

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

Monday 13th October 2014

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

Other attendees: None

Time commenced: 7:30pm

1. Apologies

None.

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Public questions, comments or representations

PR attended the meeting to discuss item 5 – flood barrier letter, item 11 – footbridge over the railway and item 13 – AED and item which was brought forward.

4. Minutes of September 2014 meeting

Item 8 General Elliot licence should read “The Council discussed the licence and noted that the hours were what would be expected, and that no outdoor licence had been applied for. The Council raised no objections.

Action: SE to circulate the licence application for councillors to consider further and make further comments if they thought necessary.”

The Council **resolved** to agree the minutes of the September 2014 meeting as amended.

5. Matters arising

Verge maintenance contract. SE had received confirmation from Laura Hutchins that they would be open to negotiating a new agreement in future, and that ‘a reduction in money is matched by a reduction in the minimum standard’ suggesting that the quality of verge maintenance from Highways may well decrease. The Council **resolved** to suspend the current agreement and review after one year. **Action: SE to inform Highways.**

Flood barrier letter. Julia Simpson at the EA confirmed that the national review into the use of the temporary flood barriers was taking place over 18 months, and that although South Hinksey was not guaranteed a barrier, the undertaking of preparatory groundworks would mean swifter and more effective protection for the community. SE had arranged a site visit between Peter and Maggie Rawcliffe, Peter Dela and Barry Russell to look into the feasibility of undertaking preparatory groundworks in the event that a demountable barrier was deployed. The visit would take place on the coming Friday. Oxford Flood Alliance would discuss supporting the plan at their meeting the following day. PR also suggested arranging publicity with a photocall with residents and OFA members. **Action: SE to invite Nicola Blackwood MP to attend the meeting.**

Review of bus services. SE had collected comments from bus service users and would feed these back to the County Council. **Action: SE to send response to Council. MF to pass on any other comments from no.44 bus users.**

Oxford Bypass de-restriction. SE confirmed that due to the Council's objection, the report will need to be discussed at committee on 15th January. A member of the Council was welcome to attend and speak at the meeting.

Devil's Backbone fence. SE had contacted Mark Sumner, who had passed it on to Highways for action, who had then sent it back to Mark Sumner. **Action: SE to chase Mark Sumner and Highways.**

Fly-tipping. SE confirmed that he had contacted Nick Frearson. It was also noted that garden waste was being dumped on the A34 bridge to the village. **Action: SE to raise with Colin Marshall at VoWHDC.**

Kissing gates. It was noted that the stiles along the footpath from the end of Manor Road to Redbridge were in dire need of repair. These repairs had previously been carried out by Nick Frearson, however it was queried whether, as a right of way, these should be done by OxonCC. **Action: SE to raise with Mark Sumner and Nick Frearson.**

Emergency plan. MF had drafted a notice for SHInfo asking people to contact him if they wanted, or knew someone who wished to be included on a vulnerable persons register. The list would be held by the Clerk and would be strictly confidential. **Action: Councillors to check notice. SE to check data protection compliance.**

6. Finance – payments and receipts

Payments

Payee	Reason	Amount	Power to act
BGG Garden and Tree Care	August / September maintenance	£870.00	s96 HA 1980

The Council **resolved** to approve the payment.

Receipts

Payer	Reason	Amount
Scottish and Southern Energy	Wayleaves	£20.30
DL Hancock	Interment and memorial fee	£270.00

7. Planning applications

P14/V2105/LDP – Bagley Croft Lodge – single storey pool building

This was an application for a certificate of lawful development and for information only.

8. Correspondence

Mobile Library consultation. OxonCC were consulting on changes to the mobile library service. They would not be cutting the budget or number of vehicles. The proposal for South Hinksey was to continue with the fortnightly service, but increase the length of time from 15mins to 30mins. SE confirmed users had been informed by letter. **Action: SE to forward on SHInfo.**

SmartWater property protection. Supt Andy Boyd from Thames Valley Police encouraged Parish Councils high burglary areas to promote the use of SmartWater to protect property. Action: SE to forward details on SHInfo.

Southern Bypass roadworks update. SE had received an update which he had forwarded to be circulated on SHInfo.

