

Minutes of the South Hinksey Parish Council at South Hinksey Village Hall

Monday 3rd March 2009

Present: Sarah Balaam, Clive Briffett (Chair), Sheridan Edward (Clerk), Elizabeth Halcro, Liz LeFevre, Maggie Rawcliffe (Vice-Chair).

Parishioners: Peter Rawcliffe

Apologies

None

Declarations of interest

Sheridan Edward – Clerk's Contract

Parishioners' comments

Peter Rawcliffe presented progress reports on the following:

- a) Flooding: An options document had been produced. It was available on the Network Rail website and PR circulated copies to all Councillors. A feedback form was available at the end of the document. There had been no progress at Redbridge, but Lord Berkeley had sent an email to Network Rail and the matter had been escalated to the regional manager. A Strategic Environmental Assessment has also been published by the Environment Agency and CB circulated a list of nine options being considered. PR and CB hosted a group of Oxford Brookes University students last week who are carrying out a project looking into issues affecting the meadow. **CB will supply further information on submissions and presentations will be supplied in due course.** MR reported that an EA Strategy exhibition will be held at the Village Hall on Thursday 2 April 1500-1930 hours. The Council agreed to further discuss their responses to the proposals after this event. The final due date for responses is the 12th May 2009.
- b) Ramps: PR had still had no response from Peter Challis. **Action: PR to continue to chase.**
- c) Wildflower project: PR had gained three quotes for the new grass-cutting regime from Outerspace, Matthew Ellett and Go Wild. Council agreed to offer the contract to Matthew Ellett. MR felt that the concrete planter in the burial ground was unsightly and should be removed. Council agreed to this. **Action: SE to contact Outerspace to cancel contract and agree new contract with Matthew Ellett.**

Minutes of 26th January meeting

Read and agreed.

Matters arising from the minutes

- a) CB confirmed that National Probation Service were due to start work in the parish in mid-April.
- b) EH contacted Marion Haines, but she was unable to help. However, EH had approached Evan Harris MP who agreed to visit the site. It was noted that the sound barrier on Westminster Way at North Hinksey had been paid for by the Highways Agency. **Action: SE to forward correspondence relating to previous council's requests to solve the noise problem to EH to forward on to Evan Harris MP.**
- c) CB had contacted Goldace Development Ltd with a quote for the old car park clean up work. Goldace felt the quote was too high and would source their own quote. **Action: CB to continue to chase.**
- d) Core Strategy Preferred Options – the roadshow had been postponed until mid-March and the feedback deadline is 26th March. MR had received all comments. **Action: MR to attend discussion group and submit feedback.**
- e) Speed limit controls – no news. **Action: SE to continue chasing.**
- e) EH had received a quote from DJ Cullen for notice boards. Based on this quote and the three previous quotes, Council agreed to award the contract to DJ Cullen. **Action: SE to contact DJ Cullen.**
- f) Footpath applications – CB reported on the footpath documents found by David Wilkins. The documents included ten maps charting the history of footpaths through the village, including currently disused footpaths to North Hinksey. MR reported on the history and changing usage of John Piers Lane. **Action: CB to supply typed summary of the 1996 proposal for reinstating footpath to North Hinksey. Also to follow up with land owners on making easier access points to the path for bicycles and pushchairs. MR to report further on the John Piers Lane document at the next meeting.**

Finance – payment and receipts

Payments

Oxford Green Belt Network – 2009/10 subscription	£15.00
Sheridan Edward – expenses (key for filing cabinet)	£6.33
BDO Stoy Hayward – external auditor fee	£189.75
C. Briffett expenses	£29.67

Receipts

Oxfordshire Highways – grass cutting grant 2007 & 2008	£1784.00
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Planning applications

SHI/20798 – Erection of fence to tennis courts at Bagley Edge, Badger Lane

Council raised no objections.

Correspondence

None.

Standing Orders – Approval

Council approved the adoption of the Standing Orders.

Financial Regulations – Approval

Council approved the adoption of the Standing Orders.

Clerk Contract - Approval

Council approved the new Clerk's contract.

Internal Audit – Report on recommendations

SE reported that the internal auditor made 17 recommendations in their report on the 2007/8 accounts. Of these, 14 had been actioned / remedied and the remaining three were to be addressed in April and May.

A34

It was noted that the trees between the garden centre and the A34 had been removed by the Highways Agency. Council was not aware of the reasoning for this.

Action: CB to investigate further.

General cleanliness of the parish

There are currently five main areas of concern: the General Elliott (Vale Brewery), the old pub car park (Goldace Development Ltd); the old Manor Farm, (Oxford City Estates); alongside the A34 (Highways Agency) and the area near 1 Chilswell Path (Tristrams). The Council had received a number of complaints about all of these areas. All owners have already been contacted with requests to carry out cleaning up works. **Action: SE to present report at next meeting on legal powers of Council to deal directly with these problems and the recommended procedures. SE to contact brewery for update on situation of the General Elliott.**

Any Other Business

- a) Community Land. CB had received three quotes for fencing of the land to the rear of the Village Hall, from Go Wild, Martin Drew and JAG Timber. Council awarded the contract of the work to JAG Timber. **Action: CB to contact Oxford City Council and the two tenants Frearson and Peter Burrows. Also to appoint JAG to do the work.**
- b) Missing archives. MR raised concerns over missing Council archives from the period 1986 to 2005. MR had pursued this with Anne Wilson and David Wilkins, but with no success. **Action: SE to investigate further and report to Council at next meeting.**
- c) Sewage. SB reported that recent heavy rainfall had caused a major sewage problem for low-lying houses between North Hinksey and Kennington. **Action: SB to draft a letter to Thames Water seek support from Kennington and North Hinksey councils.**
- d) Parking on pavement. EH reported a car parking problem on the pavement of St Lawrence Road with potential safety effects on road users. **Action: SE to draft a letter.**
- e) Council land at Chilswell. CB proposed that we convert our land adjoining the nature reserve to another reserve. The current status of Frearson's tenancy needs to be checked. **Action: SE to investigate and report.**
- f) Free trees. CB reported that eforests were offering free trees for community groups. Requests have been received from councillors to plant trees at the top of Hinksey Hill, along the A34 boundary with Parker Road, on the Council's land adjoining the OCC nature reserve. **Action: CB to consult and submit proposal.**

Date of next meeting: Monday 6th April 2009 at 7:30pm