

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

Monday 10th March 2014

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

Other attendees: Roxanne Ledru, Adrian Porter, Peter Rawcliffe

Time commenced: 7:30pm

1. Apologies

Sarah Balaam (Vice-Chair)

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Public questions, comments or representations

AP and PR attended the meeting to discuss item 12, which was brought forward.

PR noted that the gate to the burial ground was not closing properly and needs adjusting. Debris needs to be cleared from one of the bolt holes. **Action: SE to discuss with Dave Cullen.**

4. Minutes of February 2014 meeting

The Council **resolved** to agree the minutes of the January 2014 meeting.

5. Matters arising

Bagley Croft TPO. CC stated that she'd sent an email to Tim Stinger thanking him for his work, and was yet to confirm with him the process for ensuring that the TPO was enforced.

Redbridge to South Hinksey footpath. SE had spoken to Mark Sumner who stated that he was still awaiting the response from the TOE application, the result of which should be known shortly.

South to North Hinksey footpath. It was noted that stiles already existed along the route, but barriers were in place to stop vehicles. SE had spoken to Mark Sumner who advised that the Council is able to enter into agreement with landowners to create a permitted path under s30 Highways Act 1980. **Action: SE to obtain details of landowners and investigate process for granting permission.**

Right of Way Improvement Plan. Due to a full agenda, this was postponed until the April meeting. **Action: SE to add to agenda for April Council meeting.**

Wildflower meadow maintenance. Because an item was omitted from the brief, an additional £120 needed to be added to the quote for the cutting of paths through the wildflower meadow. The Council **resolved** to approve this.

6. Finance – payments and receipts

Payments

Payee	Reason	Amount	Power to act
Maggie Rawcliffe	Dec – Feb expenses	£31.66	s15 LGA 1972
Sheridan Edward	Dec – Mar wages and expenses	£801.75	s112 LGA 1972

Receipts

Payer	Reason	Amount
Highworth Memorials	Tolson memorial fee	£60.00

7. Planning applications

P14/V0106/HH – Ambry Barn, Isis Court – construction of suspended patio platform
SE reported that several objections from neighbours, and from the drainage engineer, Peter Dela, had been received by Planning. An outcome was still pending.

P14/V0204/HH – 48 Manor Road – erection of rear conservatory
The deadline for comments had passed. The application had been circulated to councillors who raised no objections.

P14/V0468/FUL – Bagley Croft – creation of new vehicular access
SE had found out that day by chance that a revised application had been submitted for a new driveway. The Council was yet to receive notification or copies of the planning application. The Council had not had an opportunity to review the application prior to the meeting. **Action: SE to ensure that the deadline was extended to allow the Council to discuss at the next meeting.**

8. Correspondence

Chilswell Path. The Council was copied in on emails between a resident of Chilswell Path and Mark Sumner, regarding water draining over the path. The City Council, owner of the adjacent field were to carry out work to prevent this from happening.

Town and Parish Forum 2014. The Council had received a save-the-date for 17th June 6pm – 9pm.

Vale Local Plan Strategic Sites. VoWHDC invited the Council to comment on its proposed strategic sites for development to meet its quota for new homes. It was noted that it included the proposal to remove some parts of the Green Belt. Members expressed concerns at these implications. **Action: councillors to read consultation and feedback concerns to SE to formulate a response.**

9. County Councillor's Report

BJ reported that the Oxon CC budget had been approved. He reported that he'd attended the flood forum on 1st March and that there was a positive response from the EA towards the development of the western channel. He felt that it was likely to be completed in stages, beginning with the swale at Sandford. BJ also noted that Rodney Rose would be meeting with Thames Water to express concerns regarding sewage overflow.

10. District Councillor's Report

None.

11. Project updates

Community Woodland. SE had emailed Andy Gunn to clarify the level and type of support that the Council could give toward the Wild Oxford project, and was awaiting a reply.

