

EYE & DUNSDEN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a Virtual Meeting held on November 17th 2020 at 7.45pm on Skype

Present Cllrs Richard Berkley, David Woodward, Ian Pringle, David Bartholomew (OCC + SODC) and Leigh Rawlins (SODC)

150/20 Apologies for absence Cllrs Naomi Baylis, Clive Leeke

151/20 Declarations of interest The Chairman declared a prejudicial and non-pecuniary interest in the planning applications as he is a neighbour.

152/20 Minutes of the last meeting The minutes from the virtual meeting on Tuesday 20th October were adopted. Adoption was proposed by Richard Berkley and seconded by David Woodward.

153/20 Matters arising from the minutes

124/20 The work at Mill Farm Yard continues to cause concern. See Planning and Correspondence.

127.01/20 The phone box floor still needs a small adjustment.

(Cllr Berkley to action)

127.02/20 The slippery steps from footpaths leading down to the A4155 opposite the Flowing Spring have now been further improved for safety reasons.

143.02/20 The Chairman placed the wreath at the Remembrance service and a trumpeter played the Last Post.

158/20 c) Noise from the water ski club. The Clerk received an apology from the club and the volunteers would be asked to be aware of noise nuisance.

154/20 County Councillor's report Cllr Bartholomew's report will be attached to the minutes. On local matters he discussed with Councillors the idea of reducing the speed in Sonning Eye and concern over the speeding of vehicles along the Henley Road. He will investigate possible speeding surveys. Starting costs of any highway changes could be in the region of £5-7000. As the traffic lights at Caversham Park are in Reading RBC would need to be contacted about the road layout of the site. Cllr Bartholomew also indicated that OCC had opposed P20/S3501/FUL.

155/20 District Councillor's Report Cllr Rawlins briefly introduced aspects of his report. His full report is attached to these minutes. When asked about the Local Plan he reported that the Inspector's report is due by the end of the month. The Chairman updated Cllr Rawlins on the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan and he gave some advice about settlement boundaries.

156/20 Public Question Time/Correspondence A planning objection letter from a resident regarding the work at Mill Farm had been received and circulated to Councillors. This was discussed.

157/20 Financial Position

157.01/20 The financial situation had been previously circulated.

157.02/20 The November accounts were presented for payment. Invoices to the value of £1,583.38 were agreed. Richard Berkley proposed the accounts be paid. This was seconded by Ian Pringle. All agreed. **(Clerk to action)**

157.03/20 Budget for 2020: The Clerk had prepared notes for Councillors to consider the needs for next year's budget. These were discussed and in the light of the possibly needing some extra money for the Neighbourhood Plan, further work on the trees bordering the Community Orchard and the cost of speed surveys in three areas, the Chairman proposed that the precept stayed at the same figure (£15,500) as the previous two years. This was seconded by Richard Berkley. All agreed. **(Clerk to action)**

157.04/20 CIL report The Clerk had completed the CIL report for 2019-2020. £2033 was spent on the Furleigh path repair and improving the path access over the Backwater Bridge. The residue will be put towards the cost of the replacement bus shelter this financial year.

158/20 Planning Matters

New Applications

P20/S3967/FUL New building to house plant etc. which is currently stored externally in the yard Mill Farm Sonning Eye Sonning RG4 6TR

P20/S3970/LDE Certificate of Lawful Development for: Lawful Development Certificate for existing use for works already carried out to extend the existing building. Mill Farm Sonning Eye RG4 6TR

The Mill Farm applications and the letter received from a resident were discussed. It was decided that the applications would be recommended for refusal. Richard Berkley will prepare a response and circulate before submission by 27th November. **(Richard Berkley/Clerk)**

Applications Granted

159/20 Eye & Dunsden Village Hall David Woodward has decided to stand down as Chairman for a while due to other pressures. Additional trustees are urgently needed.

160/20 Neighbourhood Development Plan

160.01/20 A Vision and Objectives statement is in draft form.

160.02/20 OCC has been contacted about the 'after use agreements' with Tarmac.

160.03/20 The Thames Valley Environmental Record Centre has been asked to flag up any areas of ecological significance. It will also consider requesting a report on green corridors. This information may evidence local land gap policies.

