



MINUTES
of the
SUNNINGWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on
Thursday 27 Oct 2022
In Sunningwell Village Hall

Present:

Councillors Colin Weyer (Chairman), Mike Wykes, John Simms, and James Greenman.

In attendance: Brian Rixon – Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Three members of the public.

116/22 Questions and comments from visiting councillors and members of the public

Mark Partington referred to his meeting with Cllr Colin Weyer regarding the Black poplar trees, near his garden, which he considers are on parish council land and cause him some concern. The matter is discussed further in agenda item 124/22.

117/22 Apologies for absence

County Councillor Bob Johnston. District Councillor Emily Smith
Parish Councillors Paul Wooldridge, Paul Darby, and Gina Bale.

118/22 Declarations of members' interests in respect of any item.

None

119/22 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 29 September 2022.

The minutes were approved and signed.

120/22 Planning applications

There were no applications to review.

121/22 Community Governance: - an update

The boundary review committee decided to make no change to the Sunningwell Parish boundary.

122/22 Dog waste on the village green: - to report on a meeting with the District Council

The waste disposal officer met with the parish council chairman to discuss possible solutions for dog waste on the village green. The officer emphasised that the district council will not install bins specifically for waste from land not on the highway. The officer agreed to consider, and reply to, a parish proposal to pay, or contribute towards, the purchase and installation cost of bins near the entrances to the Sunningwell village green and the old golf course on Boars Hill.

123/22 Sunningwell Parish firework display: - to confirm the final arrangements

The arrangements for Saturday 5th November were discussed and agreed.

124/22 **Trees:** – to consider pruning trees by the pond and the village green

It was agreed that the clerk should arrange a meeting between Cllrs Colin Weyer and Mike Wykes and a tree contractor to instruct him on pruning the willow tree near the pond and the removal of brambles blocking the sight line at the main entrance to the village green. Action: Clerk

Regarding the trees next to the pathway from the road into the village green, it was noted that the owner of the adjacent house has the right to remove any branches overhanging the property.

The black poplars along the boundary of the village green were also discussed. It was agreed that the council should take a pragmatic approach and will instigate action, without assuming any legal liability, if considered necessary. It was agreed in principle that tree preservation orders should be sought on designated trees on or adjacent to the principal open spaces viz. Sunningwell village green, pond and cricket ground and Bayworth triangle. Cllr Wykes agreed to prepare a draft list and map in conjunction with the village warden Bob Evans.

125/22 **S106 application:** - to part finance the resurfacing of the Bayworth parking area.

The District Council's Infrastructure Implementation Officer has acknowledged receipt of the council's application.

126/22 **Children's playground:** - project to improve the facility

The council discussed the estimates for repairing the safety surface overlap joints and replacing the benches. It was agreed that essential safety work should be undertaken including the removal of existing benches. Cllrs Mike Wykes and Gina Bale would discuss a wider refurbishment programme for inclusion in the November budget review. Action: Cllrs Mike Wykes and Gina Bale

127/22 **Budget and the Precept:** - initial discussion

The clerk outlined the procedure and timing for the budget and precept. The chairman asked all councillors to consider items for the budget over the coming four weeks and discuss the ideas via email before the next council meeting. Action: All councillors

128/22 **Financial report:** - an update

The financial statement was presented and approved. This included the following payments.

Clerk	Salary, Office supplies including £44.98 ink cartridges	640.80
HMRC	PAYE	129.20
Sage Payroll	Monthly subscription	8.40
M R White	September village green grass cutting	180.00
St Leonard's church	Retrospective payment for grass cutting Apr to Jun	330.00
L J King	September Churchyard grass cutting	160.00
Barriers Direct	Bayworth blind spot mirror	433.60
MRH Services	Playground inspection	64.50
Community Heartbeat Trust	Defibrillator, cabinet, and post for Long Furlong Road	3,162.00
Moore East Midlands	External audit to March 2022	360.00
Storm Fireworks	Balance of contract for 5 th November	1,125.00

The clerk also presented the **External Auditor's Report and Certificate 2021/22** (AGAR page 6) to the council. The chairman read out the report which says, "*On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with the Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.*"

129/22 **The next Parish Council Meetings will be on Thursday 24 November 2022 at 7:30 p.m. in Sunningwell Village Hall**

The Chairman closed the October meeting at 8:42 p.m.