

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

Monday 1st October 2012

Present: Sarah Balaam (Vice-Chair), Sheridan Edward (Clerk), Liz LeFevre, Maggie Rawcliffe (Chair)

Parishioners: Roxanne Ledru, Diego Vargas.

MR reported that Sandra Bingham had stepped-down as councilor due to increased work commitments. The Council thanked her for all her work.

SE stated that the notice of the vacancy had been posted and should no election be called, the Council will be able to co-opt to the post at the next Council meeting. However, there was already one vacancy on the Council and with three current members, the Council was only just quorate. SE urged councillors to think of potential candidates for the vacancies. The Council discussed an advertising campaign to attract applicants: a notice will be put in the forthcoming issue of the Echo, on SHInfo, and delivered to every house in the Parish. **Action: SE to draft notice. LLF to distribute on the Hill, SB and MR in the Village.**

1. Apologies

Cllr Ron Mansfield (VoWHDC)

2. Declarations of interest

MR – Village Hall
SB – Planning Application

3. Parishioners' comments

None.

4. Minutes of August 2012 meeting

p.3 Hinksey Hill Traffic Issues 'to ask for a site visit' should be replaced with 'regarding speed enforcement'.

Read and agreed.

5. Matters arising

Footpath to North Hinksey. AF wasn't present to update the Council.

Stile on Devil's Backbone. MR had sent several requests to Mark Sumner, but with no reply. **Action: MR to continue to chase and SB to log on Highways website Report-It function.**

6. Finance – payments and receipts

Payments

BGG Garden and Tree Care	August and September maintenance	£960.00
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Receipts

VoWHDC	2 nd half 2012/13 precept	£2010.00
Reeves and Pain	Burial fee	£600.00
Scottish and Southern Energy	Wayleaves	£19.27

7. Planning applications

P12/V1496 44 Manor Road, South Hinksey Erection of rear extension

SB, the applicant, was not present for this item. The Council raised no objections.

8. Correspondence

Town and Parish Forum. Councillors were invited to attend the Forum on 28th November at Wantage Civil Hall and the focus of discussion would be the Localism Act and changes in planning legislation. **Action: MR, SB and SE to attend. SE to RSVP.**

A34 resurfacing. The Council had received notification that the A34 stretch by South Hinksey was due to be resurfaced in October, which would lead to some disruption, including closure of the slip roads on some days. This was discussed further under project updates.

OAFP Annual Meeting. The Council was invited to attend the Oxford Area Flood Partnership annual public meeting at Oxford Town Hall on 16th October.

9. County Councillor's Report

None.

10. District Councillor's Report

None.

11. Project updates

A34 Issues. As discussed above, the Council had received notification of imminent resurfacing work to the A34 and SE had also drawn the Council's attention to an editorial comment in the Oxford Mail. It was hoped that the resurfacing would decrease the noise levels on the road, but it was felt that the work and the article could provide a good springboard to highlight the safety issues, in particular the campaign for a 50mph speed limit. SE had drafted a response to the Oxford Mail editorial. The Council reviewed and agreed the response. **Action: SE to send response to Oxford Mail, and send a copy to Highways and Nicola Blackwood MP.**

Hinksey Hill traffic issues. LLF reported that the police had made Hinksey Hill a target area for traffic enforcement in September and had visited at least once. **Action: LLF to arrange site visit, to discuss steps we could take to improve safety in this area.** The National Probation Service visited and had carried out work clearing verges and paths on Betty Lane and Foxcombe Road. The Council hadn't heard back regarding either the Speed Indicator Device or the cutting of the hedgerows along Hinksey Hill. LLF also reported that the 40mph sign at the top of Hinksey Hill had become obscured. **Action: SE to contact Laura Hutchins and Tracey Morton.**

Community Woodland. SE had investigated designs for a memorial bench for Clive Briffett and MR had discussed the designs with Hilary Briffett. The Council agreed to proceed with the bench. **Action: MR to confirm placement with Hilary.** MR also reported that Sani Nahhas had carried out the mowing. **Action: SE to thank Sani on behalf of the Council.** SE reported that John Bye was away until the beginning of October, and he would arrange for quotes asap. **Action: SE to contact John Bye again and also contact BGG to arrange site visit re paths through the woodland.** MR reported that the Ragwort was no longer visible. SE highlighted that the legal requirement is to remove 50m from grazing animals. Need to focus efforts on this section. NPS need to be contacted in April 2013 to help next July onwards. **Action: Review next Spring.**

12. Footbridge over railway

Peter Rawcliffe arranged a community meeting prior to the Council meeting, which was well attended. Peter, SB and SE had met to put together a strategy, SE investigated legislation, SB had contacted Network Rail to get a ballpark figure (c.£750k for ramps), and Peter had contacted city, district and county councillors and had received support from all except two who had been away. Peter had drafted a letter that was supported by the local representatives and would be submitted to the Department of transport who controlled the funding for the bridge, and parishioners were urged to send further letters of support, and it was agreed that an e-petition would be started. A YouTube video was posted illustrating the difficulties with the current bridge, and it was agreed that local businesses would be contacted for support. Peter would keep the community updated via SHInfo.

13. Any other business

Bagley Wood. LLF reported that several trees needed to be pruned back to keep the footpath clear at the top of Hinksey Hill, and that the tenants of Bagley Wood had carried out the work quickly.

Manor Road ditch. MR reported that a parishioner had felt that there was a large build up of silt in the ditch on Manor Road. There had recently been heavy rain, which may well have cleared the silt. **Action: SB and MR would check and, if necessary, contact Peter Dela to carry out a site visit.**

14. Parishioners' feedback

None.

Date of next meetings:

Monday 5th November 2012, 7pm, South Hinksey Village Hall
Monday 3rd December 2012, 7pm, South Hinksey Village Hall