

**MINUTES OF THE SOULDERN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON 21st July 2016**

Present:

N Oakhill (NO)
K Draper (KD)
C Rothero (CR)
B May (BM)
K Allpress
B McGarry (Clerk - BMc)

Also in attendance:

J Mander
D Carlisle
T Snow
D Stephens

1. Apologies

Cllr M Kerford-Byrne (CDC)
D Masterson-Jones
N Robertson
A Prescott

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th May 2016 were approved and signed
Prop: KD 2nd: BM

3. Matters Arising:

Nancy Bowles Wood – NO and Tim Vincent have been through the accounts re monies set aside for NBW and found that out of the money allocated some has been spent on sundries and squirrel traps but that the remainder will be logged separately so that balances are more readily identified. The same procedure will be adopted with monies relating to the playground

4. Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest

5. Issues from the floor:

Despite assurances that this would not happen, the issue of pungent smells from the recently stocked pig farm were brought to the attention of the Council by T Snow who has contacted the Environmental Agency. Residents who are affected by this problem are advised to keep an 'Odour Diary Sheet' which can be obtained from the Environmental Protection Officer (amrik.bilkhu@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

6. Updates:

- a) The Queen's birthday celebrations were a great success, enjoyed by everyone. Thank you to Diana and Sandy Gray for hosting the event in their beautiful garden and to the choir and the children for their performances.
- b) Likewise the Wacky Races, another example of Souldern at its best. Both events were funded by generous donations and grants and were budget neutral for the Parish Council with a sizeable donation made to Katharine House Hospice.
- c) The Parish Liaison Meeting held in June was attended by NO and DMJ and can be seen on the CDC website.

7. Updates:

- a. **Playground:** The RoSPA inspection is due to take place this month but as yet the report has not been received.
- b. **Nancy Bowles Wood:** The tree survey will be starting next week
- c. **Football Club:** No report
- d. **CDC** – The Devolution programme has been put on the back burner for the time being

e. **OCC** –No report

8. Finance:

a. Financial transactions since the meeting held on 15th May were approved
Prop: KD 2nd: CR

Payments:	Date	Amount	Power
Changing Room Showers	17.05.16	£480.00	
Mr Cross – grass cutting-May	07.06.16	£528.00	OSA 1906: s 10
Came & Co.	21.06.16	449.70	
Choir Coach (Queen’s B’Day)	10.06.16	£150.00	
Mr Cross – grass cutting-June	11.07.16	£528.00	OSA 1906: s 10
Receipts:			
HMRC VAT refund	07.06.16	886.70	
Wacky Races (Playground)	11.07.16	420.00	
Grant (Queen’s Birthday)	14.06.16	230.00	

b. Expenditure against 2016/17 budget:

The budget set aside for the changing rooms is likely to run over its allocated £500 in this current financial year as the costs for the shower rooms should have been paid out of last years budget.

There was some discussion about the unkept state of the verges in the village that are normally maintained by OCC who have reduced cuts from 2 to 1 per year due to budget cuts. We are still waiting for our one cut which we hope will be before the end of July. As this will be the one and only cut this year residents are respectfully asked if they could maintain any verges/grassed areas bordering their properties in an effort to keep our village looking tidy.

9. Planning Matters:

- a. 16/01284/F – EE UK Ltd & Hutchinson 3G UK Ltd. Proposed Telecommunications installation and associated works – No objections were raised
- b. 16/00140/TCA – Portland Cottage, High Street – Tree works – no objections were raised
- c. 16/00929/LB – The Hermitage – Awaiting decision
- d. 16/00132/TCA – Garden Cottage, tree works - Permitted
- e. 16/00130/TCA – The Barn House, tree works – Awaiting decision
- f. 16/00996/F - Cedar House, Garage, windows & porch – Awaiting decision
- g. 16/00964/F – Gen purpose agricultural bldg Somerton Road – Approved
- h. 16/00964/F – Park Lodge - Approved

10. Administration:

Clerk- The clerk will stand down at the 2017 Annual Meeting and the vacancy will be advertised in the 3 Parishes and the next Newsletter

11. Events:

- a. **Christmas Party:** There was some discussion about the feasibility of putting on some sort of Christmas event and it was subsequently resolved that there should be a Christmas lunch for older residents in December.
- b. **August Bank Holiday Camp in NBW:** Some dads have voiced a wish to camp overnight in NBW with their children on the Saturday 27th August and cooking breakfast the following morning before returning home. The idea has been discussed with the NBW Management Committee who raised no objections and after some discussion the PC is also happy for this to go ahead. This will be a self financed event and the rules and regulations of the wood will be followed.

12. Souldern Vision:

Now that the final Souldern Vision Document has been circulated and there has been time to digest its findings it was resolved the way forward should be discussed at the next meeting in September

13. Speed on Tusmore Road:

Following a complaint about the speeding along the Tusmore Road KD contacted OCC Highways regarding the possibility of installing some appropriate signage warning of horses and pedestrians that use this road. As a result the Highways department have said that they are unable to help due to lack of funding and it would also be prohibitively expensive for the Parish Council to consider.

14. Conservation Review: There are no updates at the present time as Rose is on holiday.**15. Memorial Trees:** As part of the Queen's birthday celebrations some of the money raised is to be put towards missing commemorative plaques for Sidney Blincowe, Aubrey Finch, John Payne, John Sweetman & William Paintin. A tree and plaque is also to be planted in memory of the late Audrey Westbury. This to take place after the Remembrance Sunday Service.
Prop: CR 2nd KA**16. Footpaths & Bridleways:** A team from Bicester & Kidlington Ramblers have cleared the very overgrown section of Footpath 10 which runs around the railway tunnel and through a spinney north west of Hill House, towards Somerton. This has been impassable for some years, so many thanks to this team for their hard work.**17. Other Business:**

Website: To comply with legal transparency requirements updated financial documents will be supplied by the RFO when she gets back off holiday.
An appeal for photographs taken at village events is to be put in the next newsletter

18. Date of next meeting: 16th August (Planning)
15th September (General)

Signed..... Date.....
Chairman Souldern Parish Council