

SOUTH HINKSEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall, South Hinksey on Monday 5th February 2007 at 7.30p.m.

PRESENT: - Councillors – Mrs. M. Rawcliffe (Deputy Chairman)
B. M. Halcro, C. Briffett and Miss S. L. Gray.

Clerk - D. E. Wilkins.

No parishioners were present.

The Chairman, Councillor P. J. Saugman was not in attendance due to unforeseen personal business.

Also in attendance was Ms. A. L. Wilson who had applied for the Parish Clerk's vacancy, which will arise shortly.

The Council Meeting was therefore delayed whilst the Members interviewed the applicant for this position. The Clerk outlined to the applicant the nature of this Council's activities, and other matters allied to the appointment.

Note – there had been interviews on Thursday 1st February to meet other applicants.

After the interview Ms. Wilson left and the official Council business recommenced at 8.05pm.

No Members, present, declared an interest in any matters to be heard at this Meeting.

06/1207 MINUTES

Councillor C. Briffett stated that he did not query the two sales of land to Mrs. Pringle as he was aware of sale of the land behind her house. His query only related to the second sale. This point was noted and would be entered in the current minutes.

Councillor C. Briffett also queried why at such a late stage was he being asked to declare an interest in the Woodland project. The Meeting agreed that all councillors were aware of Councillor Briffett's interest in the woodland, partly as a Councillor and partly as FOSH Chairman. The Clerk explained that it was the decision of the party involved if they wished to declare an interest in any matter. It was therefore acknowledged that this is an ongoing matter and it would not be necessary to declare same at every meeting.

Following the above two points the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th January, were now taken as read, and were signed in the presence of the Council.

06/121 MATTERS ARISING

It was reported that the planning application for the "Oxford Mail Building" at Osney Mead had been approved by Oxford City Council.

Nothing has yet been heard about new car park application for General Elliot public house.

02/122 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk read to the Meeting various letters, and circulars received, that contained matters of interest to the Council, including:-

Information received showing proposed water features at Hinksey Heights Golf Course – these have been approved by Oxon C.C.

If necessary, Parish Council elections will be held on Thursday 3rd May 2007 (7.00am to 10.00pm).

Oxford Green Belt Network thanked the Parish Council for its support for the position of OGBN in the forthcoming enquiry.

The Council Stated they could not assist BBO FWAG, Oxford Sailing Club and Oxfordshire Junior Citizens Trust with financial support.

The Council having seen Mrs. J. Harris's letter regarding the state of the old pub car park in the ownership of Greene King agreed to write to the brewery to ask them to kindly tidy up the land.

06/123 WOODLAND PROJECT

Councillor C. Briffett reported that he is currently awaiting the result of an application for funding for the project, which is expected sometime in May. Depending on the result there are some other agencies who have funds available that may be interested in Parish Scheme.

06/124 COMMUNITY LAND PROPOSAL

The Clerk reported that he had not received a reply to his January follow-up to Oxford City Council regarding land swap. It was agreed Councillor C. Briffett would speak to the Oxford City Countryside officer to see if there is any interest in this direction for increasing size of nature area.

06/125 CHEQUE PAYMENTS

It was proposed by Councillor B. M. Halcro and seconded by Councillor C. Briffett that the following payments be made:-

Vale of White Horse District Council – missed loan repayment and interest £555.40.

(The Vale should have taken the monies from the precept payment, but did not do so, and the failure was reported to them by the Clerk).

06/126 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None this month.

06/127 FLOODING MATTERS

Work has started at Towles Mill to improve the sluice gate situation and mill stream route. The work is expected to take eleven weeks.

The Meeting gave a vote of thanks to Peter Rawcliffe for his work on various flooding matters that were applicable to the parish.

06/128 NEW CLERK

The Meeting discussed the various applicants and upon a proposal by Councillor M. Rawcliffe and seconded by Councillor C. Briffett, with all in agreement, that Ms. Anne Wilson be appointed the new Clerk as from 1st April 2007 at a remuneration package of £1,850 per annum plus expenses and the purchase of a mobile phone (pay as you go) for use on Council business. The Clerk was asked to relay this decision to Ms. Wilson.

06/119 RISK ASSESSMENT

This matter is carried forward to next month.

06/130 PARISHIONERS MATTERS

None received.

06/131 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor C. Briffett asked about minutes of A34 Group Meeting. The Clerk said he had not received any and would investigate.

The Meeting was asked to give some thoughts to the future of the Parish Website as at present there have been some delays in information getting onto the system.

Noted – vehicle accident today on Hinksey Hill.

A request had been made by the Church to use the burial ground entrance to bring in scaffolding to erect around the tower. The Meeting agreed to the request but stated that no vehicles must be driven over the grass. Scaffolding must be carried to the site.

The Next Meeting of the Council will be held on 5th March 2007.

There being no further business to transact the Deputy Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

CHAIRMAN

Parishioners Comments

Nil as no parishioners were present.