160.04/20 There are a number of vacancies on the subgroups that would allow more residents to become involved. (Please contact clerk@eyedunsden.org)

160.05/20 The next NDP virtual meeting is scheduled for 26th November at 5pm.

161/20 Highways, Footpaths & Open Spaces

161.01/20 The dilemma of place names has emerged from the work on the Neighbourhood Plan. Is it Dunsden Green or just Dunsden? It is two words on the Ordnance Survey map. Is Playhatch one word or two as it is two words on the same map. The Clerk was asked to investigate. **(Clerk to action)**

161.02/20 The sign pointing towards Dunsden halfway along Row Lane is broken and needs replacement. However, in the light of clarifying the name it was decided to defer reporting this.

161.03/20 The hardstanding at the bus stop on Dunsden Green might be difficult to concrete as the land slopes. **(Richard Berkley to action)**

161.04/20 The memorial on the green has developed a crack. This will be looked at to see how it can be repaired. **(Richard Berkley to action)**

161.05/20 One of the bollards on Furleigh Bank has come down and needs replacement. The Clerk was asked to seek a quotation for repair and contact the insurance company to see if the incident is covered. **(Clerk to action)**

162/20 Allotments

The trees at the rear of the allotments at Spring lane need cutting back. A contractor has been contacted.

163/20 Community Orchard Socially distanced working parties are tidying the orchard.

164/20 Minerals/Liaison Groups

A meeting is to be arranged between the parish council and the Cosmonaut Leisure Company.

165/20 Website Compliance The website must be made accessible to all. The Chairman has looked at what needs to be done to the website and it was agreed that someone outside the PC could be paid to undertake the task. **(Richard Berkley to action initially)**

166/20 Matters for future consideration flood alleviation scheme

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Date of next meeting: January 19th 2021

REPORT TO EYE & DUNSDEN PARISH COUNCIL NOV 2020

FROM CLLR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW

GENERAL OCC REPORT

NEW NATIONAL RESTRICTIONS FROM 5 NOVEMBER As you will be aware, the Prime Minister has announced a four-week national lockdown for England, with strict new measures coming into force from Thursday. The move comes in the wake of rapidly rising infection levels across the country and a significant rise in hospital admissions. The lockdown measures are designed to stem the spread of the virus, prevent the NHS from being overwhelmed, and save lives. From 5 November, people will be told to stay at home unless they have a specific reason to leave, such as education, childcare, and work which cannot be done from home. Pubs, restaurants, and non-essential shops and businesses will have to close, although hospitality venues can continue to provide takeaway and delivery services. Schools, colleges, universities and early years settings can remain open. People must not meet socially indoors or in a private garden with family or friends who are not part of their household or support bubble. People are also being asked to avoid travelling in or out of their local area and to reduce the number of journeys they make. For full details see www.gov.uk

OCC is working rapidly to identify how the new measures will affect service delivery and what action is required. Contingency plans are in place across all services

OCC CHALLENGES GOVERNMENT PLANNING Residents in Oxfordshire are being assured that national changes to planning laws that could reduce local democratic input on key decisions are being challenged by local councillors. OCC Cabinet members have written a response to government to reflect their concerns over future planning policy as set out by in a recent high-profile consultation.

PARENTS URGED TO HAVE THEIR CHILDREN VACCINATED AGAINST FLU Parents in Oxfordshire are being urged to have their young children vaccinated against the flu this winter. Children aged two and three can have a free, quick and painless nasal spray vaccine at their GP surgery. In addition, children in primary school and those in year seven can have the nasal spray vaccine via the school nurse service. Ansa Afaf, Director of Public Health at Oxfordshire County Council said: "It's more important than ever that everybody eligible gets a free flu vaccination this winter. Young children don't have to get an injection, and instead can get a quick, painless nasal spray. By ensuring that young children get their vaccinations, we can also help to protect our older and more vulnerable friends and family members by reducing the risk of transmission."

