

# SUNNINGWELL PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on WEDNESDAY 28 JANUARY 2015 at SUNNINGWELL VILLAGE HALL

**Present:**

**Councillors** Paul Wooldridge (in chair), Hilary Lynam-Smith,  
Colin Weyer and James Greenman.

**District Councillor** Elizabeth Bennett.

**In attendance:** Brian Rixon (Clerk)

### 1/15 Questions and Comments from members of the public.

**District Councillor Bob Johnston** reported by email:

Report of the County Councillor to Sunningwell Parish Council:-

1. The works to the bypass finished more or less as planned, and the new arrangements now seem to be working well. The exits at the bottom of Hinksey Hill have been hatched as requested by the Parish Council and others.
2. The County budget will now be decided on Tuesday the 10th of February. There is uncertainty because the final settlement figure is still not known.
3. Council Tax will go up by 1.99%, which gives another £3.2 million pounds of revenue. There is a larger than normal surplus on the Council Tax Collections fund, which will give a further £3 million to alleviate cuts.
4. There will be reductions in bus subsidies, grass cutting and road maintenance. In respect of roads, the Officers are now referring to "managed decline".
5. The latest version of the Transport Plan is now out for consultation, and relies heavily on more park and ride facilities, to be partly paid for out of a workplace parking place levy in Oxford.

#### **Richard Hall.**

Richard Hall came to the meeting to ask why the footpath 372/8 which goes by the quarry is blocked and there is no signpost. The Council advised that the path in question is one of two currently being discussed with the County Council. The Parish Council will continue to seek answers and will notify Richard.

ACTION Clerk

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**2/15 Apologies for Absence.**

**Apology:** Councillors Andrew Veal and Joanne Blower.  
County Councillor Bob Johnston  
**Absent:** Councillor Bill Dring.

**3/15 Declarations of members' interest in respect of any item on this agenda.**  
Cllr Hilary Lynam-Smith on any flood related matters.

**4/15 To approve the Minutes of the meetings held on 26 November 2014.**  
The minutes were approved and signed.

**5/15 To consider matters, not on this agenda, arising from 26 November's minutes.**

Cllr Hilary Lynam-Smith has contacted the supplier to start arrangements for this year's pig roast.

Cllr Colin Weyer asked the clerk to send him copies of the responses received to letters sent asking for hedgerows along Foxcombe Road to be cut back from overhanging the public footpath. ACTION Clerk

The Chairman will contact Cllr Bill Dring for an update on the proposed repainting of the white gates near the entrances to Sunningwell and Bayworth.

ACTION Cllrs Paul Wooldridge and Bill Dring

The application to formally confirm the registration of the village hall carpark land will now be sent to the Land Registry. ACTION Cllr Colin Weyer

**6/15 Village Hall Lease.**

Cllr Paul Wooldridge is arranging to meet David Shorten, the Chairman of Sunningwell Village Hall Management Committee ACTION Cllr Paul Wooldridge

**7/15 Village Green Grass Seeding.**

Cllr Bill Dring will be consulted on reseeding a significant area near the main entrance and keeping it more tightly mown.

ACTION Cllrs Colin Weyer and Bill Dring

**8/15 Boars Hill Defibrillator Monitoring**

The manager of the care home will be consulted to seek an arrangement to have the simple weekly and monthly defibrillator monitoring procedures completed. The clerk had prepared written guidelines and passed these to Cllr Colin Weyer.

ACTION Cllr Colin Weyer

**9/15 Road Maintenance.**

**Penn Lane to Sugworth Junction.**

Vanessa Buckley of Oxfordshire County Council has agreed to personally check the road's condition. ACTION Cllr Colin Weyer

**Bayworth to Sunningwell Road.**

The previously reported top dressing will be applied from 23 March.

**Foxcombe Road from Hinksey Hill to Bayworth Lane.**

This road will be closed from 30 March for 5 days (8:30 to 4) for repairs.

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## 10/15 Grants.

### Sunningwell Scene

The Council approved a payment of £250 for the Christmas edition of Sunningwell Scene, and £200 per edition for the other publications up to a maximum of three more in the year commencing April 2015. It is likely there will only be a total of three editions in a year.

## 11/15 Sunningwell School of Art

### Village Pond seat

The council was very grateful for the offer of £200 towards the cost of the new seat around the willow tree. The clerk will write to the School accepting the generous offer.

ACTION Clerk

The Parish Council will write to Geoff Cross acknowledging that he built the original bench but the Council was not aware that he had intended to replace it. Furthermore the Council would like to replace the plaque that he had put on the first bench.

ACTION Clerk

## 12/15 Village Green Gazebo

The proposal to erect a gazebo on the village green was discussed again. The Chairman confirmed that this was a Parish Council decision, and not a Village Green Committee decision, and will be financed by the Parish Council. As such, the decisions made at the September Parish Council meeting, and confirmed at the October Parish Council meeting, are to stand.

Cllr Hilary Lynam-Smith suggested the matter should be put out to a public review. The matter went to a vote and it was decided that the Council should not open it up to a public review.

The meeting agreed that Cllr Bill Dring should be asked to seek quotations from local suppliers to build a gazebo in line with the specification agreed at the September Parish Council meeting.

ACTION Cllrs Paul Wooldridge and Bill Dring

## 13/15 Work in Progress.

### Village Green Wall.

The clerk wrote to the Diocesan Board of Finance early in December and followed up with a telephone conversation in January. The original letter has been acknowledged and passed to the Director of Glebe and Buildings for consideration.

### Playground Repairs

Cllr Andrew Veal contacted a supplier who specialises in playground repairs and obtained a quote for regular inspections and repairs. The Council agreed that a contract for two visits a year should be arranged to supplement the RoSPA annual inspection.

ACTION Cllr Andrew Veal

## 14/15 Planning Application

**Application Reference:** P14/V2879/HH (Householder)

**Proposal:** Raising the roof on the North East wing.

**Address:** Crosby House Red Copse Lane Boars Hill Oxford OX1 5ERD

The Council offered no objection.

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## 15/15 Accounts for payment

1511	Clerk January	Salary and office expenditure	381.38
1523	HMRC	PAYE	77.40
1513	Flood Prevention Group	Grant	210.00
1514	Village Hall Committee	Grant towards new storage facility	2000.00
1515	H&S Fencing	New circular bench around pond tree	840.00
1516	E Bennett	Plaque for village green bench	45.00

## 16/15 Any Other Business

### Defra – Rural Community Councils – Village Halls

This was discussed and the clerk was asked to circulate the information to all Councillors for their feedback. ACTION Clerk and all Councillors

### Neighbourhood Plan

It was agreed the process should be commenced online. ACTION Clerk

Cllr James Greenman will prepare a list of information to be included in the plan, and circulate it to all the Councillors. ACTION Cllr James Greenman

### Proposed third dam

The contractors have indicated they will produce drawings by the middle of February. A budget has been made available for this important work.

### Carol Singing

The event was a great success and the Council sends its sincere thanks to Vanessa and Mike Woodward for all their help.

### Lodge Hill Junction on A34

The Council is concerned that the expansion of the junction will have an impact on Sunningwell Parish in terms of traffic and building development.

A letter will be drafted for the clerk to send to Nicola Blackwood MP.

ACTION Cllr Paul Wooldridge

A separate letter will be drafted for the clerk to send to the Department of Transport.

ACTION Cllr James Greenman

## 17/15 The Next Parish Council Meeting

will be on **Wednesday 25 February 2015** at **Sunningwell Village Hall** from 7:30

*The Chair closed the January meeting at 9:35 p.m.*