

Sibford Ferris Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on **Wednesday 14th July 2021** at **7pm** at Sibford School

Present: Cllrs Simon Rayner, Ginny Bennett, John Wass, Clerk.

In attendance: 3 members of the public.

18. Apologies for absence – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Roussel and Cllr Taylor. District Cllrs Chapman and Reynolds are unable to attend.

19. Members declarations of interest for items on the agenda – None.

20. Public participation session – None.

21. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on 5th May 2021 – The minutes were proposed, agreed and duly signed.

22. Planning applications received

21/01712/F – Home Farm, Woodway Road, Sibford Ferris. Demolition of existing car port, erection of new garage, single storey rear extension to dwelling and conversion and extension of existing outbuilding. **No objections. (Response made using delegated powers).**

23. Outstanding matters/actions from previous meetings

- i) Defibrillator training – Cllr Wass is looking at booking training asap after lockdown restrictions are removed. This is likely to take place early in the autumn.
- ii) Tree planting – Defer to next meeting due to Cllr Taylor's absence.
- iii) Emergency Plan – The Clerk has not received any communication from parishioners offering to be included to help re access to 4x4's, chainsaws, tractors etc. **Clerk to send copy of current Emergency Plan to all councillors and put on the January agenda to review to ensure it remains up to date.**
- iv) Update on actions relating to Speedwatch/Speed reduction in the parish – A parishioner has volunteered to lead the Speedwatch/speeding group on behalf of Sibford Ferris and Sibford Gower (SG) Parish Councils. Cllr Bennett will be the Sibford Ferris (SF) Parish Council (PC) contact for the speeding group. Cllr Rayner has met with the Chairman of Tadmarton PC and discussed the speed reduction scheme they use which is to share the purchase and use of a speed gun between 4 PC's. It was suggested during that meeting that SFPC try to set up a group with other PCs who have expressed an interest in setting up such a group. Another option would be for SFPC (either independently or with SGPC) to purchase an approved handheld speed checking device at a cost of £150. It was agreed that the purchase of the handheld device seems like the most suitable solution and given that the Speeding Group will be a joint group for both SFPC and SGPC it would be appropriate to invite SGPC to share the cost of the device. **Clerk to contact SGPC to ask if they wish to make a donation to the cost of the device. Clerk to order a handheld speed checking device.**
- v) Update re reducing flytipping at the Elms Bottle Banks and next steps – Cherwell District Council have provided some signs advising that flytippers will be fined. Cllr Rayner installed the signs and the flytipping stopped for a few weeks but has now started again. It was agreed that another sign should be installed facing the opposite direction so the signs can be seen from both directions. **Cllr Rayner to organise the purchase of poles and installation of the sign.** It has been suggested that nature cameras could be put up in the area at a cost of around £300 which could help to identify those who are flytipping but there are a number of GDPR requirements that would need to be met before they could be installed. It was agreed

to wait and see if the flytipping reduces and discuss the possibility of installing a camera at the next meeting. **Clerk to put on next agenda.**

- vi) Update on concerns raised by parishioner about road safety at the Elms Crossroads – There was an accident at the crossroads recently and as there have been two accidents there in recent months it has been asked what can be done to make the area safer. It was agreed that the **Clerk should contact Highways to ask if the Give Way markings on both sides of the junction can be remarked and whether a Give Way sign could be installed on the unclassified road.**

24. Hook Norton Road Development

- i) Update re Allotment Survey – Gade Homes have put together a survey to find out what the interest is in allotments in the area. The link to the survey is already on the Sibfords website and will be going in the Sibford Scene in the next publication. The survey will remain open until end of September.
- ii) Options re Local Area of Play (LAP) – Gade Homes are looking at installing a rustic low key trim trail in amongst trees.
- iii) S106 funding allocation – Cherwell District Council (CDC) have advised that the £50k allocated to Sibford School was put in because they needed to rapidly put together a S106 agreement for an appeal hearing for the site so they put in sports facilities for Sibford School in the hope that CDC could have discussions with the school about them increasing their ‘community offer’ of the sports facilities. Sibford School have advised the PC that they do not want the money and they have concerns about the possibility of more people using their facilities due to the possible safety risk to students. CDC have advised that they can only reallocate that money to other facilities that fit within the criteria of sports facilities. Concerns were raised that if the school do not want the money it may be returned to Gade Homes and the parish will not benefit from the available funding. It was agreed that the next steps should be for CDC to complete a formal deed of variation on the S106 to remove the names of specific organisations to receive the funding which will allow a little more flexibility on how the funding is spent within the parish. **Clerk to advise Alex Chrusciak at CDC that the Parish Council would be happy to meet with them to take part in consultation regarding the preferred use of the funds once the deed of variation has been completed.**
- iv) General update – Gade Homes has been working on more accurate drawings including elevations and splays of driveways etc. They expect to be ready to submit a reserved matters application in 3-4 weeks. It was suggested that Gade Homes could create a microsite to provide details to parishioners about what they are putting forward.