Hinksey Hill traffic issues. LLF noted that the police were still monitoring Hinksey Hill traffic closely. The Council had received confirmation that the appeal to the Community Safety Partnership for funding towards the VAS had been unsuccessful due to insufficient evidence that it was a high risk area. They suggested contacting Oxon CC Road Safety Team for funding. **Action: SE to investigate.**

12. Flooding

Sewage overflow. AP and MR attended a meeting with Thames Water, the EA and Nicola Blackwood MP. TW stated that they planned to spend £1.5m in 2014 to upgrade Littlemore Pumping Station, although the funding wasn't confirmed. They also stated they planned to spend £4.5m over the next five years for further improvements. They acknowledged shortcomings with their communications. AP noted that they still hadn't provided sufficient data from the monitors. AP reported that, in the event of sewage outflow in South Hinksey, Thames Water would provide a pumping lorry as standard action. **Action: AP to chase information from the monitors. SE to forward notes of the meeting to Kennington PC and report back any updates from them.**

A temporary flood bund. It was noted that, under the supervision of the EA, the army, EA personnel and civil contractors erected a temporary barrier around the village. They started work on 14th February 2014 and finished on 17th. Nicola Blackwood MP arranged a tea party on 28th February as an opportunity for residents to thank all those involved. The Prime Minister, David Cameron, and the Secretary of State for Defence, Philip Hammond, joined the tea party. They thanked those involved, met residents and inspected the barrier.

Some of the barriers have since been removed for access. The rest will be removed in April.

Action: PR to organize a parish meeting to discuss the proposed Western Conveyance and the possibility of a bund.

Regional flood defence strategy. It was noted that a higher level Flood Summit was due to take place later in March, and PR would be attending as chairman of Oxford Flood Alliance. It was expected that the western channel project would be discussed at length, and hopefully approved.

Local flood defence strategy. SE reported that Stephen Gibson had quoted £870 to hold a site visit and review previous reports, and £980 to formulate a written strategy. Peter Dela confirmed that the report produced previously was only conceptual and it wasn't deemed feasible due to funding, land ownership and providing alternative areas of flood compensation. The Council felt that action on a local defence strategy should be held off until the outcome of the Flood Summit was known. **Action: SE to inform Stephen Gibson.**

13. Barleycott Lane / John Piers Lane

SE reported that he had not found any sources of potential funding other than TOE, he believed this to be because Oxon CC had a statutory duty to maintain both Barleycott Lane and John Piers Lane in a state fit for their purpose. SE had spoken with Mark Sumner who stated that maintenance of both lanes was not a priority for the council, but that they would be happy in principle for them to be repaired privately as long as any plans were approved by Highways. It was felt that a campaign for the road resurfacing was best led by residents of Barleycott Lane, and suggested that if they concluded the byways were eligible for public maintenance, then the residents submit a formal request to Oxon CC Highways. This letter could be supported by the PC.

14. Footbridge over railway

MR reported that the County, City and District councils continued to work with Network Rail to formulate a solution and funding plan for the ramps, and to clarify the legal obligations of Network Rail. The Council **resolved** to agree an

in-principle grant of £1000 towards the provision of ramp access, and also to contact parishioners to ask for donations towards the project.

15. Devil's Backbone cycling signs

SE reported that OCC were willing to waive the legal fees and would draw up the licence as soon as possible. Due to the recent flooding, the signs had still not been installed. SE had been informed that the Oxon CC had fixed the fallen sections of fencing along the path.. **Action: SE to contact Dave Cullen to arrange installation as soon as possible.** MF reported some fences were still falling over. **Action: MF to check on fence repair.**

16. Council financial reserves

SE investigated other high interest current accounts, but believed that these were only available for individuals, and not for businesses or organizations. The Council felt that any marginal return would not warrant the change. The Council **resolved** to keep the existing arrangements.

17. Any other business

General Elliot. It was reported that a licence has been granted. The licensee is hoping reopen the pub in June. The licensee is going to submit a planning application for short-let accommodation, within the existing footprint.

18. Feedback from members of the public

RL felt that the campaign for the ramp access for the footbridge over the railway was very important, and noted the positive impact it could have for the General Elliot, which was due to reopen. She also felt that the financial outlay was worthwhile given the expected 125-year lifespan of the bridge.

Time concluded: 9:25pm

MINUTES SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Signed: _____
Maggie Rawcliffe – Chair

Date: _____

Date of next meetings:

Monday 7th April 7:30pm at South Hinksey Village Hall

Monday 5th May 7:30pm at 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/AP/RL/PR – initials of meeting attendees.