

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Monday, 3rd July 2017 at 7.45pm in the Sports Hall Classroom, Sibford School

Present at the meeting were: Councillors Tim Huckvale (Chair), Maureen Hicks (Vice Chair), Ginny Bennett and Adrian Lamb, Anita Spencer (Clerk/RFO), District and County Councillor George Reynolds (from 8.05pm) and one member of the public (from 8.09pm).

Apologies: Councillor Robinson was unable to attend due to work commitments and Councillor Reynolds had advised he would be late.

Declarations of Interest: None was declared against the items on the agenda.

Minutes of the previous meetings: the minutes of the meeting of 25 May were agreed and signed by the Chair as an accurate record.

Matters arising from the previous meeting:

02/13 Ongoing – Superfast broadband for Sibford Ferris

TH reported that The Oxfordshire Better Broadband (OBB) website map of planned coverage for the county now indicated that Sibford Ferris was expected to have provision by December 2018. There had been confirmation from OBB that local company, Sugarnet's offering of wireless superfast broadband services would not impact on BT's plans.

TH

18/14 Ongoing – Affordable housing/Amenity land/TOE2 funding

It was agreed to close this item. Discussion about plans for the land on the Hook Norton Road would be reported under Planning.

19/14 Ongoing – Fitness equipment

The annual inspection had been carried out by John Hicks and it was noted that the skier was reported to be noisy. AL kindly agreed to look at this piece and report back to councillors any action required.

AL

20/14 Ongoing – Cotswold Close play area

The annual inspection had been carried out by John Hicks. The only issues reported were overhanging trees and vegetation and low sand levels in the digger pit. It was agreed that a working party would meet at the play area on 11 August at 10.00 am to remedy these issues. AS reported that one of the diggers was not operating smoothly and AL kindly agreed to inspect it and report.

All
AL

30/14 Outstanding – Damaged bench on Hook Norton Road

AL would attend to repairs to the bench.

AL

020/16 Outstanding - Footpath sign at the Brambles, Woodway Road

The footpath sign had been repaired and this item could now be closed.

054/16 Outstanding – Highways matters

It was agreed to leave this item in place until the white line re-painting had been done

- Councillor Reynolds arrived at 8.05pm and a member of the public at 8.09 pm. -

110/16 Outstanding – Proposals to improve communication with the parish

TH had submitted a paper to councillors on the possible use of Facebook to improve communications with the community. There was no consensus on whether the introduction of a parish council Facebook page would be wholly positive: whilst it would be effective in reaching more residents, expectations on keeping it up-to-date might not be manageable and also it would not be possible to control the accuracy of material re-published to other platforms. It was agreed as an interim measure to canvas opinion from residents via the village website and the Sibford Scene.

TH

019/17 Johnsons Coaches Bus Timetables

The parish council noted that new, two-way timetables had been placed at all five bus stops in the Sibfords and expressed thanks to the two residents who had kindly collaborated to achieve this. This item could now be closed.

052/17 Consideration of New Dog Waste Bin on Woodway Road

The Clerk had circulated some bin options prior to the meeting and it was agreed to order a Glasdon Retriever 35 plus post and fixings at approximately £300.00 once advice had been received from the District Council dog warden on the proposed location on the verge opposite Faraday House.

AS

053/17 Proposal for a Village Logo

This item was retained pending discussions with Sibford School about a specification for the design.

TH

054/17.1 Community First Responder Scheme

GB had attended a forum held by South Central Ambulance Service who ran the responder scheme. Following contact with the training organiser for the area, Dave England, it emerged there had been a communication breakdown about training requests from Sibford residents. As those residents were no longer available for first responder training, it was agreed the best way forward was to promote first-aid and CPR training in the community. To this end, the Clerk was requested to contact the local co-ordinator, James Clarke, about providing such training locally.

AS

054/17.2 Parking Problems on Hook Norton Road

Contact with Thames Valley Police about parking problems had not yet been made and it was agreed that the Clerk would draft an email for agreement by Councillors.

AS

054/71.4 Future of the Horton Hospital

GB had reported that an extraordinary meeting of the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) was held on 20 June to consider questions raised during Phase 1 of the Oxfordshire Healthcare Transformation Consultation. A further meeting on 10 August had been scheduled, at which decisions would be made. Draft minutes of the June meeting could be viewed at:

<http://www.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/documents/meetings/board/2017/06/2017-06-20-OCCG-Extraordinary-Board-Meeting-Minutes-DRAFT.pdf>

The report of Phase 1 of the Transformation Consultation could be viewed at:

<http://www.oxonhealthcaretransformation.nhs.uk/what-is-the-vision/consultation-documents/226-the-big-health-and-care-consultation-final-report/file>

Councillor Reynolds pointed out that the judicial review on the validity of the two-part consultation was ongoing and it was not clear what impact a ruling of invalidity would have on any decisions made on 10 August. This item would be closed.

