

SUNNINGWELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Monday 25 January 2021 via an online virtual meeting.

Present:

Councillors Colin Weyer (Chairman), Oliver Isaacs, Elizabeth Bennett, Paul Wooldridge, Mike Wykes, Paul Darby, and James Greenman.

In attendance: County Councillor Bob Johnston.

Ted and Belen Wilcox, Mike Woodward

Brian Rixon – Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1/21

Questions and comments from visiting councillors and members of the public

Mr and Mrs Wilcox expressed concern over the letter distributed to each house in Sunningwell by Councillor Mike Wykes in his role as Parish Path Warden.

His involvement, as the Parish Path Warden, was to address the concerns of parishioners by assisting them to participate in the Definitive Map Modification Order process regarding an unofficial walking route between the Blagrove Farm road to the Lincombe Lane Spur via the privately owned Broom Hill Copse in Boars Hill. The printing and distribution of the paperwork was at his own expense although it was briefly mentioned at the November PC meeting and the subsequent actions taken were supported by most councillors by email at the beginning of January.

Mr and Mrs Wilcox were upset that no-one had contacted them, to discuss the matter, before the letters were delivered especially as no letter was delivered to the house they own in Sunningwell. Cllr Mike Wykes advised that no house was deliberately omitted and apologised if no letter was received.

The Parish Council condemned the actions of those who destroyed signs, and the abusive language including coughing into Mrs Wilcox's face whilst claiming to have coronavirus. It was confirmed that the landowner had every right to display signs on the property.

County Councillor Bob Johnston reported that the Lodge Hill Slip road design has been finalised and County Councillors will be briefed in a couple of weeks. All relevant Parish Councils will be briefed after that and in March a virtual exhibition will be launched. The planning process will then begin with planning permission anticipated by the end of the year. The slip roads should be open by the end of 2022 or perhaps the start of 2023.

This will benefit the North Abingdon Housing developments and enable the County Council to reach its housing targets.

Council tax will be increased by 3.99%

Cllr Elizabeth Bennett asked if the Ox Cam arc is now called the Green Arc? Bob thought the road element is now permanently paused.

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2/21	Apologies
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District Councillors Emily Smith and Debby Hallett

3/21	Declarations of members' interests in respect of any item.
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None

4/20	To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 30 November 2020.
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The minutes were approved.

5/21	Non-definitive footpath
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This relates to the unofficial walking route between the Blagrove Farm road to the Lincombe Lane Spur via the privately owned Broom Hill Copse in Boars Hill.

It was agreed that Cllr Mike Wykes performed a limited role, as the Parish Path Warden, by acting as a conduit to distribute and collect completed Definitive Map Modification Order Evidence Forms and deliver them to a Submitter on Boars Hill

6/21	Quarry footpath 372/8
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On 30th September 2020 the Parish Council wrote to Arthur McEwan-James, of Oxfordshire County Council's Countryside Access department, suggesting that the recent Brunel Surveys' Topographical survey and Alan Drury architect's report, offered an economical and viable solution to the long-standing problem that has caused the route through the old quarry to be temporarily closed under a Department of Transport Temporary Traffic Order in 2016 (later extended to November 2017 and again on 18 October 2017 extended to November 2019).

It proved exceedingly difficult to obtain any reply but after further requests the Parish Council eventually received an email thanking the Parish Council for working so hard to progress something that OCC are unable to prioritise. He added that the proposal looks to be an incredibly well thought out, relatively low-key solution to get walkers up and down the face of the disused quarry.

He has some questions on cost, funding, and the fact that the remaining length of the footpath is obstructed by hedges and parked vehicles. He concluded by saying that he would be happy to meet with the Parish Council on site.

The Parish Council wrote on 26th January accepting the offer to meet and asking Arthur to give a few dates and times so that the clerk could make the arrangements.

7/21	Planning applications
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P20/V2889/HH Linden House. Demolish and replace garage.

A review by Cllrs Elizabeth Bennett and Paul Wooldridge raised concerns with the Vale Planning Department in respect to the visual impact of the new building on neighbouring property and along Lincombe Lane.

