

SUNNINGWELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Monday 30 October 2017 at BAYWORTH Chapel

Present:

Councillors

James Greenman, Colin Weyer, Paul Wooldridge,
Mike Wykes and Andrew Veal.

In attendance:

County Councillor Bob Johnston.
Mike Woodward, Mark McCracken, Alan Baker, Nina Baker,
Shirley Robinson and Fred Cross.
Brian Rixon (Clerk).

128/17 Questions and comments from visiting councillors and members of the public

Sunningwell Pond. Concerns about the pond condition were discussed and local knowledge expressed about the history of the pond and the effects the island may have had on water flow and weed growth. The matter would be addressed later in the meeting.

Cricket Club. Nina Baker advised the council that a planning application has been submitted to install an artificial wicket strip adjacent to the existing cricket square in the centre of the cricket field.

Oxford to Cambridge Expressway. Colin Thomas provided an update on current thinking on the expressway routing and addressed the council with concerns that there will not be any public consultation on the various possible routes, and that the decision seems likely to be made behind closed doors and will disregard all planning procedures. Lodge Hill is high on the list of locations and the addition of the expressway is likely to lead to a significant development of the land surrounding the lodge hill junction: - a lorry park and facilities to unload goods onto electric vehicles for the onward journey into Oxford. An Expressway Action Group has been formed by 19 South Oxfordshire parishes to find out more about the expressway project and encourage proper public consultation. Colin asked that the Parish Council consider making contact and possibly joining.

County Councillor Bob Johnston reported

- That morning's meeting on the Local Plan Part 2 was very useful and he, with others, agreed to put comments into the consultation regarding, amongst other things, the Dalton Barracks and Airport site where the safeguarded land is of high landscape value.
- The Infrastructure Committee report is due in November.
- The HM Government Budget could have a bearing on Oxfordshire and Sunningwell in particular. The driving motive is a tax imbalance where areas north of Oxfordshire pay out more in benefits than they receive in taxes.

129/17 Apologies for absence.

District Councillors Debby Hallett and Emily Smith.
Parish Councillors Oliver Isaacs and Elizabeth Bennett.

130/17 Declarations of members' interests in respect of any item.

Cllr Mike Wykes – Village Hall matters.

Signed Chairman. Date

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131/17 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 25 September 2017.

The minutes were approved and signed.

132/17 Firework event – Saturday 4th November

Leaflets advertising the event are being distributed and emails will be sent to all parishioners who have opted in to the Parish Council address list.

Refreshment arrangements are in hand and more material for the bonfire is being sought.

133/17 Sunningwell to Whitecross road restriction from 6 November

Traffic will be temporarily prohibited from preceding the whole length of Sunningwell Road between Sunningwell and Whitecross, with effect from **Monday 6 November**, for an anticipated 25 days to undertake work relating to footway resurfacing, kerbing and drainage.

134/17 Vale of White Horse Local Plan Part 2

Cllr Paul Wooldridge will attend the Vale of White Horse **Exhibition and Public meeting** at Abingdon College on 6 November. **ACTION Cllr Paul Wooldridge**

A joint SPADE and Parish Council “**Drop in public briefing session**” has been arranged for Sunday 12 November from 3 to 5 p.m. SPADE will issue notices of the event.

The Vale consultation period closes on 22 November. Cllr James Greenman will draft the Parish Council response. **ACTION Cllr James Greenman**

135/17 Foxcombe Road – reduction of speed limit to 30mph

The County Council is now ready to implement the 30mph speed restriction on the built up section of Foxcombe Road. The Parish Council has paid the required fee and awaits the installation of the new signage.

136/17 Footpaths, including the Bayworth Triangle path

Quarry Footpath 372/8

The Parish Council has just received notice of a Temporary Traffic Order that extends the closure of the quarry part of this footpath until 19 November 2019 or until the remedial work is completed, whichever is sooner.

Penn Lane footpath 372/12 - section on far side of A34

Cllr Mike Wykes has notified Oxfordshire County Council of the failed wooden supports on the steps along this section of footpath.

Bayworth Triangle path

The Parish Council discussed the choice of contractor and the clerk was instructed to accept the quotation from RedLime Limited and to arrange for the work to be undertaken as soon as possible. **ACTION Clerk**

137/17 Flood prevention

Following concerns raised by Parishioners about the enlarged ditches in the deer park, the Parish Council has spoken to Oxfordshire County Council and the Vale of White Horse District Council. A Vale consultant has inspected the water courses and confirms the substantial ditch works will potentially allow the clear and rapid passage of flows from the land above.

The clerk was instructed to arrange a meeting with the consultant to discuss the downstream impact, particularly at the area in Bayworth that flooded last year and the areas in Sunningwell that had significant problems in previous years.

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138/17 Village Hall Lease

The work on the new lease is progressing. Further discussion resulted in the decision to await the signing of the lease before releasing the grant for ceiling repairs in the village hall.

139/17 Village green maintenance and curator

Cllr James Greenman will continue his conversation with Bob Evans regarding the curator's role.

The clerk was asked to speak to Ian Hutt regarding the possibility of clearing an area of about an acre where the grass could be reseeded and cut closer. **ACTION Clerk**

140/17 Sunningwell Pond

During the open session at the start of this meeting, several parishioners expressed concern about, and opinions about ways to improve, the condition of the pond.

It was agreed that Mark McCracken would be asked to clear a significant part of the island to improve the flow of water from the springs to the outflow. Also he would start cutting back the shrubs by the path along the back of the pond.

The wall between the pond and the School of Art is thought to be owned by the School and Mike Woodward kindly agreed to ask the school to check their ownership records.

141/17 Neighbourhood Plan

No further progress has been made. Cllr Paul Wooldridge asked if the intention really was to have a Neighbourhood Plan. Discussion concluded that the Council could continue to work towards a Neighbourhood Plan or perhaps just a Community Plan.

It was agreed to continue the discussion at the next meeting.

142/17 Town and Parish Forum

Cllr Elizabeth Bennett will attend the forum on 8 November in Wantage where topics of discussion include local flooding, Housing Infrastructure Fund and the Local Plan Part 2.

143/17 Precept Planning

The clerk reminded the Council that the November meeting agenda will include the precept calculation and asked that councillors give some thought as to what should be included.

144/17 Planning Applications

P17/V2403/HH The Copse House

Erection of Greenhouse and storage shed. No objection

P17/V2869 Church Farm Dark Lane

Installation of two 5m feed storage bins. Extend concrete surfacing.

ACTION Cllr Paul Wooldridge will discuss this with the planning officer.

145/17 Accounts for payment.

Bank transfer	Clerk	Salary, and Office Expenditure	521.50
Bank transfer	HMRC	PAYE	109.20
Bank transfer	Mark McCracken	Grass cutting and strimming September	130.00
Bank transfer	Bayworth Chapel	Hall hire September	24.00
Bank transfer	Bower & Bailey	Village green purchase legal fees	242.18
Bank transfer	Storm Fireworks	Balance due for firework display	937.50
Bank transfer	Oxfordshire County C.	Foxcombe Road speed reduction to 30mph	6373.89
Bank transfer	Cricket Club	Grant for nets	531.00
Bank transfer	Opera Anywhere	Grant for concert, working with the school	500.00

146/17 The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Monday 27 November 2017 at Bayworth

The Chairman closed the October meeting at 9:50 p.m.