25. Play area

- i) Condition of equipment – The professional inspection of the play equipment is due to take place this month. It is thought that a number of issues will be raised as the equipment is nearing the end of its life. The report will be considered at the next meeting and will inform any decisions regarding the work to be done in the short term on the play area taking account of discussions with Gade Homes re the funding and location of a new play area. It was agreed that the **Clerk should ask Adrian Lamb to remove the dead tree and overhanging vegetation around the play area. Cllr Bennett will organise working group to clear low level vegetation.**
- ii) Concerns received from parishioners regarding the proposal to close the Cotswold Close play area when the new play area has opened on the Hook Norton Road development – Two parishioners have contacted the PC with concerns about relocating the existing play area to Hook Norton Road including concerns about road safety and the amount of time the village may be without play equipment if they have to wait for the developers to install equipment as that will be the last priority of the developers. It was noted that as part of the S106 agreement there are plans to extend the 30 mph speed limit further down the road towards Hook Norton Road so the speed of traffic should be reduced. Yourgos Alexander (Gade

Homes) advised that Gade are proposing to put a footpath on the inside of the hedge on the development reducing the need to walk on the road. It was also suggested that Highways could be asked if a crossing and a small area of additional footpath could be installed using the S106 funding to remove any need to walk on the road. Yourgos stated that the play equipment will be the last thing to go in on the development but this is because it would be unsafe to encourage children to play in an area near to building work taking place. The likely timescales for installation of play equipment on the development are around May 2024. It was agreed that the parishioners who have been involved in the plans/proposals to upgrade the Cotswold Close play area should have an informal meeting with Cllr Bennett and Yourgos in the next few weeks to discuss ways in which the funding could be used to get the best outcome for the parish. **Cllr Bennett to organise meeting with Yourgos and parishioners.**

26. Sibford School request for dog waste bins on the footpath around the school – The school have not provided details of exactly what they are requesting from the PC so this item was deferred to the next meeting.

27. Concerns raised by parishioners

- i) Parking on the pavement near Malvern House – Some parishioners had raised concerns that cars parking on the pavement is making the path too narrow for pushchairs and wheelchairs. The councillors agreed that although they are sympathetic to the problem they do not have any power to stop cars parking there and do not know of any alternative places for them to park.
- ii) Road safety concerns at the Elm junction – already covered under item 23vi.

28. County Councillor Report – None.

29. District Councillor Report – None.

30. Finance

- i) Confirmation of the bank balance as at 08.07.21 of £20,485.36 – Cllr Rayner confirmed the balances stated are correct.
- ii) To confirm completion of the first quarterly (Apr to Jun) financial check for 2020-21 – Cllr Taylor has confirmed that the check has taken place and all was found to be in order.
- iii) To review spend against budget to 08.07.21 – It was noted that the annual budget for dog bin emptying plus 75p has already been spent. The Clerk advised that due to the decision in November to install 2 new dog bins the cost for emptying has doubled so it is expected to spend £201.50 over budget this year on dog bin emptying. The budget for the next financial year will take account of this change and the overspend for this year will come out of general reserves.
- iv) Quotes for noticeboard repair – Not yet received.
- v) Proposal to contribute up to £200 towards the costs of organising a village fete at the Village Hall on 18th September – Proposed and agreed. **Clerk to make payment at the appropriate time.**
- vi) Confirmation of payments made since the last meeting using delegated powers: Proposed and agreed.

23.06.21	Community First Oxfordshire	Subscription	£55.00
25.05.21	Sibford Village Hall	Donation	£400.00
25.05.21	Sibford Scene	Donation	£50.00
25.05.21	Zurich	Parish Insurance - Yr 1 of 3 Yr agreement	£389.89
25.05.21	Thomas Fox Landscaping	Mowing of play area 23.04.21	£24.04
25.05.21	Kirsty Buttle	May salary	£165.30
25.05.21	Adrian Lamb	Repair to play area	£20.00
23.06.21	Thomas Fox Landscaping	Grass cutting 05 and 27/05	£48.08

23.06.21	Kirsty Buttle	Jun salary and stationery	£168.25
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vii) To note the following receipts: Noted.

15.06.21	Tustain	Pitch Hill Field	£5.00
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viii) Proposal to make the following payments: Proposed and agreed.

Thomas Fox Landscaping	Mowing of play area 17.06.21	£24.04
Upper Lighthorne Parish Council	Off to a Flying Start Training - SR and JW	£26.00

31. Planning decisions received

21/00917/F – Orchard End, Back Lane, Sibford Ferris. Alterations to existing garage to replace existing pair of doors with single automated door to afford improved vehicular access; erection of carport and change to external surfacing to provide level, safe and protected access for wheelchair user from house to car/garage and vice versa. **Approved.**

21/01469/TCA – Shrubbery Cottage, Small House, Sibford Ferris. T1 x Poplar – Pollard at up to 8.0m to main unions in main crown break: major decay in base from previous failure. **Approved.**

21/01277/F – Faraday House, Woodway Road, Sibford Ferris. The installation of an exterior render insulation system on the existing house. Reworking the existing extension and garage by cladding, externally insulating, re-roofing, and creating new openings. The addition of a new garage building on the site of an old large shed. **No objections. (Response made using delegated powers). APPROVED.**

21/01994/TCA – Back Acre, Main Street, Sibford Ferris. T1 x Beech - Reduce east side of crown towards property by up to 2.0m to reduce structural branch weight. Light crown thin by 10%. Crown raise by removal of first two lowest limbs. T2, T3 x Yew - Pollard to low stem at approx. 7.0m to allow to regenerate as low hedge screen as beneath Cedar in poor condition. T4 x Cedar - Removal of major hangers and damaged branching. Crown thin 10% to improve structure. Deadwood throughout (exempt). **No objections. (Response made using delegated powers). APPROVED.**

Date of next meeting – 20th September 2021 7pm

Meeting closed @ 9:08pm

Signed..... Date.....