

SUNNINGWELL PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present:

Councillors

Paul Wooldridge (in chair), Andrew Veal, Colin Weyer and Hilary Lynam-Smith. James Greenman attended from 8:30.

In attendance:

Alan Baker, Bob Nichols, Colin Thomas, Annie Thomas, Lynn Roberts, Bob Evans and Julia McClaven
Brian Rixon (Clerk)

157/15 Questions and Comments from members of the public.

County Councillor Bob Johnston.

Bob was unable to attend but sent a written report covering the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway, the County Budget and the devolvement of some services and expenditure to Town and Parish Councils

Alan Baker.

Alan raised the issue of the footpath in Dark Lane. The Chairman confirmed that at the September meeting of the Parish Council it reported having received a clear response from the County Council that there was no public footpath though Mr Baker's garden. Alan was concerned that the minutes stated that Cllr Joanne Blower disagreed with the conclusion and would make her own investigation.

The Chairman reiterated the Council's view that there is no footpath. Any further action by Cllr Joanne Blower is not sanctioned by the Council and is being undertaken by her in her personal capacity.

Bob Nichols.

Bob asked what the Council's views are on the land that covers the area behind the village hall right up to Bayworth, and whether the council would be prepared to approach the estate. The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council would resist any development on this land and would be prepared to write to the agents for the estate on this matter and request to be sent details of the land if it is being sold.

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Colin Thomas.

Colin also spoke about the land. The Chairman explained it was the purpose of the item on the agenda to invite such comment but it would be discussed further by the Council at which stage members of the public would not be able to participate.

Colin considers that the public should be able to express their views at any time during a council meeting.

The clerk explained that it was not permitted under the law. Colin questioned if that was correct.

Please note the matter is clarified in the following way:

The main legislation concerning council, committee and sub-committee meetings is set out in Schedule 12 to the Local Government Act 1972, the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Section 13 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Localism Act 2011.

Members of the public have no statutory right to speak at a meeting of a parish council, its committees or sub-committees. A council may wish to give the public an opportunity to speak and may include a public participation session on the agenda. A council should use its standing orders to regulate public participation (i.e. to confirm the time allocated to the session, the time an individual can speak etc.).

Sunningwell Parish Council welcomes the involvement of members of the public and allocates the first item of each agenda to that purpose.

Colin and Annie Thomas.

Colin and Annie went on to give updates on the

- Draft Local Plan 2031 which has been allowed to move to Part 2,
- Meeting scheduled with Nicola Blackwood MP on 30 October,
- Viability Study,
- CPRE and
- Speeding in Sunningwell village.

Lynn Roberts and Bob Evans.

Lynn and Bob asked about having fund raising events on the village green to raise money for its upkeep. The Chairman said the Council was pleased to consider and support the funding of projects for the village green as long as they complied with the regulations that apply to village greens, and Sunningwell's Policy Document. Any proposal must be presented to the Council at future meetings for their approval.

Julia McClaven.

Julia was welcomed to the meeting and asked if she wished to speak. She attended as she saw the Neighbourhood Plan was on the agenda but felt she would receive most information at the first meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Group on 5 November.

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158/15	Apologies for absence.
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County Councillor Bob Johnston, District Councillor Emily Smith.
Parish Councillors Oliver Isaacs and Joanne Blower.

159/15	Declarations of members' interests in respect of any item.
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Cllr Hilary Lynam-Smith on flood related items.

160/15	To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 30 September 2015.
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The minutes were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

161/15	To consider any Matters Arising from the minutes of 30 September.
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None

162/15	Neighbourhood Plan.
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The Council has been communicating with District Councillor Emily Smith regarding a Neighbourhood plan for Sunningwell and particularly the inclusion of parts of this Parish in a neighbourhood plan for Abingdon-on-Thames Town. Cllr Paul Wooldridge will send a list of agreed questions to David Potter, an Officer at Vale of White Horse District Council responsible for Neighbourhood Planning.

