

South Hinksey Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd June 2008 in South Hinksey Village Hall, Manor Road, South Hinksey.

Present:

Councillors: Clive Briffett (Chair), Elizabeth Le Fevre, Maggie Rawcliffe, Sarah Baalam

Secretary: James Mallinson

Four members of the parish.

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence

There were none.

2. Declaration of Interest

There were none.

3. Councillor Vacancy

**MR agreed to contact Rachael Marsden.
CB agreed to circulate a note advertising the vacancy.**

4. Vacancy for a Parish Clerk

Four candidates had been interviewed out of five applicants. CB had been reassured by the selection of competent and enthusiastic applicants. A decision was expected by 9th June.

5. Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 7th May 2008 were agreed with amendments as per the Agenda.

6. Community Woodland Project

CB provided an update on the project. The invoice has been received from JAG Timber for £10,707.78. CB confirmed that this would be paid directly from the TOE grant. MR stressed the importance of clarifying responsibility for the woodland. CB confirmed that the Forestry Commission would provide maintenance funding for 10 years.

CB confirmed that the BBQ planned for 21st June had been cancelled because of insufficient ticket sales, and an event would be held at the General Elliott instead.

7. Sale of Land at Chilswell Path

CB confirmed with the Acting Parish Clerk who confirmed that right of access can be granted to the prospective purchase of the land in question, however the land cannot ever be owned by the buyer, only be used as right of access, cannot be parked on, cannot be built on and cannot be fenced off in any method.

It was agreed to grant right of way to the purchaser.

8. South Hinksey Burial Ground

Confirmed that Anne would supply details of the administrative requirements for this resource at the next meeting.

9. Planning Applications:

There were no planning applications for discussion.

10. South Hinksey Transport problems

CB reported that he had received a response to the letter sent to Oxfordshire County Council Highways with regard to issues for South Hinksey. 2013-2015 funding has been allocated for changing the Hinksey interchange. Feasibility /consultation to start next year.

11. Village to Betty Lane Access.

A letter has been sent to Lee Turner of OCC with access suggestions to and from South Hinksey.

12. Flooding matters:

MR reported that the Environment Agency was looking at the pinch points at Redbridge, and had been clearing ditches in the problem area. **MR to circulate the EA report.**

13. Cheques for Payment:

Council confirmed the following payments:

A. Wilson – postage	£ 10.85
Cllr. Mrs M. Rawcliffe – expenses	£ 20.24
Cumnor Parish News (recruitment advert)	£ 37.50
Outerspace Garden Company	£ 292.88
Auditing Solutions Ltd (internal audit)	£ 164.50

14. Internal Audit 2006/2007

CB circulated the Internal Audit Report.

It was agreed that the recommendations were helpful including: use of a spreadsheet to manage the cash book; review of the regulatory framework using the NALC model; assessment and management of risk, including increase of insurance cover from £2,000 to the level in line with Audit Commission recommendation (c£11,000); maintenance of a register of assets; and review of the market value of land owned by the Council.

CB agreed to circulate a copy of the insurance document when obtained from Anne to each councillor.

15. A 34

CB offered to obtain and circulate minutes of a meeting of the Highways Agency. SB noted visibility issues caused by the growth of brambles and grass at the access to the A34 south from the village. CB encouraged Councillors to provide feedback via the Highways web site.

SB agreed to contact Highways (CB to supply contact details)

16. Correspondence

Members are asked to consider or note the following:

- Vale Community Safety newsletter
- Renewable Energy project: Community-scale commercial wind turbines on OCC land – lease options – summary and recommendations
- Thames Water Consultation on draft Water Resources Management Plan: New reservoir –Clive has CD
- Guide for members on declaring Interests at meetings
- Clerks and Councillors Direct magazine
- OALC AGM is to be held on Monday 9th June 2008 at 7.30 pm. CB said he would be attending and invited other Councillors to join him.

17. Wind Turbines proposed for Hinksey Heights

Nothing to report as yet.

18. Updates

The Clerk has emailed Gary Brewer at the County Council regarding the illegal dumping and problem with fires following the discussion at the last two meetings, to date no reply has been received.

19. Any other business:

Councillors reported that there had been at least three recent incidents of sewerage overflow in the village. It was noted that this was extremely unpleasant and potentially provided health risks. **SB undertook to contact Anne Wilson, Acting Clerk, to write to Thames Water expressing the Council's concern.**

MR suggested that a breakdown of the Precept and the publication of accounts would help communication with parishioners, perhaps on the notice board or web site. **CB agreed that the Council should work to make more information available, and to prepare a sample notice.**

There was a discussion about the ownership and responsibilities for clearing ditches in the Parish. **SB agreed to draw up map of ditches around village.**

20. Date of next Meeting: Monday 7th July 2008 at 7.30 p.m.

20. Committee in Private Session

RECOMMENDED

In terms of Schedule 12, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will likely to disclose exempt information relating to personnel matters and it is therefore recommended that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded.

Appointment of Parish Clerk

