

South Moreton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held at South Moreton School on Wednesday 22 October 2014

Present: Cllrs Lyn Deeley (Chair), H Ball, & C Smith, Dr R Templeman (Clerk) (SMPC), Cllr P Greene (OCC)

Apologies for absence: Cllr L Docherty (SODC), Jonny Yaxley

- 14/86 LD opened the meeting at 1930
- 14/87 **To receive councillors' declarations of interests**
RT reminded councillors of their responsibilities to keep their Registers of Interests up to date. No declarations made.
- 14/88 **To record apologies from PC Councillors**
Cllr J Vacher & Billy Woollen
- 14/89 **To receive comments from the public and the County Councillor**
PG had previously sent his OCC reports for September (including Thriving Families Scheme and major road works in Oxfordshire) and October to CS for posting on the www.southmoreton.org.uk. He offered to send his August report to CS for the website. He reported that he had accepted an invitation to open Fulscot Bridge on 29 August. He agreed to ask the Leader of OCC if train services are included in LPT4 and to report vegetation which is blocking the pedestrian lane of the path beside the A4130 between Tesco and Marsh Bridge. **ACTION: PG**
No report had been received from SODC Cllr Leo Docherty.
- 14/90 **To approve the minutes of the 30 July 2014 SMPC meeting**
The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read having been previously circulated and with minor correction were approved and signed by LD.
- 14/91 **To consider matters arising from the minutes of the 30 July 2014 SMPC meeting not taken elsewhere**
Nothing raised.
- 14/92 **To receive reports from clerk and councillors**
HB reported on a successful village event held on 7 September. She said about 50 people had attended and had taken receipts of about £140 which had balanced expenses. A vote of thanks to HB was proposed and carried unanimously.
Ref 14/72: RT had sent a letter (approved by SMPC) to SODC on the subject of the Community Governance Review decision to move the North Moreton/South Moreton Parish boundary reporting land owned by SMPC and requesting more information. The Order implementing the changes will come into force on 1 April 2015 and will deal with arrangements for the Millennium Garden. It is for SMPC to discuss relocation of signs and associated costs with OCC.
Ref: 14/76: The vegetation overgrowing the footpath alongside the railway from Sands Road bridge has been cut back by Network Rail, the hedge overhanging the pavement at the Clements Green/High Street junction has been trimmed, and Fulscot Bridge has reopened with pedestrian provision on the approach from South Moreton.
Ref 14/75: LD/HB had organised a work party for 4-8 August 2014 to tidy up the allotments and adjacent footpath. Payment for hire of equipment and labour by cheque #552 for £113.23 signed by LD/HB was approved.
RT said he had received pamphlets from SODC describing the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which is a new way to raise funds from developers for infrastructure projects.
- 14/93 **To consider Recreation Ground matters**
RT read an email from Azalea Landscapes (AL) outlining some options for next year's mowing schedule. It was agreed that the proposals form a basis for discussion and that AL should get a quote for collecting cuttings from the first mow.
- 14/94 **To consider Millennium Garden matters**
Discussion of the Millennium Garden was deferred until its future within North Moreton parish was defined.
- 14/95 **To consider allotment matters**
HB's investigations into obtaining a water supply for allotment users had shown that even if grants could be obtained for installation ongoing costs of ~£1000 pa were beyond SMPC's means. However, Christina Moxon has offered SMPC a water tank, which SMPC was pleased to accept. BW will be asked to take it to the allotments.
LD handed £10 she had collected for rent to RT, to be banked. **ACTION: RT**
- 14/96 **To consider public footpaths and highways matters**
For the Sustrans track OCC say: "repairs to the surface and the vegetation cut backs have been completed as agreed. We have not be able to provide a perfect surface as this would take considerable investment and the funding is not available. All that remains to do is paint the concrete bollards at the Fulscot Bridge end of the route to make them more visible and funding has been provided for this."
- 14/97 **To consider public transport matters**

RT reported on the review of subsidised bus services (Wasntage, Faringdon and Didcot area) which includes the 95 route. He had attended a consultation meeting on 13 October in Didcot and had presented the views of SMPC as discussed at the 30 July SMPC meeting. The timetable for the review is: Deadline for comments from parishes - 15 November; Procurement exercise – mid December to end January 2015; Tender responses analysed - February 2015; Tender awards – end March 2015; Tender awards made public – early April 2015; Parishes informed of service changes – mid-April 2015; New timetables start 31 May 2015. After 15 November 2014 there is no further consultation with parishes.

14/98 **To consider traffic problems within South Moreton**

RT said that the OCC road safety officer is willing to make a site visit to Dunsomer Hill if councillors wish this. It was agreed that CS would contact OCC to arrange a visit and co-ordinate with others with an interest including South Moreton School. **ACTION: CS**

Speed checks were carried out in South Moreton on 5 & 6 August. PCSO Catherine Johnson reported: “Officers from our Roads Policing section carried out speed checks and there were no speeding vehicles detected. However, they did comment that the overgrown verges on Dunsomer Hill made recording the speeds difficult”.

14/99 **To consider financial matters.**

i) The current financial summary

The balance in the Lloyds Bank current account was £2861.45 on 29 August 2014. A VAT claim for £901.67 has been submitted to HMRC but payment has not yet been received, and the second instalment of the precept £3077.00 had been due on 1 October.

There is £4698.02 in the NS&I account.

ii) Approval of payments

£45 to J Herman-Stokes by cheque #555 signed by LD/HB for Rec strimming

£305.23 To CD2ROM Information Services for Clerk fees/expenses July-Sept 2014 by cheque #556 signed by LD/HB

£2000.00 to Azalea Landscapes for Rec Mowing/Weedkilling 2014 by cheque #557 signed by LD/HB

iii) Bank mandate

The bank mandate requires updating to remove Nichola I’Anson as a signatory for Lloyds bank cheques, and to add CS in this capacity. CS is progressing the matter. **ACTION: CS**

iv) Precept for 2015/6

RT tabled documents summarising expenditure and income in recent years. Councillors discussed plans for 2015/6 and agreed a budget for 2015/6 similar to that for previous years, but with £600 for playground equipment maintenance, £200 for floral displays, and £500 for an additional bench, and additional funding (up to £500) for Rec mowing. It was decided to set the precept demand at £6500, to be reduced by the amount of the Council Tax Reduction Grant.

iv) Grant requests

Requests for grants have been received from Sue Ryder and Oxfordshire Association for the Blind. SMPC decided not to support these.

14/100 **To consider planning matters**

i) Report on application decisions

P14/S2323/HH Extensions at 13 Sands Road. SMPC No Strong Views. SODC Granted 10 September .

ii) New applications

P14/S3086/FUL for transfer of agricultural land to operational railway land, provision of access, drainage and fencing on the NR site on the Didcot side of Fulscot Bridge. SMPC decided to support the application which would improve road safety on the approach to Fulscot Bridge from the Tesco end.

14/101 **To assess risk and its management**

It is important that SMPC’s precept demand is communicated to SODC by the deadline in January.

RT to do this once SODC inform him the value of the Council Tax Reduction Grant. **ACTION: RT**

14/102 **To respond to correspondence and discuss matters arising from Item 3 (14/89)**

None

14/103 **To take AOB at Chairman’s discretion**

A name board is required for SMPC’s noticeboard: CS offered to find a supplier. **ACTION: CS**

14/104 **To schedule the next meeting**

A Wednesday in December or January 2015 tba.

With no other business, LD declared meeting closed at 2110