055/17 Cherwell Parish Liaison Meeting 21 June

TH and MH had attended the meeting. Items discussed included the District Local Plan (see Planning). Local transport needs had also been covered and MH was keen to establish whether there were specific needs locally for which there was currently no provision. It was agreed to put out enquiries via the Sibford Scene and to take this item forward in order to consider feedback.

MH

Correspondence

077/17 13.6.17 Oxfordshire County Council re Oxfordshire Historic Landscape Characterisation map and dataset. The creation of this map was noted. This item could be closed.

078/17 15.6.17 Oxfordshire County Council re Temporary Closure of Back Lane on 12 July for tree work by Western Power Distribution – noted. Residents had been informed. This item could be closed.

Finance

079/17 Clerk's Pension

TH had written to the Clerk offering a workplace pension and had received a reply advising that this would not be taken up. The Clerk was asked to complete the relevant paperwork on the pensions website.

AS

080/17 Bank Transfers since the last meeting

A bank transfer of £1,000 had been requested by letter on 1 June but no statement had been received to date to confirm this had taken place. The Clerk was to monitor.

AS

081/17 Cheques signed since the last meeting to be agreed

- 100713 29.5.17 Thomas Fox Landscaping £44.40 for mowing at Cotswold Close Play Area.
- 100714 29.5.17 Came & Company £437.70 for insurance premium 1 June 2017 to 31 May 2018.

082/17 Cheques agreed and signed at the meeting: None. It was agreed to pay John Hicks & Co £112.32 for the annual inspections at Cotswold Close Play Area and Fitness Equipment. The cheque would be drawn when the July statement had been received confirming the transfer of £1,000.

AS

083/17 Receipts since last meeting noted

- 13.6.17 Sibford Gower Parish Council £100.00 burial fees

084/17 Bank reconciliation to 3 July 2017

The bank reconciliation was checked against the payments and receipts records and the bank statements, and was agreed and signed by GB.

085/17 Budget/Actual Comparison to 3 July 2017

The budget/actual comparison to 3 July was reviewed and agreed.

086/17 Insurance Renewal 1 June 2017 for one year

It was confirmed that the insurance had been renewed and documentation was awaited.

087/17 Submission of Annual Return to 31 March 2017

The RFO confirmed that the Annual Return had been submitted to the external auditor on 1 June.

088/17 Exercise of Public Rights

The Clerk confirmed that the Exercise of Public Rights had been carried out as required.

089/17 Review of Banking Arrangements

As the transfer of funds between the two bank accounts now required two signatories and could not be done by telephone, and as the interest earned on the deposit account was negligible, it was agreed to transfer all funds from the deposit to the current account and to close the deposit account. The Clerk was asked to prepare a letter to the bank to request this and to also write to the District Council to amend bank details for payments of precepts and grants. It was agreed to keep this arrangement under review in the event that there was a significant increase in savings interest rates.

All
AS

Planning

090/17 Minutes of Planning Meeting of 8 June

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chair as an accurate record.

091/17 Muddle Barn Farm Planning Appeal submission on 8 June

It was noted that the comments from the planning application consultation had been re-iterated.

092/17 Bishop Blaize Enforcement of Planning Regulations

A copy of correspondence between Sibford Gower Parish Council and Cherwell District Council Planning Department had been received and it was agreed no further action was needed.

093/17 Notice of Decision

17/00923/F - It was noted that permission had been granted for an extension at Faraday House.

094/17 Land on Hook Norton Road

TH reported that he had been contacted by a potential developer concerning the field on the west of Hook Norton Road seeking preliminary views on proposals for housing in that location. However, Councillor Reynolds advised and it was agreed that it was preferable as a parish council to preserve opinion for the planning application consultation stage. It was agreed, therefore, to encourage the developer to organise a public meeting to inform residents of the proposals and obtain feedback.

TH

095/17 CDC Consultations: Partial Review of the Cherwell Local Plan (Part 1) and Part 2

TH and MH had learned at the Parish Liaison Meeting on 21 June that Oxford's Unmet Housing Need, for which the Partial Review had been conducted, would be met by developments in the south of the District. Councillor Reynolds advised that Local Plan Part 2 was likely to be delayed until 2018 because of the time required for planning staff to deal with the outcomes of the Partial Review.

Any Other Business

096/17 District Councillor arrangements

TH reported that one of the three District Councillors covering the Sibford ward, Ken Attack, had moved away but was covering his work via email. GR advised that Mr Attack would not be standing at the May 2018 election.

097/17 Property Name and Number Signs

MH advised that the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils had asked members to request that residents clearly displayed their house name or number in order to assist emergency services in locating properties quickly.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 14 September 2017 at 7.45pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.