

South Hinksey Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting

held on Wednesday 7th May 2008 at

South Hinksey Village Hall, Manor Road, South Hinksey.

Present:

Councillors: Clive Briffett, Elizabeth Le Fevre, Maggie Rawcliffe, Sarah Strawbridge

Secretary: James Mallinson

Three members of the parish.

1/08 Election of Chairman

Clive Briffett (CB) was duly elected Chair of the Parish Council for the municipal year.

2/08 Election of Vice-Chairman

Maggie Rawcliffe (MR) was duly elected Vice Chair of the Parish Council for the municipal year.

3/08 Apologies for Absence

There was no one absent.

However those present acknowledged that the Acting Parish Clerk was not present this evening.

4/08 Declaration of Interest

No declarations were received of any personal or prejudicial interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001.

5/08 Councillor Vacancy

No response to the vacancy has been received. CB stressed the importance of filling the vacancy and urged those present to encourage any possible interested persons

6/08 Vacancy for a Parish Clerk

Two applications have taken forward to interview, and the Council agreed that the interviews be held before the Council meeting on June 2nd at 7.30 p.m.

7/08 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of Monday 7th April 2008 were approved- **SHPC/11/07**. There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda for this meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of proceedings.

8/08 Frequency of Meetings.

It was agreed to continue monthly meetings then reassess in six months.

9/08 Community Woodland Project

CB confirmed the satisfactory progress of the project. MR expressed thanks on behalf of the Council for the substantial contributions from CB. Volunteer efforts had led to a reduction in the bill from the contractor of £200. It was reported that the Friends of South Hinksey were proposing to hold a barbecue to celebrate the success of the project at 12.00 noon on 21st June 2008, cost £5 per head.

Action: CB undertook to write to Peers School to thank them for their contribution.

10/08 Sale of Land at Chilswell Path:

A letter from Franklins Solicitors regarding the granting of right of access to the prospective purchaser sale of land at Chilswell path was read. It was agreed to seek clarification from Anne Wilson (AW), Clerk to the Council, whose advice was not to grant the right of way as access already exists.

Action: CB to clarify advice from AW.

11/08 South Hinksey Burial Ground

CB stated that there had been no previous problems with the burial ground. He noted that costs were about to be raised, having last been reviewed in 2006. CB confirmed that AW had said that she would produce documentation to cover instructions/operations for the burial ground.

Action: CB to confirm that AW will provide documentation for the June Council meeting.

12/08 Noise in the Burial Ground

Following issues about noise during ceremonies potential solutions were discussed:

Action: CB to write on behalf of the Council to the Highways Agency to request i) application of a low noise surface at the earliest opportunity, and ii) the possible erection of a sound proof barrier.

13/08 Church Notice Board

It was agreed that the contact details be updated on the Parish Council Notice Board.

Action: MR

14/08 Planning Applications:

SH1/17843/5 08/00330/FUL (Kestrel Lodge, Hinksey Hill Farm) was withdrawn

SH1/2195/6 (The Firs, Hinksey Hill) was approved

15/08 Village to Betty Lane Access.

There was nothing to report.

Action: CB agreed to follow up proposed on site meeting with Lee Turner of OCC Highways Drayton Office

16/08 Flooding matters:

The Oxford Flood Alliance had agreed that the obstructions at Redbridge were a major problem with respect to flood alleviation. A meeting with the Environment Agency and Network Rail was due to happen later in May.

1708 Cheques for Payment:

The Council confirmed or ratified for payment:

- | | |
|---|---------|
| • Society of Local Council Clerks advert | £105.75 |
| • Auditing Solutions Ltd – Internal Audit 2006/07
(paid in between meetings) | £164.50 |
| • Oxfordshire Greenbelt Network Subscription | £ 15.00 |

18/08 Internal Audit 2006/2007

Council noted that the Internal Auditors report has been received. The full report will be available at the June meeting.

19/ 08 2007/2008 End of Year Accounts

The 2007/2008 End of Year Annual Accounts were presented and discussed. CB suggested that a current account balance of more than £7,500 might be considered 'too high', and that the Council should aim to manage expenditure on worthwhile projects for the Parish, of which there were potentially many, with this in mind. The end of year balance on 31/3/2008 was £5,656. Income for the year was £9,885 including the precept of £8,200, and expenditure was £11,418.

MR suggested a separate 'sinking fund' for maintenance of the new woodland.

The accounts were deemed to be approved as presented

20/08 A 34

ELF said that there was still a lot of litter on the carriageway northbound from Hinksey Hill.

Action: CB to follow up.

21/08 Correspondence

CB reported various correspondence he had received as Chairman which were distributed to Council.

Action: CB to copy letter from Keith Mitchell of Oxfordshire County Council to all Councillors.

Action: MR to notify Linda Slater of the changes to the Mobile Library Service so the village web site could be updated:

"The Mobile Library will now call at Barleycott Lane on a Tuesday between 10.05am and 10.20am on week 1 (route 2) and at Barleycott Lane on a Wednesday between 10.05am and 10.20am on week 2 (route 8)"

22/08 Wind Turbines proposed for Hinksey Heights

Council agreed to keep a watching brief and await any planning applications.

23/08 Updates

- **Redbridge Hollow Illegal dump:** The Clerk has emailed Gary Brewer at the County Council regarding the illegal dumping and problem with fires following the discussion at the last meeting, to date no reply has been received.
- **Your Vale – Your Future:** CB and MR will attend the meeting on the 17th June in Cumnor and update members on the meeting at the July Parish Council meeting.
- **The Oxfordshire Partnership:** CB thanked Anne Markham for her accurate and comprehensive report.
- **Oxfordshire's 4th Local Environment Groups Conference:** CB had circulated a report since the previous meeting. He commented that 2006 legislation had introduced a requirement for parish councils to take care of the environment.
- **Oxford Flu Pandemic Workshop:** MR would report at the next meeting.
- **Local Councillor training day:** this had been attended by MR who commended it to all councillors. It was agreed to ask AW to identify future dates.
Action: MR

Action: CB agreed to investigate listing reports received by the Council and posting them on the South Hinksey web site.

24/08 Date of next Meetings: Monday 2nd June at 7.00 pm. (Note earlier start time)

Monday 7th July 2008 at 7.30 pm.

At this point CB asked for comments from the floor.

1) It was suggested that a better rate of interest could be earned from the cash in the bank account by reducing current to £2500.

Action: CB to confirm with AW that the appropriate interest be earned.

2) It was requested that the Agenda for Council meetings be published in addition to the minutes.

Action: CB agreed in principle subject to referring to the Clerk.

25/08 Council in Private Session

RECOMMENDED

In terms of Schedule 12, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will likely to disclose exempt information relating to personnel matters and it is therefore recommended that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded.

The Chairman closed the meeting and the Council continued in Private Session.

**COUNCIL IN PRIVATE SESSION
SOUTH HINKSEY PARISH COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY 2008**

26/08 Minutes

Council confirmed the confidential minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th April 2008 – **SHPC/11/07**

The Chairman declared the meeting closed.