

SOUTH HINKSEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall, South Hinksey on Monday 6th November 2006 at 7.30p.m.

PRESENT: - Councillors – P. J. Saugman (Chairman), Mrs. M. Rawcliffe (Deputy Chairman)
B. M. Halcro, C. Briffett and Miss S. L. Gray.

Clerk - D. E. Wilkins.

No parishioners were present.

Also in attendance was Mr. John Westendorp, licensee General Elliot public house.

The Chairman opened the Meeting and welcomed everyone present. Mr. Westendorp was then asked to give his presentation regarding the proposed new car park adjoining the public house to the east of existing gardens together with a paper annexed to these minutes.

Mr. Westendorp explained the General Elliot now had a no smoking policy, and he was building up the food quality. The proposed new car park would also be opened to users of the Village Hall. A small shop will be established to serve the villagers with perishable items.

The Parish Council thought the progress so far was tremendous, and continued support must be encouraged. This Council fully supported the proposal to turn the scrubland into a car park, and the Clerk was authorised to forward letter of same to Vale Brewery Co.

It was suggested support is obtained from parishioners and district councillors. Mr. J. Westendorp was thanked for his input.

No Members, present, declared an interest in any matters to be heard at this Meeting.

06/96 MINUTES

Councillor C. Briffett asked why the Minutes did not show specifically that a letter had been received from FOSH regarding the woodland project.

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from the Secretary, which was reported to the Council Meeting, and he had replied to this letter, but it was a holding reply depending on further action not yet formulated

It is not practice to list every letter received, but it is practice to inform the Council of interesting letters received.

The Clerks reply said it was considered a special parish meeting should be held, not a would or when.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd October 2006, where now taken as read, and were signed as being correct.

06/97 MATTERS ARISING

Councillor C. Briffett stated that Linda Goodhead did not wish to attend A34 Road Committee Meetings, but was FOSH's representative for the A34. The Chairman said he was attending A34 meeting on the 16th November and would report to the December Council Meeting. Obviously Linda Goodhead is welcome to attend the Council Meeting to hear the comments.

Oxon County Council has some money available to use for the A34. Pressure is needed from all bodies for some action, but unfortunately the police will not enforce the 50mph speed limit. The South Hinksey junction is unique to the A34, and motorists do not like the village junctions joining the A34 (particularly southbound).

The Meeting again thought the existing 50mph speed limit should be moved to include the above junction, plus have lighting to light these junctions.

Many of the accidents on the A34 involve foreign lorries where drivers are tired by not having the legal breaks.

The Clerk reported that the Kennington Road Community Woodlands, which is situated in our parish, is going to proceed. Progress is easier here because the land is not being used, and the owner Oxford City is involved. South Hinksey Parish Council supports this project, but would have liked to have been involved at an earlier stage, although legally there is no requirement.

The Chairman explained to the Meeting the boundary matter between Isis development and his own property.

Concern is being shown about what is being built at Isis Works and the plans supplied. The height of some of the buildings, plus slab height and roof levels needs clarification. Discharge of surface water into John Piers Lane ditch, also needs clarification.

This site is going to have parking problems, which will spill out into St. Lawrence Road in the future. This was reported to the Vale but they said the regulation was 1 ½ spaces per house, which was in place.

06/98 WOODLAND PROJECT PROPOSAL

There was discussion about the project generally, and possible problems over future management of the site. The Chairman re-iterated that the Parish Council will be providing the land, but did not wish to be involved in any other financial costs. He felt that if the precept is suddenly increased after say three years for maintenance then the Council will have to report back to the parishioners for approval.

The proposal was originally a parish amenity, but with the additional thoughts of a car park it now being made a community amenity. It was therefore decided that the site be sublet to another body. Councillor C. Briffett was satisfied, as a FOSH representative that all will be in order after the initial 3 years and the Parish Council will not be landed with any costs/problems in the future. Volunteer labour will be available and further grants are available to carry out the future maintenance, therefore the financial burden will not fall onto the Parish Council.

The Parish Council has always supported the proposal, but it must be seen to be looking after the electors interests.

Based on the foregoing information the Clerk asked the Meeting to confirm that this Council gives notice to the tenant farmer to vacate the site in November 2007. It should be remembered that the farmer has asked for access through the proposed woodland to be able to farm land to the rear, including other parish council land.

The Council confirmed that all were in agreement for the Clerk to write to Mr. N. Frearson to give him 12 months notice to vacate the tenancy of this land.

06/99 COMMUNITY LAND PROPOSAL

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Oxford City Council stating that they were currently not minded to proceed with the land transfer in Manor Road for land in Chilswell Valley, although they would investigate to see if the Chilswell Valley parcel would have a potential "value".

Oxford City stated that at this stage they do consider it is unlikely that a transfer will go ahead.

This Council was disappointed in Oxford City's decision, but asked the Clerk to enquire to see if other village land was available for a transfer e.g. Parker Road area.

06/100 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk read to the Meeting various letters, and circulars, received that contained matters of interest to the Council including: -

The Vale enforcement officer is trying to identify responsibility for John Piers Lane ditch. The Clerk advised the Vale, and Peter Rawcliffe, of the history of the ditch, which the Vale considered very helpful.

Letter dated 06/11/06 from FOSH Chairman Mr. C. Briffett handed out at meeting but not discussed, regarding Woodland Project.

Notice of FOSH AGM tomorrow 7th November.

Kennington Parish Council regarding Community Woodland, close to Ring Road, alongside Kennington Road, providing information of who is involved in project.

06/101 CHEQUE PAYMENTS

None this month

06/102 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None this month.

06/103 FLOODING MATTERS

The Sluice Gate at Towles Mill is to be made three times wider to carry away more water. The pipes under railway have been cleaned out so that water should flow along the system easier and reduce flooding.

06/104 CLERKS OFFICE

The Clerk reported that he had informed various organisations about the vacancy in April 2007. OALC had advertised, but no response.

The Clerk was now asked to advertise in local newspaper.

The Chairman said that typing and minute taking can be covered, but financial matters are more difficult, and no doubt the clerks, Bicester office, could provide some assistance. The Clerk thought this would be possible.

06/105 PARISHIONERS MATTERS

No matters received

06/106 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Noted that the Tristram family, at 1 Chilswell Path, illegally using Parish Council Land even though asked not to do so.

Further investigation required to what action is necessary.

The Next Meeting of the Council will be held on 4th December 2006.

There being no further business to transact the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.26pm.

CHAIRMAN

Parishioners Comments

Nil as no parishioners were present.