FLU VACCINATION ELIGIBILITY The full list of those who are eligible for a free flu vaccine on the NHS is below:

- People aged 65 years and over
- Patients aged from six months to 65 years in clinical 'at risk' groups (see below)
- Pregnant women
- Children aged 2 and 3
- Children in primary school and Year 7
- People in long-stay residential care homes
- Social care and hospice workers who provide direct patient contact
- Health and social care staff working in residential/nursing homes
- Patients on the NHS shielded patient list
- Household contacts of carers and those on the NHS shielded patient list

SPECIFIC OCC REPORT FOR EYE & DUNSDEN

SPEED AND ACCIDENTS IN SONNING EYE I have been asked whether a 20mph limit could be introduced and whether a speed survey would be desirable. I have given an approximate cost for a survey. Once the survey has been completed, the issue of a 20mph limit could be progressed, but the PC should be aware that implementation would cost the PC around £5-7k.

ACCIDENTS AT MARINA EXIT/TRAFFIC LIGHTS As per my February report the OCC safety officer has visited the site and registered no concerns. Furthermore, the traffic lights are within Reading, as are the approaches from the south and west, so they are outside the remit of OCC.

OCC SINGLE RESPONSE TO P20/S3501/FUL NORTH LAKE CAVERSHAM LAKES OCC has objected on Transport and Flood grounds.

SPECIFIC SODC REPORT FOR EYE & DUNSDEN Nothing to report.

SODC ward councillor's report – Eye & Dunsden – 17th November 2020

Covid-19

Covid cases have been growing in Oxfordshire and Reading; the virus is showing strong resurgence. At 6th November, Oxford City was at a weekly rate of 155 per 100k population. By comparison Cherwell DC was 154, West Oxon DC at 157, SODC at 121 and Vale of WH DC at 110. Reading BC was at 142. Numbers are rising steadily and extending more fully through the age ranges as time progresses. A national lockdown has been confirmed lasting until 2nd December. It is hoped that this will help choke the growth in cases and reduce the reinfection “R-rate”. The government has extended the previous furlough scheme, opened it up for new employees to be added and extended cover to self-employed people. The scheme has now been extended to March – indicating that the Covid situation may be difficult for some time? For businesses affected by lockdowns or high-tier restrictions there is also funding available through (district) local councils and the government have provided funding for the national period to 2nd December. There has been positive announcement on the progress of potential vaccines – notably from Pfizer and Moderna. However, a full roll-out of a vaccination programme through the UK population is likely to take a considerable time – perhaps to autumn of 2021, albeit that the summer period is less conducive to the spread of infection.

Community Hub details

Please help us spread the word to make sure help reaches those most in need - if people are in urgent need of support during the lockdown, they should contact our Community Hub on 01235 422600 or email communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk. There's more info at: • southoxon.gov.uk/covid19 and whitehorsedc.gov.uk/covid19

SODC have been working hard to prepare for this second lockdown – it will require a lot of work. Staff will need to call once again on local support in the coming weeks to ensure our most vulnerable residents get the support that they need. E-mails are going to all the voluntary groups and individuals that SODC have been working with since March to explain the current situation, seeking support and to provide support resources and information too. (It is suggested that a joint memorandum of understanding be signed so that personal details can be shared in cases of need.) SODC will also be advising on details of the funding streams available to them.

Homeless

SODC will be once again taking action as part of a wider initiative to ensure that the homeless are given appropriate support and accommodation – including where households are made homeless as a result of the pandemic.

Business Grants As regards business grants businesses that need help and guidance should go to svbs.co.uk

Businesses required to close in England due to local or national restrictions will be eligible for the following:

- For properties with a rateable value of £15,000 or under, grants of £1,334 per four weeks
- For properties with a rateable value of over £15,000 and below £51,000, grants of £2,000 per four weeks
- For properties with a rateable value of £51,000 or over grants of £3,000 per four weeks. Details are available through SODC at the South and Vale Business Support website: www.svbs.co.uk.

Additional Restrictions Grant The government has also announced that SODC will be receiving a pot of funding to use to provide discretionary business grants. Details are available through SODC at the South and Vale Business Support website: www.svbs.co.uk.

Parking Policy Consultation The deadline for giving feedback on some proposed changes to parking arrangements in the district council's off street car parks is Thursday 19 November. I would encourage residents to give their views. You can find out more at southoxon.gov.uk/parking

Leigh Rawlins

District Councillor