

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

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009

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### Present

Sarah Balaam, Clive Briffett (Chair), Sheridan Edward (Clerk), Elizabeth Halcro, Liz LeFevre, Maggie Rawcliffe (Vice-Chair).

### Apologies

None

### Declarations of interest

None

### Parishioners' comments

Peter Rawcliffe presented progress reports on the following. (Appendix 1)

a) Ramp over railway bridge: PR was awaiting reply from Peter Challis of Sustrans with regard to his discussions with Network Rail and from a contractor with regard to costings.

b) Flooding: work had been delayed further, but PR would raise with the EA on 11/02. The presentation to OFP on 15/01 went well and an article was published in the local press.

MR and CB attended a selective briefing of outline plans for the Oxford Flood Risk Management Strategy by the EA on Tuesday Jan 6<sup>th</sup> and reported to councillors by e mail that a new river course was being planned between two new bridges located at Botley and Redbridge but its alignment has not been decided. It was pointed out that such a scheme would cause considerable disruption to the parish due to new access roads for vehicles and excavation. Other options such as upstream holding reservoirs, reducing run off and utilizing existing streams such as the Hinksey Stream should be fully investigated first. A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is in preparation and will be available by March. In May further details will also be made available to the public in exhibition form.

c) Wildflower Project: there has been a site visit to the burial ground from Camilla Lambrick, botanist, and Iain Corbyn, ecologist, and the churchyard has been surveyed by Jacqueline Wright, a mosses and liverworts specialist. PR circulated a report outlining a programme of work, to start in the spring. The Council agreed that they wished to proceed with the project. **Action: PR to draft up specification for maintenance and obtain three competitive quotations.**

## Minutes of December meeting

Amendments:

- a) '2008' to read '2009',
- b) 'Peter Rawcliffe' to read 'Peter Rawcliffe',
- c) SB clarified that the second ditch earmarked for clearing was not by the orchard but was in Barleycot field.

Council approved minutes.

## Matters arising

- a) Ditch clearing, pavement cleaning and woodland tree maintenance: The National Probation Service (NPB) had visited all sites with CB, and would contact him with dates. NPS would require space to store equipment overnight, use of the village hall and a copy of the Council's insurance policy. **Action: EH to discuss use of village hall at next management meeting and SE to forward copy of policy to NPS.**
- b) Noise pollution: SB had received a very expensive quote £35,000+. EH suggested contacting Marion Haines in North Hinksey for advice on future action. **Action: EH to contact Marion Haines.**
- c) Flu pandemic: MR had submitted statement to Echo.
- d) Pavement maintenance: there was still no news from Mr Softly, but CB had discussed this with NPS, and with Cllr Gareth Jennings.
- e) General Elliott: an article was published in the Oxford Times. There is no news, but the brewery was advertising the vacancy. **Action: CB to phone Goldacre re clearing the old car park.**
- f) The travellers' site was due to be expanded by one pitch, utilizing the current rubbish dump, and the County Council would clear the rubbish. Council had no objections to this but felt that any continuation of rubbish dumping elsewhere should be carefully monitored.
- g) CB clarified that the Outerspace invoice was in order and fine to process.
- h) A key for the archive cabinet was on order.

## Finance – payment and receipts

### Payments

SLCC – subscription - £64.00

Clive Briffett – January expenses - £72.45

Oxfordshire County Council – community woodland work – £1565.45

Outerspace – grass cutting - £219.44 and £454.16

## Receipts

Franklin Solicitors – sale of land off Chilswell Path - £3199.50

## Planning applications

None.

## Correspondence

a) Core strategy preferred options – copies handed out to councilors. **Action: all to read and any comments to be submitted to MR by 27<sup>th</sup> February. MR to attend presentation.**

b) Vale sustainability community strategy – a final version was now available on the VWHDC website.

c) Chairman's Community Awards – a call for nominations of individuals who should be noted for their contribution to sport in the Vale. No names recommended.

## 2009/10 Precept - approval

The draft precept was discussed and amended. Council agreed a proposed precept of £8200.

**Action: SE to submit figure.**

## Chilswell Path sale

The sale had been completed, and the deeds and cheque had been received. Council thanked CB for his work.

## Speed controls

SE presented recommendations on the proposed speed controls:

a) 20mph in South Hinksey village: at the October 2007 meeting, the Council had resolved not to pursue this option. SE felt that this resolution, and the County Council's stance on 20mph limits, made it extremely unlikely that any request would be successful and suggested that, should problems continue, other measures, such as SpeedWatch or a leafleting campaign could be implemented. Council felt that moving the 30mph limit to the start of Parker Road would decrease the problem. **Action: SE to draft response asking for 30mph limit to be moved.**

b) 40mph limit on derestricted road on Hinksey Hill: SE stated that DfT guidelines suggest that, short distances between villages should be covered by the same speed limit as the villages. Given this, SE recommended pursuing this with the County Council, and that support from neighbouring parishes would aid the case. **Action: LL to discuss this with Sunningwell and Kennington Parish Councils and SE to redraft response to County Council.**

## Notice boards

SE had gained four quotes for three replacement notice boards. The quotes came in at between £3100 and £3800. Council felt that this was too high and agreed that: a) the burial ground notice

board would be put on hold; b) the village notice board would be refurbished and placed closer to the wall, and; c) the Hinksey Hill notice board would be replaced. **Action: EH to discuss plans with Dave Cullen the local builder who has recently made and erected a notice board for the Village Hall.**

### **External audit**

This had been completed and submitted to the external auditors.

### **Community woodland – future working parties**

MR suggested that a ring-fenced fund be created for maintenance of the woodland. CB noted that the Forestry Commission installments of £300pa for the next ten years should cover this. A contract signed with the Commission confirms this. **CB to supply to SE.** David Rees of the Oxfordshire Woodland Project is checking on the payments awaited for last year.

### **Email**

SE had set-up a new email address, s.hinksey@gmail.com, for all correspondence, and asked that all Council emails be sent to this address. All councillors were given access to the email address.

SE had spoken with David Markham the webmaster, and a '@southhinksey.org' address was not available. Three possibilities for email addresses were discussed: a) staying with the Gmail account, b) purchasing 'southhinksey.org.uk' @ £7.50pa, c) or purchasing 'southhinkseypc.gov.uk' @ £55 per year. Council agreed to stay with the Gmail account.

### **Parish boundary changes**

From 2011, the changes to the parish were:

- a) Movement of the Kennington Parish boundary to the north to include the land to the south of the Oxford Ring Road.
- b) Movement of the South Hinksey Parish boundary so that it runs along Foxcombe Road and then turns north at Chilswell Lane before following the exiting boundary line.

Council felt this should not have any practical implications for the parish.

### **Any Other Business**

CB had uncovered old applications regarding two footpaths one from South Hinksey to North Hinksey and the other along John Piers Lane. **Action: CB and MR to read to ascertain any potential use and report at the next meeting.**

CB also has a plan supplied by David Wilkins showing land owners in the parish. All councillors requested coloured copies of this. **Action CB to organise**

**Date of next meeting: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009 at 7:30pm**