



**MINUTES**  
of the  
**SUNNINGWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
held on  
**MONDAY 24 JUNE 2021**  
In Sunningwell Village Hall

**Present:**

**Councillors**

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

**In attendance:**

Brian Rixon – Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer  
County Councillor Bob Johnston  
and about seven members of the public

**80/21 Questions and comments from visiting councillors and members of the public**

Parishioners **Bruce Hunt** and **Alex Reynolds** expressed concerns over footpaths. They commented in particular on footpath 9 which goes from Bayworth towards Chandlings School, where the line of the footpath has not been cleared through the new crop. **David Shorten** agreed with the points made and asked if parish notice boards could be used by residents to express their views on such matters.

It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the landowners about the fact that, even though Sunningwell footpath 9 (372/9/10) is waymarked at the Bayworth end, the definitive alignment is not visible due to a standing crop and it is not possible to walk it without undue trampling down of the crop, especially as the definitive alignment follows a curved route, particularly difficult to follow without some form of marking.

Bruce Hunt also commented on the delays to the reinstatement of the Quarry footpath 327/8, its temporary closure for the past 5+ years, when it was likely to be reopened and the actions being taken to remove the fencing across the footpath. The parish council suggested he should write to OCC to raise the issue.

**Jane Halliday** welcomed the resurfacing of the village hall car park but expressed her concern that the new layout would inhibit access to her property behind the village hall. Cllr Colin Weyer commented that great care has gone into the design and the protection of existing rights of way. The new access will be at least as wide if not wider than the current access. He had called at Jane's house on recent site visits, but she was not at home. He agreed to arrange a meeting on site to discuss the plans in more detail.

**County Councillor Bob Johnston** noted that reports on the need to refurbish the Sunningwell village hall car park date back to 1993 and he was pleased to see that the current Parish Council is addressing the issue.

He said problems with footpaths are linked to a lack of resource as currently there is only one footpath officer.

There is pressure to make the A34 Lodge Hill roundabout more cycle friendly and villages need traffic calming to be increased. The County Council has agreed to prioritise cycling and walking tracks – for example, a cycling track for school students to travel from Wootton to Abingdon.

**81/21 Apologies for absence**

District Councillors Emily Smith and Debby Hallett.  
Parish Councillor Elizabeth Bennett.

**82/21 Declarations of members' interests in respect of any item.**

Cllr Mike Wykes in respect of the village hall lease.

**83/21 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 27 May 2021.**

The minutes were approved unanimously.

**84/21 Sunningwell Pond**

The new village hall chairman, Andrew Hoare, had asked the council to consider the possibility of draining the pond and removing all the silt in the autumn.

It was agreed that up to £1000 should be allocated to such a project subject to agreeing a clear plan, and payment against invoices made out to Sunningwell Parish Council.

It was suggested that the contractor who cuts the village green may be able to supply a muck spreader to be positioned by the pond while the work is being done. The silt could then either be spread over the village green or deposited in the hollow where the new elm trees have been planted. It was also suggested that consideration should be given to hiring a machine to suck out the silt, rather than doing it by hand.

**85/21 Telephone kiosk**

The council agreed some time ago that the telephone kiosk should be refurbished.

Three estimates have been sought covering the labour, and it was agreed to accept the most appropriate one and to provide that contractor with a full set of replacement parts including BT specified paint, windowpanes, light, defibrillator signs etc.

A budget of up to £1750 including vat, which can be reclaimed, was agreed.

**86/21 Village hall lease**

The lease has been reprinted to incorporate a change in the membership of the management committee and to amend the clerk's address. Cllr Colin Weyer will pass the lease to the new Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee for circulating, signing, and witnessing.

Action: Cllr Colin Weyer

**87/21 Village hall car park**

The resurfacing work has commenced, and the target date is the end of August. The contractor has made the council aware of the shortage of, and difficulty in sourcing, materials at the moment, and there may be cost implications as a result of this.

The old bag of salt will be removed and the green bins, used by the previous flood prevention group, will be repositioned on the concrete base near the notice boards.

**88/21 Bayworth Residents' Association**

A residents' association has been formed in Bayworth and members came to the council meeting to explain their aims and to ask if the council would support the association. They emphasised that they wanted to work in co-operation with the parish council.

The clerk had passed the council's grant application form to the group and the council agreed it would look favourably at any request for "seed" money to help the association. As always, the grant application would need to be supported by invoices.

