

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

Monday 12th January 2015

Present: Sarah Balaam, Matthew Frohn, Liz LeFevre, Maggie Rawcliffe (Chair)
Sheridan Edward (Clerk), Cllr Bob Johnston (OxonCC)

Other attendees: Peter Rawcliffe

Time commenced: 7:30pm

1. Apologies

Christine Chater

2. Declarations of interest

MR – item 14, Barleycott Lane.

3. Public questions, comments or representations

PR attended the meeting to discuss items 11, 12 and 14. The discussions are minuted under the relevant items.

4. Minutes of December 2014 meeting

The Council **resolved** to agree the minutes of the December 2014 meeting.

5. Matters arising

General Elliott. MR and SE held a site visit with residents and the landlady. Several concerns were raised and it appeared that these were being addressed, and no further complaints had been received.

Devil's Backbone fence. Laura Hutchins reported that she had carried out a site visit and concluded that although the railings had failed in several places it didn't constitute an urgent safety hazard. **Action: MR to arrange a site visit and carry out risk assessment.**

Fly-tipping. The work had been completed. An address had been found and an investigation was being carried out.

Appearance of Hinksey Hill. SE had sent a letter to LLF, which would be circulated to residents shortly.

Pavement opposite Westwood Hotel. It was noted that although BJ had approved the work, some was still outstanding. **Action: BJ to confirm with Laura Hutchins at locality meeting.**

Manor Road footpath. The work had been completed.

6. Finance – payments and receipts

Payments

Payee	Reason	Amount	Power to act
BGG Garden and Tree Care	November grounds maintenance	£435.00	s96 HA 1980
Maggie Rawcliffe	Nov to Jan expenses	£16.54	s15 LGA 1972

The Council **resolved** to approve the payments.

Receipts

Payer	Reason	Amount
Highworth Memorials	Memorial fee	£120.00

7. Planning applications

P14/V2528/HH – Bagley Croft Lodge – single storey pool building

The Council **resolved** to raise no objections.

8. Correspondence

Elections. VoWH wrote to confirm that should the Parish Council be contested the likely cost would be £1,400. Any election costs would be due for payment in 2016/17.

Chilswell Path. A resident from Chilswell Path had raised issues of flooding of the path leading to difficulty accessing her property. SE had investigated it. It was concluded that the path was only a public footpath, and private access rights for residents was a private issue between them and the owner of the path, Oxford City Council.

Chilswell Valley working parties. Wild Oxford would be carrying out work on Chilswell Valley on several dates, and would again be holding a Good Friday picnic there. The details had been circulated on SHInfo.

9. County Councillor's Report

BJ reported that the OxonCC budget should be finalized by the end of February. A 1.99% rise was expected. It was noted that bus subsidies and road maintenance budgets were likely to be cut, and an additional £4.5m in savings was still needed. BJ reported that the phasing of the lights on the Hinksey Hill Interchange was such that pedestrian crossing was now much safer. BJ also stated that the electrification scheme for the railway had been delayed, and that there might be increased disruption when the night work is undertaken.

10. Project updates

Community Woodland. MR had contacted the National Probation Service who would carry out a site visit. It was felt that the Village Hall could provide an adequate base.

Hinksey Hill traffic issues. LLF reported that police were still monitoring traffic speeds. She also noted that an accident on the traffic island at the top of the hill had removed one of the signs. **Action: LLF to report.**

11. Footbridge over the railway

PR reported that discussions between Network Rail, OxonCC, VoWHDC and OCC were still ongoing and it was hoped that more news would be made public shortly, and the Council thanked PR for all his hard work.

12. Flood barrier

PR also reported on good progress to carry out the groundwork around the village.

13. Automated external defibrillator

LLF reported that the website was set-up and ready to go live. BJ stated that he had some funds left in his Councillor Community Budget, and it was suggested that the Council apply for funding towards the defibrillator.

Action: SE to complete grant application form and send to LLF for approval.

14. Barleycott Lane / John Piers Lane / Betty Lane

MR sat out the discussion. Laura Hutchins had reported that the work arising from the summer's survey had been carried out at the end of the summer. It was noted that the Council had already stated that the work was ineffective and that more work was needed. It was also noted that communication from Highways had been extremely poor. It was also felt that work on strengthening the bank and ditch was needed before work on the road surface was carried out. PR suggested a partnership between the Council, OxonCC, residents and OCC and Nick Frearson (the riparian landowner and tenant of the ditch). **Action: SE to write to Laura Hutchins requesting a further site visit by an engineer to assess the work needed. BJ to discuss in person with Laura Hutchins at locality meeting the following week.**

15. South Hinksey to North Hinksey footpath

SE reported that he had finally received the details of the trust managing the Tuckwell land, and was awaiting a response. He had also repeatedly chased Co-op but was still awaiting a reply. **Action: SE to continue to chase.**

16. 2015/16 budget

SE, MR and SB had met before Christmas to draft the budget, and SE had circulated the draft budget and finance report to councillors. A rise of £250 was proposed, This was equivalent to a 1.98% increase for a tax band D property. It was proposed that the Council would provide c.£1,800 in the shortfall in the budget from its own reserves, but it was noted that £1,500 of this would be from the community woodland earmarked reserves. It was noted that the Council would receive £500 less in verge maintenance grant from OxonCC, and that this would be funded from the increased precept and from Council reserves. The Council **resolved** to approve the budget and a precept of £7,500. **Action: SE to send precept request to VoWHDC.**

17. Neighbourhood plan

SE had circulated summaries of the proposed VoWHDC Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), and the process for formulating a neighbourhood plan. The Council noted that due to limitations imposed by the Green Belt and Flood Risk draft policies, development within the parish was extremely limited. It was also noted that there could be a high financial cost to producing the neighbourhood plan, which would have limited scope given the nature of the parish. It was felt that the time and expense of a neighbourhood plan would outweigh any potential increase in CIL income. The Council **resolved** to not pursue a neighbourhood plan for the moment.

18. Any other business

Speed limit. It was noted that now the work had been completed, the stretch of road between the Kennington and Hinksey Hill roundabouts had been derestricted. It was noted that the committee meeting to discuss the derestriction was on that Thursday, 15th January. **Action: SE to send details to councillors.**

Dog fouling. It was noted that there had been several incidents of dog fouling along Hinksey Hill. **Action: SE to send notice round on SHInfo.**

Postbox. It was noted that the post box outside the Village Hall was in need of painting. **Action: SE to inform Royal Mail.**

19. Feedback from members of the public

None.

Time concluded: 9pm

MINUTES SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Signed: _____
Maggie Rawcliffe – Chair

Date: _____

Date of next meeting: Monday 2nd February 2015 at 7:30pm in South Hinksey Village Hall