9. County Councillor's Report

BJ reported back on items 10 and 11 (see below). He also stated that the white lines on the slip road were the responsibility of Highways and that all white lines in the parish that need to would be refreshed in the coming months, and that the cost would come from his Area Stewardship Fund. He reported that budget deliberations were underway and that further cuts of £34m were expected in 2015/16, although £22m of this was expected from existing reserves.

10. Project updates

Community Woodland. Riki Therival had confirmed that the sleeves around the trees can be removed, but recommended that it take place in the spring. SE suggested that it may be a job suitable for community payback, and could be arranged next year.

Hinksey Hill traffic issues. SE confirmed that the footpath by the Westwood Hotel had been reported again to Highways, and that the letter regarding pedestrian access over the Hinksey Hill Interchange had been sent to Sue Scane, but that no response had been received. BJ reported that vegetation along Betty Lane would be cut back. He had spoken with Sue Scane and other senior officers, who confirmed that the pedestrian and cyclist access over the Hinksey Hill Interchange would be reviewed. It was also felt that congestion on the interchange could be greatly improved with the addition of some box junctions. **Action: SE to raise box junctions with Highways.**

11. Footbridge over the railway

BJ had attended a Network Rail briefing and confirmed that the electrification was still broadly on schedule and that the bridge at Redbridge would be raised over two nights. Network Rail also suggested that the replacement footbridge at Hinksey lake have the option of ramps being included at a later date should money be found from elsewhere for the work. PR confirmed that Andrew Smith MP and Nicola Blackwood MP's complaint to EHRC was still ongoing.

12. General Elliot licensing issues

The Council had received concerns from two parishioners regarding the Council's handling of the licence application. It was felt that the publicity had been inadequate, and that parishioners should have been consulted. SE and MR had written to explain that the consultation had been carried out by VoWHDC, and it was they who were responsible for ensuring that advertising was adequate. It was also explained that the Council had considered the application and found no grounds to object. The parishioners had been informed of the complaints procedure.

13. Automated external defibrillator

PR reported that the fundraising led by Emmeline Bryant had raised £350 for the AED through the fete. It was suggested that a website be used for donations. There were concerns that some sites took commission on the donations. **Action: LLF to arrange a meeting with PR and Emmeline Bryant to discuss future fundraising.**

14. Barleycott Lane / John Piers Lane / Betty Lane

MR had spoken to Laura Hutchins and John Piers Lane and Barleycott Lane, and she confirmed that they would be reassessed that week. **Action: MR to ask Laura Hutchins to assess Betty Lane at the same time.**

15. South Hinksey to North Hinksey footpath

SE reported that he had met with Charles Campion at Savills, who stated that Corpus Christi had no objections in principle, but had concerns with the liability to the college, whether the track was owned by SSE / National Grid, and whether it would be used by motorcyclists. He also suggested that Sustrans may be able to help with the process. SE had spoken to Sustrans and they were supportive but unable to give legal assistance, and recommended that the agreement be drawn up by solicitors. SE was awaiting a response from National Grid as to whether they had any objections to the plans. SE had sent reminder letters to Cooperative Estates and Tuckwells. SE had also received a letter of support from Anthony Dale on behalf of the Oxford City Ramblers, which also stated that it was a permissive path until a couple of years ago. It was also suggested that once the design for the Western Conveyance was underway, that the Council ask for a footpath to be included in the scheme.

16. Bagley Croft

SE had been in touch with Eleanor Cooper at OPT. They had not undertaken the listing process themselves but were happy to look over any application. However, whilst drafting the application SE noted that the English Heritage website stated that unless the building was at imminent risk then the application couldn't be progressed. However, the application form guidance states that sites which possess historical or architectural significance would also be considered. **Action: SE to discuss with English Heritage.**

17. Any other business

Ditch at end of Manor Road. SB confirmed that an engineer had visited the drain at the end of Manor Road and stated that a non-return valve would be fitted.

Leaves on the road. It was noted that some roads were becoming slippery, due to the accumulation of leaves. **Action: SE to raise with Highways.**

18. Feedback from members of the public

None.

Time concluded: 9:35pm

MINUTES SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Signed: _____
Maggie Rawcliffe – Chair

Date: _____

Date of next meeting: Monday 3rd November 2014 at 7:30pm in South Hinksey Village Hall