ACTION Cllr Paul Wooldridge

The Clerk will write to Abingdon-on-Thames town council regarding their request to include part of Sunningwell Parish in their Neighbourhood plan. We will discuss this further at the November meeting and then let Abingdon know our decision.

ACTION Clerk

163/15	Foxcombe Road speeding.
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Feedback is expected from the Boars Hill Association soon and that will be reported to the November Parish Council meeting.

ACTION Cllr Colin Weyer

The Council agreed to reserve £3,000 to implement action to reduce the speed on Foxcombe Road.

164/15	White gates, Village Green signs and drain repair.
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Cllr James Greenman reported progress in discussing the white gates and village green signs with one contractor and the village green drain repair with another.

ACTION Cllr James Greenman

165/15	Keys and key holders.
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This was briefly discussed and a list of key holders will be circulated to the Council.

ACTION Clerk

A key for the Council's storage garage was given to Cllr James Greenman, and a key for the village green gate was given to Cllr Paul Wooldridge for handing over to the firework contractor

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166/15	Village Green fireworks.
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A cheque for the lighting hire was given to Cllr James Greenman who also now has a key to the Council's storage area. The village hall has been booked and Cllr Hilary Lynam-Smith said access could be used by the key held by Kati Evans. A working party has been arranged for Sunday 1 November at 2 p.m., when the timber for the fire will be moved nearer the final bonfire position, and also for Saturday 7 November starting at 10 a.m.

167/15	Village green notice boards and willow tunnel.
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Cllr Hilary Lynam-Smith will obtain costings for the notice board and willow tunnel.

ACTION Cllr Hilary Lynam-Smith

168/15	Carol Singing.
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Cllr Joanne Blower will speak to Mike and Vanessa Woodward about arrangements for carol singing.

ACTION Cllr Joanne Blower

169/15	Shelving in storage area.
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Cllr James Greenman will assess the requirements and make arrangements for shelving to be installed in the Council's area of the village hall garage.

ACTION Cllr James Greenman

170/15	Land behind village hall.
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The Clerk was asked to contact Philip Pocock of Adkins, the agents for the land, to ask if the council could be kept apprised of plans for the land, and to receive marketing information and register our concern if the land were to become the target for future housing development.

ACTION Clerk

171/15	Precept preparations.
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It was agreed the clerk should send a financial summary to the Councillors in preparation for the November Council meeting agenda item on the Precept for 2016/17.

ACTION Clerk

172/15	Planning Applications.
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P15/V2420/HH Green Ridge, Pen Lane – extension and garage.

No objection.

P15/V2445/FUL 2 The Quarry, Sunningwell – relocation of outbuildings.

The file was passed to Cllr Paul Wooldridge.

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173/15	Accounts for payment.		
1575	Clerk Oct	Salary and Office Expenditure	514.59
1576	HMRC	PAYE	101.20
1577	Ian Hutt	Mowing village green Aug	192.00
1578	Storm Fireworks	Village green event 7 Nov	750.00
1579	Mark McCracken	Bayworth, pond and village green	137.00
1581	TVE Hire	Lighting for firework event	149.06
1582	Bayworth Chapel	Hall hire September	24.00

174/15	Any other business.
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Oxford Cambridge Expressway.

SPADE had sent an email to Cllr Joanne Blower about information received on improving the road link between Oxford and Cambridge. As ill health prevented Cllr Joanne Blower from attending the Council meeting the Council will await the receipt of further information.

Council Meetings.

Cllr James Greenman asked if consideration could be given to having Council meetings on a different day due to his work commitments, The Clerk was asked to contact the Village Hall management to see if the hall was available on a different evening.

ACTION Clerk

175/15	<p>The Next Parish Council Meeting will be on Wednesday 25 November 2015 at Sunningwell Village Hall starting at 7.30pm</p>
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The Chair closed the October meeting at 10:05 p.m.