

**MINUTES OF THE SOULDERN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON 18th MAY 2017**

Present:	Also in attendance:	Apologies:
N Oakhill (NO -Chair)	D Carlisle	B May
K Draper (KD)	T Vincent	N Robertson
C Rothero (CR)	A Prescott	J Clifford
K Allpress (KA)	T Snow	K Clifford
B McGarry (Clerk - BMc)	D Stephens	L Cornish

1. Election of Officers:

N Oakhill was unanimously proposed to continue as Chairman Prop: KA 2nd: KD
K Draper was unanimously proposed to continue as Vice Chair Prop: NO 2nd: KA

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2017 were approved and signed
Prop: CR 2nd: BM

3. Updates:

Speeding – Despite many attempts to progress with this matter we are still waiting for OCC to install a speed monitor. It was suggested that we ask Blackthorn Parish Council if we can hire theirs as they have purchased their own. **NO**

Grass Cutting: The Grant from OCC for grass cutting will be for £450 (2 cuts) annually for 3 years and is not index linked. Our current contractor has agreed to take on the extra mowing on a 'need to cut' basis so that the cost will not exceed current costs. The contract will be due for renewal in 3 years time and the situation will be reviewed then.

Defibrillator: It was suggested that it should be established whether a defibrillator is needed before it goes any further and that we already have a good ambulance service near at hand. If it is decided to go ahead a member of the community should take the lead and look into funding etc. KD to establish if there any statistics relating to actual use. **KA**
KD

4. Declarations of Interest:

None

5. Issues from the floor:

Parking at the Pond: The situation regarding parking at the pond has always been an issue but of late this has been exacerbated by the increase in the number of cars in this area and inconsiderate parking.

Playing Field Wall: The wall at the top end of the playing field is about to collapse. NO contact the stone mason **NO**

Pig Farm: After a welcome break the smell from the pig farm has again returned. Amrik Bilkhu, the environmental officer from CDC is aware and will be meeting with the residents who are affected the most imminently. It was suggested that Mr Deeley should also be invited to the meeting.

Planning: The Council was thanked for the planning notifications that are issued to residents that might be affected by any new planning applications. It was noted how important this continued service is as CDC do not always notify neighbours.

6. Updates:

- a. **Playground:** The playground continues to be well used. The fence round the toddlers play area has been vandalised and steps are being taken to repair this as soon as possible. The group will be meeting this weekend to continue repair and maintenance work. Grants are being looked into to add an assault course and 2 big fundraising events are in the pipeline.
- b. **Nancy Bowles Wood:** Mapping of the trees will continue this summer, recording the species, approximate size and condition of each tree. Two work parties, 8 volunteers in each party, have coppiced 5 hazel trees. The hazels were quite severely nibbled by deer and/or rabbits last year and were fitted with protective guards. Regeneration this year seems much improved. The large tree near the glade which was destroyed by Storm Doris has been cleared and made safe. Over the coming summer some minor maintenance repairs will be carried out on the wooden benches and the picnic table.
- c. **CDC : No Report**
- d. **OCC:** No Report

7. Finance:

- a. Financial transactions since the meeting held on 16th March 2017 were approved
Prop: CR 2nd: KD

Payments:	Date	Amount	Power
Community First Oxford	27.3.2017	£55	LGA 1972: S.143
Grass cutting March	29.3.2017	£288	OSA 1906: s10
Playground swing	29.3.2017	£177.40	LG(MPPA 1976 s.19
Payment to clerk	29.3.2017	£330.10	LGA.1972:s.112
HMRC	29.3.2017	£82.40	LGA.1972:s.112
Playground (Linnell bros)	31.3.2017	£151.27	LG(MPPA 1976 s.19
CDC Dog Bins	30.3.2017	£144.14	EPA 1990: s89

Receipts: None

Parish Precept April 2017	£2850
CTRS Grant	£98.40

Balance as at 3rd May 2017 £13,493.40

- b. The accounts for 2016/17 were approved Prop: KD 2nd: KA
- c. The internal audit report was approved Prop: CR 2nd KD
- d. The annual governance statement and return was approved and signed Prop: KD 2nd: CR
- e. The 2017/18 budget was reviewed

8. Planning

- a. 17/00533/TEL56 – EE Ltd and Hutchinson 3G UK Ltd: Proposed 4G equipment. Telecommunications Mask Wharf Lane – Approved
- b. 17/00578/F – Pleasant View Foxhill Lane: Erection of replacement single storey rear extension (existing base being utilized) - Approved
- c. 17/00611/F – Appleton Lodge, High Street: new projection to single storey front wing – Approved
- d. 17/00118/TCA – The Orchard, Bates Lane: Various treeworks – Approved
- e. 17/00068/F – The Rectory: Existing garage to be demolished and replaced with a garden room and glazed link extension – Ongoing

9. **Administration:** There is urgent need to fill the vacancy for a new Councillor. The position will be advertised in the new edition of the newsletter and flyers on coloured paper will also be circulated to every household in an effort to generate some interest. The flyer will also be displayed at the next Time to Talk.

Cathy Fleet will replace Barbara McGarry and Nikki Robertson as Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer on June 1st as per the terms of the new contract. It was resolved that the monthly allowance of £18.00 for working at home will be added. Prop: CR 2nd KA

10. **Other Business:**

Changing Rooms – The Village Hall Committee wish to change the windows and have asked whether the PC would like to include the windows to the changing rooms in any proposed work. Also whether the PC would make a financial contribution. Until a decision has been made regarding the future use of the changing rooms it would be unwise to commit to any unnecessary expenditure.

Memorial Plaques – As all the background work has been done the plaques are to be ordered

KA

11. **Date of next meeting:**

20th June – PLANNING 7:30

13th July – FULL MEETING 7:30pm

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

Chairman Souldern Parish Council