



MINUTES
of the
SUNNINGWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on
Thursday 24 November 2022
In Sunningwell Village Hall

Present:

Councillors

Colin Weyer (Chairman), Paul Wooldridge, Mike Wykes, John Simms, and Paul Darby.

In attendance:

Brian Rixon – Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

130/22 Questions and comments from visiting councillors and members of the public

None.

131/22 Apologies for absence

County Councillor Bob Johnston. District Councillors Emily Smith and Debby Hallett
Parish Councillors James Greenman and Gina Bale.

132/22 Declarations of members' interests in respect of any item.

None

133/22 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 27 October 2022.

The minutes were approved and signed.

134/22 Planning applications

P22/V2285/HH	Fairfield, Foxcombe Road	Rear and side extensions	No objection
P22/V2570/FUL	Land adjacent to Foxcombe Rise	New dwelling	Objection
P22/V1784	13 Sunningwell	Additional storey	The Vale of WH has approved this application

135/22 Willow tree by the pond: - an update

The Council approved the quotation from Treescape to pollard the pond willow tree back to the pollard points from the November 2018 pruning. Also, the cherry tree will be pruned.

Following professional advice, it was decided not to seek TPOs (Tree Preservation Orders) for various trees as proposed at the previous meeting.

On a separate issue it was agreed a Christmas tree could be transplanted to Bayworth Triangle provided its height would be controlled over the years.

136/22	S.P.E.W.: - request regarding the dams
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The Parish Council discussed requests on two matters from Sunningwell Prevention of Excess Water (S.P.E.W.) dated 24 October 2022.

The first matter was whether padlocks and other equipment purchased in January 2021 could be reimbursed by the council. In March 2021 council minutes confirmed the council agreed in principle that it was supportive of the SPEW aims and would consider reimbursement supported by VAT invoices. No invoices have been received by the council.

Secondly, SPEW undertook an inspection of the 3 dams between Bayworth and Sunningwell which were commissioned by the Parish Council in 2011 and 2015. SPEW asked the council to consider clearing the area as it is smothered with dense weed and foliage.

As the original dams were built with close co-operation from the District Council, it was decided the clerk should re-contact the district council to seek advice on the matter. Action: Clerk

137/22	Village green benches: -
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The Parish Council wrote to the owners of the original five benches on the village to ask if they wished to refurbish the benches as they were in a poor condition. Approval was received from three owners and the first bench has been removed, restored, and returned to its plinth on the green. The next two are in progress.

The fourth owner refused the council's offer saying they will undertake the refurbishment themselves. The fifth owner has yet to respond.

138/22	Firework display 5th November 2022:
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Several councillors were involved in the planning and implementation of the firework and bonfire evening. They thank Sheila Greenman, Elizabeth Bennett, and members of the Bayworth Residents' Association for their much-appreciated help.

The evening cost £1,892 and donations received at the gate totalled £1,222.

The clerk was asked to book the firework display for November 2023, but the council noted that this event would only be feasible if enough volunteers come forward in time.

139/22	Village hall car park: - signage.
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The Council will display a sign at the village hall car park to confirm it is there for members of the public to use when visiting the village hall, village green, church or nearby. It is not intended for overnight or longer stays, and rights of way to adjacent properties must not be blocked.

A draft was discussed and will be circulated and finalised by email. Action: All councillors

140/22	S106 Application for Bayworth Parking area: -
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The application for partial funding towards the parking area is being discussed by the Vale of White Horse District Council and their Climate Action Team has asked the Parish Council for its assessment of the embodied carbon footprint of the re-surfacing material. Also, they ask if consideration is being given to installing cycle racks or an electric vehicle charging point.

The parish council prepared its answers to these points and asked the clerk to reply to the District Council. Action: Clerk

141/22	Defibrillator: - Long Furlong Road
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The defibrillator has been installed adjacent to the new parish council notice board and just needs confirmation from the ambulance service before it is fully operational.

142/22	Budget and the Precept: - initial discussion
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The parish council chairman presented a draft budget which was considered by all councillors. The budget, with an estimated total expenditure of £51,532 for the next financial year, was discussed and a final version approved.

It was agreed the Precept would remain at £25,000 for a second year in a row, having previously been £30-33,000 for several years.

142/22	Financial report:
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The financial statement was presented and approved. This included the following payments.

Clerk	Salary, Office supplies.	649.54
HMRC	PAYE	129.00
Sage Payroll	Monthly subscription	8.40
Clr James Greenman	Padlocks for village green and village hall storage	41.55
Lee King	Churchyard grass cutting in October	160.00
Elizabeth Bennett	Mulled wine and mince pies for firework event	392.92
Geoff Taylor	Installation of defibrillator at Long Furlong Road	75.00
M White	Sunningwell parish village green grass cutting October	570.00

143/22	The next Parish Council Meetings will be on Thursday 26 January 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in Sunningwell Village Hall
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The Chairman closed the November meeting at 8:54 p.m.