheelchair and pushchair accessible.

6. Finance – payments and receipts

Payments

Payee	Reason	Amount	Power to act
BGG Garden & Tree Care	October maintenance	£480.00	s96 HA 1980
Sheridan Edward	Apr to Nov outstanding expenses	£98.84	S15 LGA 1972

The Council resolved to agree the payments.

Receipts

Payer	Reason	Amount
Reeves & Pain	Burial Fee	£300.00
Forestry Commission	Community Woodland annual grant	£252.17

7. Planning applications

The Council had received no planning applications to comment on. SE noted that the planning application for two detached houses on the site of the old pub car park had been withdrawn in order to address concerns from the Environment Agency, District Council Drainage Engineer and Conservation Officer.

8. Correspondence

A34 closure. The Council had received confirmation that the A34 southbound carriageway would be closed from 10pm on Friday 15th Nov to 6am on Monday 18th Nov. SE had already forwarded the details on SHInfo.

12 Manor Road. The Council had been copied in on another letter to 12 Manor Road stating that if the wall is not removed in six weeks, OxonCC will remove it and claim any expenses back from the owner.

High Sheriff's Awards. Applications were being taken for nominations for the awards. **Action: Councillors to think of anyone to nominate.**

9. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Bob Johnston was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following report:

"The restoration of the A4183 continues to progress well and should be open again in good time for Christmas. As a resident of Kennington where traffic through the village has doubled to 8,000 vehicles per day, this can't come a moment too soon.

I have found out that the BT broadband programme is being rolled out in six month chunks. The South Hinksey part of the programme sadly is not in the current six month programme and I have been unable to find out when it will be dealt with.

The biggest item is of course the County budget for 2104/15. Cuts of some 15 million are anticipated. All sorts of areas have been "fingered", such as home school transport, special school transport, children's services,

adult services and so on. At the time of writing none had been put definitely in the frame. The fog of financial war is total. My own group is looking very hard at income generation and the use of the reserves (of which somewhere between 257 and 305 million exist) to sugar the pill. As soon as I know anything definite I will let you all know.”

10. District Councillor’s Report

None.

11. Project updates

Hinksey Hill traffic issues. SE reported that Alan Cockbill has confirmed that the new post has been connected, they’ve informed the sign specialist, and they’re awaiting an installation date. It was also reported that unfortunately the Council had been unsuccessful in its bid for funding from the Community Safety Partnership, due to lack of evidence of the impact of the proposed VAS. **Action: LLF to talk to Karen Brown at CSP regarding application and possible reconsideration.**

Community Woodland. No update.

12. Footbridge over railway

No update.

13. Parish Emergency Plan

MF reported Adrian Porter and he had prepared draft emergency plans for various scenarios, to be included in the main parish emergency plan. Hard copies were given to councillors. MF asked for feedback as to whether the structure and approach made sense and was adequate. **Action: councillors to review and send any comments to MF. Item to be included on agenda for December meeting for further discussion and approval.**

14. Grant Award Policy and Complaints Procedure

As the details regarding the policies had been sent to councillors very recently the Council **resolved** that the item be carried over to December’s meeting. **Action: SE to add to agenda.**

15. Sheep grazing on wildflower meadow

Peter Rawcliffe had contacted the Council to ask for in principle agreement to sheep grazing on the wildflower meadow portion of the burial ground, in order to help with weed control and reduce maintenance costs. He stated that maintenance costs were likely to rise in order to keep the weeds under control. PR had consulted with a shepherd who had recommended that electric fencing would be needed around the whole perimeter to prevent sheep escaping and dogs from getting to the sheep. There were also queries about the potential financial cost. It was also felt that the church should be consulted. PR stated that if the Council agreed in principle, then he would investigate feasibility further and draw up a formal proposal. The Council **resolved** to agree in principle to sheep grazing on the meadow.

16. Flooding of drainage system

It had been noted that Thames Water had been carrying out work on the drainage system. It was reported that this was to clear the pipes to increase capacity and improve flow.

17. Redbridge Hollow fly-tipping

The Council had received a suggestion from Kennington Parish Council to write to OCC, OxonCC and VoWHDC to add pressure to the campaign to prevent fly-tipping on the site. SE and MR confirmed they would be attending a meeting later in the month regarding progressing the promised work. The Council **resolved** to draft a letter in support. **Action: SE to draft letter.**

18. Any other business

Hedgerows along Foxcombe Road. LLF updated the Council that she'd delivered the letters to residents and already organised for the cutting back of vegetation for one neighbour.

Oxford Flood Alliance. The OFA Annual Public Meeting is to take place on Wednesday 20th November and is open to all. MR will be attending.

19. Feedback from members of the public

None.

Time concluded: 8:35pm

MINUTES SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Signed: _____
Maggie Rawcliffe – Chair

Date: _____

Date of next meetings:
Monday 2nd December 2013, 7:30pm, South Hinksey Village Hall

Abbreviations: OxonCC – Oxfordshire County Council; VoWHDC – Vale of White Horse District Council;
OCC – Oxford City Council; MR/MF/SB/LLF/CC/SE/BJ – initials of meeting attendees