8/21	Planning enforcement update
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The clerk was asked to contact the District Principal Planning Officer to check on the current status of Planning Enforcement issues in the parish. Here is a summary:

- **VE14/067 Bayworth Park**
- **VE20/172 Church Farm Barn**
- **VE20/343 Redesdale**
- **Foxcombe Hill Farm**

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9/21	Planning – concerns about District Council decisions
Concerns have been raised by the Parish Council with the Leader of the Vale of White Horse District Council and it was intended that a discussion would be had at this Parish Council meeting. Cllr Emily Smith had to send her apologies for this meeting and the matter was postponed to the next Parish Council meeting on 22 February	
10/21	Village Hall lease
Action still lies with the Village Hall Management Committee to have the lease signatures re-signed in front of a witness.	
11/21	Village hall car park
The car park resurfacing project has been approved by the District Council and the Parish Council has completed the Acceptance of Conditions form which will instigate the payment. A query has now arisen from the County Highway Authority questioning the exact boundary between the car park and the highway. Cllr Colin Weyer asked the Parish Council to approve expenditure of up to £100 to acquire the exact maps from the County Council. This was approved unanimously.	
12/21	S106 funds - summary
A S106 agreement dated 30 October 2017 was generated by the housing development on land north of Dunmore Road and Twelve Acre Drive in Abingdon, an area previously part of Sunningwell Parish. A sum of £89,500 Index Linked was confirmed to Sunningwell Parish Council for the purpose of mitigating the impact of the development by the provision of a package of measures to improve community facilities and carry out environmental enhancements including improvements to the village hall car park, enhancements to the village green and measures to improve road safety. £25,000 of the agreed amount is not yet due. To date the District Council has received £68,129.74 including indexation, and Sunningwell Parish Council has recently accepted £3,790.50 for the completed village green wall repairs as negotiated by Councillor Paul Wooldridge. A further £38,850 has been approved for release following the project, managed by Councillor Colin Weyer, for the resurfacing of the village hall car park.	
13/21	Defibrillator management and the state of the telephone box
The Community Heartbeat Trust raised a query about the data generated from the Sunningwell defibrillator. The Council has reviewed the situation and confirms the Boars Hill defibrillator reporting regime is managed by Councillor Colin Weyer. The Sunningwell defibrillator will now be overseen by Councillor Paul Darby. Any weekly and monthly data reported via the CHT management website is, as always, automatically notified to the parish clerk. It had recently been reported that the Council owned telephone box which houses the defibrillator had been commandeered by unknown persons as a book exchange. Enquiries made of the villager who checks the defibrillator had produced no information as to the instigator. It was noted that the number of books, many on the floor, posed a potential risk to safe access to the defibrillator especially as their number might increase further and there was no way of contacting those who were placing the books. It was agreed unanimously that they be removed, and a notice placed in the box to prevent any recurrence. It was agreed that Cllrs Colin Weyer and Elizabeth Bennett should undertake this without delay.	

Action: Cllrs Colin Weyer and Elizabeth Bennett

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14/21

Stream between Bayworth and Sunningwell

Councillor Paul Wooldridge had noticed that a large black plastic item seemed to be inhibiting the water flow. Councillor James Greenman suggested it had come from the Quarry garden. Mike Woodward, who attended this council meeting, offered to speak to his neighbour.

15/21

Grass verge in front of village wall

This item was added to the agenda to check that the residue from the rebuilding of the wall has been removed. The clerk had previously contacted the Council's contractor to arrange this and confirmed that the verge is now clear.

16/21

Pond management plan

The clerk was asked to contact Bob Evans to get feedback on this.

Action: Clerk

17/21

Contacts with vulnerable parishioners during the Covid situation

The SERV initiative continues, in Radley and Sunningwell, to offer practical assistance with, say, shopping, dog walking or collecting prescriptions. Volunteer co-ordinators' telephone numbers have been advertised as have those for arranging telephone chat calls or pastoral support.

The Boars Hill Association has created a Support Hub comprising a list of individuals to offer support with, say, shopping, delivering post, telephone support and even help with electrics. Completing a contact form on the website will give access to the hub.

18/21

Payments due

Clerk	Salary, Office Expenditure.	543.98
HMRC	PAYE	117.60
Parish Online	Ordnance survey mapping	36.00

19/21

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Monday 22 February 2021 using video conferencing

The Chairman closed the January meeting at 9:02p.m.

2021 meeting dates:

<i>Monday 25 January</i>	<i>Monday 22 February</i>	<i>Monday 29 March</i>	<i>Monday 26 April</i>
<i>Monday 17 May</i>	<i>Monday 28 June</i>	<i>Monday 26 July</i>	<i>No meeting in August</i>
<i>Monday 27 September</i>	<i>Monday 25 October</i>	<i>Monday 29 November</i>	<i>No meeting in December</i>