

MINUTES OF THE SOULDERN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL

ON 28th March 2019

Present:

Nick Oakhill (NO) CHAIR
John Hoodless (JH)
Kirsty Allpress (KA)
Laura How (LH)
Cathy Fleet (CF) CLERK

Members of the Public:

David Carlisle
Norma Jones
Katy Draper
Helen Blunt
Mandy Sweetman

03.19.01 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Alan Smith

03.19.02 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest

03.19.03 To receive the minutes of the last parish council meeting

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 15th January 2019 were checked for accuracy and content, agreed as a true record of the meetings and signed by the chair.

03.19.04 Public participation

Members of the public were invited to participate.

Norma Jones asked why a small oak tree has been planted on common or charity land by The Pound. David Blunt has planted it as he has removed it from his field as previously agreed. It was previously agreed that Audrey's plaque would be placed on the tree, but this is now on an apple tree.

ACTION : NO to speak to Tim Vincent to see where he wants the oak tree and arrange for it to be transplanted.

Norma Brown also expressed thanks for replacing the slate on the bus shelter, and enquired about the bollards. The bollards are in the shed waiting to be installed once a working party has been established.

Mandy Sweetman expressed her concern about speeding vehicles in the village.

ACTION : JH to look into options of SID devices and 20's plenty signs and report back to the next meeting.

Katy Draper reported that she has information regarding a Village Emergency Telephone System which would assist in an emergency if a patient was alone and required the defibrillator. This system is quite expensive and there is a list of volunteers in the village who would respond in an emergency. There was discussion about the use of Facebook/WhatsApp.

ACTION : NO to check the current list is up to date.

03.19.05 Clerks Report and Actions from previous meeting

There were no actions from the previous meeting.

03.19.06 Elections

The clerk provided copies of nomination papers and elector numbers where required. Nomination papers are due to be submitted to CDC by Wednesday 3rd April at the latest.

Chris Rothero informed the council that he would not be standing for election this term. He has been a councillor for over 30 years.

03.19.07 Trees

Gibbs Field House - David Blunt has raised the issue of ownership of 5 willow trees at the bottom of Foxhill Lane. He purchased land from Richard Deeley but is uncertain where the boundary is. According to CDC maps 4 out of 5 of the willows are on common land and therefore the responsibility of the parish council. In the past OCC have pollarded the willow trees, when requested, but Mr. & Mrs. Blunt would prefer the trees to remain as they provide a shield to their property. The willows are included in the quote from Nicholsons and would cost £1600 + VAT to be cut. Mr & Mrs Blunt have paid for maintenance of the willow that is in the middle of the ditch (which would infer it is on their land and therefore their responsibility).It has been agreed that no maintenance on the trees would be carried out without consulting the Blunts first.

A separate survey of the trees in the churchyard was carried out by Nicholsons. It is not clear if the PC have been informed that the churchyard has been officially declared closed (and therefore becomes the PC's responsibility). NO has sent Clive Smith the tree survey and requested that he provides positive proof that the churchyard has been declared closed. In the meantime any remedial work due to be carried out will be held in abeyance.

The memorial plaques which have recently been put on the trees are already beginning to show signs of deterioration and will need to be examined.

ACTION : NO to look at the guarantee for the plaques as they were expensive and should not be deteriorating so soon

ACTION : Clerk to circulate Nicholsons's quote for treework

A quote had been received from Nigel Prickett for grasscutting in the village.

ACTION : Clerk to circulate grasscutting quote

03.19.08 Councillor Responsibilities

NO had circulated a list of items for which the PC is responsible and asked all councillors to consider which could be their area of interest and which they would

lead on and to report back at the next meeting. Once decided, this information would be published on the website so members of the public know which councillor to contact for a particular issue.

03.19.09 Security Cameras

CF had emailed the local PCSO who had confirmed that Thames Valley Police could have no involvement with security cameras in the village. KA had spoken to Banbury Arians who could provide a security camera, possibly mounted on the village hall, at an approximate cost of £2000. Other local villages have installed cameras and a reduction in burglaries has been noticed. Ian Grey has a camera on his property and NO will speak to him to ask if his camera could be accessed if necessary. There is a WhatsApp group, Souldern Alerts, which some people belong to and are alerted, for example, if the scrap metal dealers are in the village.

ACTION : NO to speak to Ian Grey about accessing his camera

KA to speak to Richard regarding expanding the WhatsApp group

03.19.10 Updates

a) Playground Advisory Group

The grant application is in hand

b) Nancy Bowles Wood Advisory Group

The chestnut fencing has been approved by councillors via email and will be put up in due course

c) CDC

No update available

d) OCC

No update available

03.19.11 Planning

An application is on the CDC website but the hard copy has not yet been received.

Gibbs Field House Foxhill Lane Souldern Bicester OX27 7JZ

Ref. No: 19/00286/F | Received: Mon 18 Feb 2019 | Validated: Wed 27 Mar 2019 |

Status: Awaiting decision

ACTION : CF to inform all when hard copy of application is received

CF to ask Bruce May for the template for the planning notices he put up whilst he was a councillor

03.19.12 Finance - The following accounts were approved for payment

Payee	Detail	Amount
OCC	Comet bus	36.92
Souldern Village Hall	Post Office	125.00
CDC	Dog bins	144.14

Other matters

It was reported that the Village Hall boiler is still not working and is uneconomical to repair, so quotes are being sought for an alternative system, possibly to include an underground tank. Mary May is standing down and more committee members are required. The AGM will be held next month.

Chris Rothero reminded the meeting of the Parish Councillor's Declarations Register which will need to be filled in after the elections. This Register is an historic book dating back many years.

Meeting Dates for 2019

PC meeting	Planning meeting
	Thursday 25 Apr
Thurs 23 May	Thurs 27 June
Thurs 25 July	Thurs 22 Aug
Thurs 26 Sept	Thurs 24 Oct
Thurs 28 Nov	Thurs 19 Dec

Signed
 Chair, Souldern Parish Council

Date

ACTION LIST SUMMARY

NO	ACTION	OWNER
03.19.04(1)	Oak tree NO to speak to Tim Vincent to see where he wants the oak tree and arrange for it to be transplanted	NO
03.19.04(2)	Speeding JH to look into options of SID devices and 20's plenty signs and report back to the next meeting	JH
03.19.04(3)	Defibrillator NO to check the current telephone list is up to date.	NO
03.19.07(1)	NO to look at the guarantee for the plaques for the trees as they were expensive and should not be deteriorating so soon	NO
03.19.07(2)	Clerk to circulate Nicholsons's quote for treework	CF
03.19.07(3)	Clerk to circulate grasscutting quote	CF
03.19.09(1)	NO to speak to Ian Grey about accessing his camera	NO
03.19.09(2)	KA to speak to Richard regarding expanding the WhatsApp group	KA
03.19.11 (1)	CF to inform all when hard copy of planning application is received	CF
03.19.11(2)	CF to ask Bruce May for the template for the planning notices he put up whilst he was a councillor	CF

