

**Minutes of the meeting of South Hinksey Parish Council  
held at South Hinksey Village Hall on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019**

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**Present:** Christine Chater, Michael Cochrane (Chairman), Linda Goodhead, Patricia Jones (Vice-Chair), Christine Madsen, Catherine Powell  
Geoffrey Ferres (Clerk).

**Other attendees:** Stephen Gibson.

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**Time commenced: 7.32pm**

**19/168. Apologies**

Cllr Bob Johnston (OxonCC), Cllr Debby Hallett (VoWHDC), Cllr Emily Smith (VoWHDC).

**19/169. Declarations of interest**

All members declared an interest in relation to the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme and the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway.

The Clerk reported on the advice given to him about prejudicial interests on the VoWHDC training course he attended on 21<sup>st</sup> November. The Chairman said he would contact the Monitoring Officer for clarification. **Action: Chairman, Clerk**  
The Chairman, CC and LG declared an interest in relation to the Hinksey Hill 30mph limit.

**19/170. Public questions, comments or representations**

None.

**19/171. Minutes of the last ordinary meeting**

The Council **resolved** to agree the minutes of the November 2019 meeting. The Chairman then signed each page.

**19/172. Finance – payments and receipts**

**Payments**

Payee	Reason	Amount	Power to act
SLCC Enterprises Ltd	Training for Clerk	£96.00	s111 LGA 1972

The Council **resolved unanimously** to approve the payment. The Chairman and CC then signed it and initialled the supporting paperwork. **Action: Clerk to post cheque**

**Receipts**

None.

**19/173. County Councillor's report**

BJ had sent his apologies and a brief written report which the Clerk had circulated.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Pat Es.*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*6/1/2020*

**19/174. District Councillors' report**

DH and ES had sent their apologies.

**19/175. Planning applications**

**a) Former pub car park**

Stephen Gibson, a Flood Risk Consultant working for Goldace Developments, attended the meeting and explained why his client disputes the Environment Agency's current objection to the possible development in relation to flood risk.

**b) Update**

- **Siskins, Spring Copse [P19/V2262/FUL]** – The Clerk reported that VoWHDC had approved this application.

**19/176. Correspondence**

None.

**19/177. Finance report**

The Council **noted** a bank reconciliation and a monitoring report to the end of October 2019, and went on to consider a draft budget for 2020-21 tabled by the Clerk following a meeting with the Chairman and the Vice-Chair that proposed a precept of £19,000 (an increase of 32.4%) which was equivalent to a Band D Council Tax element of £95.38 (an increase of 29.35%).

The Council discussed at length the pressure on its reserves created by the projects listed in the indicative capital programme. The Chairman then proposed and the Council **approved** a precept of £19,920 (an increase of 38.82%), which was equivalent to a Band D Council Tax element of £100 (an increase of 35.61%).

**Action: Clerk**

**19/178. Council priorities**

The Council briefly considered the Action List and the latest analysis of the time monitoring started by the Clerk on 1<sup>st</sup> July.

**19/179. Hinksey Hill speed limit**

CC reported that OxonCC has set a provisional date for the installation of the 30mph speed limit signs and gates of 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020.

The Council **voted** to thank BJ for his intervention.

The Council **unanimously agreed** to delegate the signing of any agreement to repay OxonCC £15,000 over five years to the Chairman and CC.

**19/180. Flood Alleviation Scheme**

PJ reported she had received a letter from Layla Moran MP a few days after the last meeting.

Jo Emberson Wines, the Environment Agency's Project Director for the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme has agreed to meet the Chairman and the Vice-Chair on 19<sup>th</sup> December with an engineer. **Action: Chairman and Vice-Chair**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

6/1/2020

**19/181. Woodland**

The Council **agreed** to renew the arrangement with Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust and to offer to renew it for another five years. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk said he would arrange a quarterly site meeting in January. **Action: Clerk**

**19/182. Future Use of Village Hall**

The Council discussed the letter from Linda Slater on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee and **agreed** to accept the big increase in annual charge to £363 in the hope that future increases would be modest and to seek a presence on the Committee.

**19/183. Burial ground**

**a) Waste**

The Clerk reported that Biffa had yet to remove VoWHDC's bins.

**b) Additional burial plots**

The Clerk has attended a site meeting with Justin Smith, Managing Director of Cemetery Development Services, one of the three companies that had been suggested to him by Julie Dunk, Chief Executive of the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management.

**c) Fees**

The Council **deferred** a decision on a proposal to increase fees to a future meeting.

**d) Noticeboard**

The Clerk had researched oak noticeboards and showed the Council the one he recommended. The Council agreed that he should go ahead and order it. **Action: Clerk**

**19/184. Neighbourhood Plans**

CM is waiting for an opportunity to speak to ES and would like to try to establish via Shinfo whether there are other parishioners interested in the idea.

**19/185. Oxford to Cambridge Expressway**

The North and West Parishes Expressway Group (NAWPEG) now has an online presence within the North Hinksey Parish Council website.

The Clerk had received a survey from the Oxford Green Belt Network, addressed only to parish councils within the Oxford Green Belt, which purported to be a survey as to whether those parishes support or oppose the Expressway but in fact only asked each Council to say whether it opposed or supported the Expressway going through its own parish. The Council **instructed** the Clerk not to respond to the survey.

A councillor reported having encountered a person placing an anti-Expressway banner on the bridge over the A34.

**19/186. Grass cutting**

Nothing to report regarding the new agreement with OxonCC.

Signed: 

Date: 6/1/2020

**19/187. Maintenance issues**

**a) Former pub car park**

The Clerk confirmed that the Council's contractors had cut the grass and other vegetation at the former General Elliott car park but had not been asked to remove the mattress and other debris which are now visible on this piece of land but of which he had been unaware.

**b) Cycling sign**

The Clerk has received an update from Oxford City Council's Emma Griffiths saying it needs to check the legislative provisions/requirements in relation to cycle signs.

**c) Devil's Backbone**

The Vice-Chair had reported on FixMyStreet that a fence had collapsed and was obstructing the Devil's Backbone. She said the collapsed fence had soon been moved out of the way but it is unclear when and whether it will be replaced.

**d) Sewage**

The Council discussed problems with sewage pollution which appear to arise when the Kennington pumping station is affected by flooding.

**e) Maintenance specification**

The Council **agreed** to defer consideration of the draft maintenance specification for 2020 to the next meeting.

**19/188. Traffic issues**

LG had attended a meeting of the Botley Traffic Advisory Committee on 27<sup>th</sup> November and gave a brief report.

**19/189. Feedback from members of the public**

None.

**Time concluded: 10.05pm**

MINUTES SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Date of the next Parish Council meeting: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7pm at South Hinksey Village Hall

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

