

## Minutes of the South Hinksey Parish Council

at South Hinksey Village Hall

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2011

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**Present:** Sarah Balaam (Vice-Chair), Tom Barron (from item 7), Sheridan Edward (Clerk), Liz LeFevre, Maggie Rawcliffe (Chair)

Arash Fatemian (Cllr, OxonCC)

**Parishioners:** None

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### 1. Apologies

Elizabeth Halcro

### 2. Declarations of Interest

MR – Village Hall

### 3. Parishioners' Comments

None

### 4. Minutes of January 2011 Meeting

Read and agreed.

### 5. Matters Arising

**Grit bins.** SE stated that he had received a refund for the grit bins before the bin for Jacob's Ladder could be ordered.

**Action: SE to order a bin from a commercial supplier.**

**Snow Action Plan.** TB had circulated an email on SHInfo asking for parishioners' feedback regarding difficulties in getting around during periods of heavy snow and ice. TB had received four replies that highlighted problems both with cars exiting the village on Manor Road, and the risks posed by ice on Jacob's Ladder. SE confirmed that the grit bin should be installed at Jacob's Ladder shortly and the City Council would take responsibility for keeping it filled. Once installed, the Parish Council would ensure that it is cleared and gritted. For Manor Road, TB would assemble a group of volunteers to clear the slope on Manor Road.

## 6. Finance – Payments and Receipts

### Payments

Carter Jonas	Village Hall survey	£1057.50
Maggie Rawcliffe	Dec/Jan expenses	£12.64
Village Hall	Hire for Probation Service	£40.00

### Receipts

County Council	Grit bin refund	£192.00
Reeves & Pain	Burial Fee	£600.00

## 7. Planning Applications

### SHI/5114/5 Loft conversion, 46 Manor Road, South Hinksey

The Council raised no objections

### SHI/KEN/2563/4 Oriel bays and fenestration work, Craigellachie, Hinksey Hill

The Council raised no objections.

### SHI/16452/1 Demolition and erection of new house, Bagley Croft Lodge, Hinksey Hill

SE confirmed that an extension to the deadline had been requested. LLF was yet to view the plans. **Actions: LLF to view plans and give any feedback to SE asap.**

## 8. Correspondence

**Local Government Boundary Commission** wrote to announce the start of the consultation phase on proposed reforms to the County Council member size and subsequent review of divisional boundaries. AF stated that it was planned that any revision would be in place for the 2013 elections. He also stated that it was a good opportunity for the Council to consider whether they would wish to be more closely aligned with another area, e.g. the Isis ward in Oxford City. **Action: Council to give any feedback to SE.**

**VoWH Chairman** circulated posters advertizing her charity ceilidh on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2011. **Action: Poster to be displayed and details circulated on SHInfo.**

**Nicola Blackwood MP** wrote to publicize Oxfordshire Surviving Winter Appeal that invites people receiving a Winter Fuel Payment, but who don't need it, to donate it to charity. **Action: SE to circulate information on SHInfo.**

## 9. County Councillor's Report

AF reported that the budget would be put before the County Council the following Tuesday for them to vote on it as a whole. The budget protected budgets on safeguarding children, fire and rescue, and services for adult carers, but all other budgets would see reductions. AF reported that the Redbridge traveller site was progressing and that although the initial grant application was rejected, a subsequent grant for c.£1m was successful, allowing the County Council to improve their plans. AF also reported that the railway bridge on the Old Abingdon Road was due to be completed on schedule. Laura Hutchins, the new Highwaysarea steward was doing a tour of the area. **Action: SE to arrange a visit by her to South Hinksey.**

## 10. District Councillor's Report

None.

## 11. Project Updates

### Manor Road Ditch.

SB stated that she had spoken with Tony Allsworth, owner of the property adjacent to the ditch, who confirmed that the bank of the ditch was his land. SB explained the flood risk that the collapsed bank posed. The Council felt that work on the opposite bank was also necessary and that it would be most cost-effective for both parties if the work was carried out at the same time. **Action: SB to discuss further with Tony Allsworth.**

### Community Land.

TB presented the Council with a plan from the committee for a development of the old car park. The total cost of the work was estimated at c.£1500. The Council welcomed the committee's plans and decided to increase the community land budget from £650 to £1000 for 2011/12 and offered assistance to the committee in finding any shortfall in funding from other means, and donation of materials.

### Village Hall.

MR reported that the drains had been surveyed and it was found that the drain connecting to the main sewer had collapsed and needed repairing. The cost for this would be c.£2000. David Minns had written to the Council to confirm that the Village Hall should be able to cover the cost of the work and would not need a grant from the Parish Council. However, he requested that £500 be included in the budget should the Village Hall require support during the year. SE stated that this had already been factored into the budget. The Council confirmed that the work on the drain did not affect their decision to proceed with the transfer of ownership of the Village Hall. **Action: SE to proceed with the conveyancing.**

### St Lawrence Road Parking Issues.

SE stated that he had spoken to Rev James Wilkinson who gave his support to the sign and stated that the church may be able to contribute, but that it would need to be agreed by the PCC. The Council discussed various designs and confirmed the wording and materials for the sign. **Action: SE to proceed with sign.** SB confirmed that a residents' meeting had been arranged for Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February and that it would be advertised on SHInfo. **Action: SE to ensure that the issues are raised with Laura Hutchins during the site visit.**

## 12. 2011/12 Budget and Precept

SE presented the Council with the budget and the Council approved the budget on a line-by-line basis. The Community Land budget was increased from £650 to £1000 following the plan submitted by the committee, and the budget for the verge and path maintenance was reduced from £2400 to £2050 in line with tenders. Total budgeted expenditure for the year was £18050. The Council approved the budget and agreed a precept of £9800.

## 13. Grounds Maintenance Tenders

SE had received six tenders for the 2011/12 ground maintenance contract and presented the tenders blind to the Council. It was noted that despite the detailed tender brief, the quoted prices differed substantially. The Council decided to appoint the contract to Continental Landscapes, subject to receipt of references and a site visit with Peter and Maggie Rawcliffe. **Action: SE to arrange with Continental.**

#### **14. Hinksey Hill Road Safety**

LLF reported that she had carried out a site visit with Mark Francis and Lee Turner from Highways before Christmas. They confirmed that the advert for the speed restriction would be placed shortly. LLF also reported that the probationers had carried out work on the footpath at the top of Hinksey Hill and that it was now much clearer and safer. VoWH had also sent letters to residents with overhanging hedges and trees asking them to be cut back. There had been no response to this. **Action: LLF to monitor and follow up with VoWH.**

SB noted that the speed restriction on the approach to the top of Hinksey Hill on Oxford Road was very late, leaving little time to slow before the bend and suggested that the sign be moved further away from the junction. **Action: SE to ensure that a site visit to Hinksey Hill be included in Laura Hutchins tour.**

#### **15. Any Other Business**

**Probationers. Action: MR to arrange with LLF for the probationers to carry out further work on Betty Lane and Hinksey Hill.**

**Litter Pick.** LLF stated she planned to undertake another litter pick in March. **Action: MR and LLF to coordinate between village and hill.**

**Fence on Devil's Backbone.** SB reported that the fence at the start of the Devil's Backbone at the village end was coming down. **Action: SE to arrange for its repair.**

#### **16. Parishioners' Feedback**

None.

**Date of next meeting: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2011**