

EYE & DUNSDEN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting held on July 27th 2021 at 7.45pm at Dunsden Village Hall

Present: Cllrs David Woodward, Ian Pringle, Cllr Richard Berkley, Naomi Baylis David Bartholomew (OCC +SODC) and Leigh Rawlins (SODC) + Mr Andrew Green

094/21 Apologies for absence Clive Leeke

095/21 Declarations of interest None

096/21 Minutes of the last meeting The minutes from the meetings on June 15th 2021 were adopted. Adoption was proposed by Ian Pringle and seconded by David Woodward.

097/21 Matters arising from the minutes

All items on the agenda for discussion.

098/21 County Councillor's report Cllr Bartholomew summarised his local reports. The full report will be attached to the minutes. Discussion about the lack of enforcement by SODC took place especially regarding the change of use at Caversham Lakes.

099/21 District Councillor's Report Cllr Rawlins' report is attached to these minutes.

100/21 Public Question Time/Correspondence Mr Green attended the meeting to update the PC about the ongoing work by the residents and OCC to alleviate the flooding resulting in potholes and damaged road surfaces in Tagg and Sandpit Lanes. A further meeting to try to improve the situation would be welcomed by the residents. Cllr Bartholomew will be kept updated. The PC will request a meeting with Phillimore Estate to update on their progress regarding the clearing of ditches along Tagg lane, and mitigations to the regular flooding on the corner of the road. Ian Pringle noted that an additional drainage channel had been dug from the top field which appeared to be exacerbating the flooding of the road. The PC will request a meeting with OCC to update on the works schedule. There was a further discussion on the general volume of water that was flowing into Playhatch, which will be discussed in more detail at a subsequent meeting.

101/21 Financial Position

101.01/21 The present financial situation had been previously circulated.

101.02/21 The July accounts were presented for payment. Invoices to the value of £3704.80 were agreed. £2312.40 is part of the Neighbourhood Planning costs. Richard Berkley proposed the accounts be paid. This was seconded by Ian Pringle. All agreed. **(Clerk to action)**

102/21 Planning Matters

New Applications

P21/S2373/LB Repair to damp inside the building. Following inspection by Stonehouse Property Care Ltd the recommendation is to carry out remedial works. Add guttering to the northern (rear) and eastern(end) elevations. Bishopsland Farm, The Bothy Bishopsland Dunsden RG4 9NR This application was recommended for approval.

P21/S2496/HH Removal of existing conservatory, to be replaced with new porch and boot room Littlestoke Row Lane Dunsden RG4 9PU No comment was made to this application.

P21/S3040/FUL New horse stables with access. Hunters Cottage Row Lane Dunsden RG4 9PS This application was discussed and recommended for approval.

Applications Granted

P21/S1724/HH Proposed single storey garage extension. Hawthorne Cottage Sonning Eye RG4 6TN

P21/S1932/HH Extension at rear of property together with change in window configurations. The Old Cottage Sonning Eye RG4 6TN

P20/S1993/FUL Demolition of two existing dwellings. Erection of four residential dwellings. (As amended by plans 11th January 2021 to redesign proposed four dwellings and to retain two existing accesses) Ivy Cottages Dunsden Green Dunsden RG4 9QJ

103/21 Eye & Dunsden Village Hall The village hall is seeking a new Bookings Manager. A number of estimates have been received for renovation of the kitchen in the Palmer Room.

104/21 Neighbourhood Development Plan

104.01/21 Guided Parish walks around the villages are taking place. The next one will be 21st

August.

104.02/21 Evidence is being gathered and draft policies will be available to review from 25th August.

104.03/21 An NDP exhibition is planned for 30th August with sparkling wine and bouncy castle!

105/21 Community Orchard. The grass has been cut.

106/21 Highways, Footpaths & Open Spaces Cllr Berkley is concerned about the grass cutting at the entrance to Playhatch. Another contractor will be sought to take this on.

107/21 Allotments The footpath through the allotments needs cutting. A contractor will be contacted. Two of the allotments appear to need attention. The Clerk will send Cllr Baylis a plan and the allotments can be identified. **(Clerk and Cllr Baylis to action)**

108/21 Website No update as yet **(Chairman to action)**

109/21 Minerals/Playhatch & Sonning pit Liaison Groups The Clerk was asked to write to Grabloader to seek a date for a liaison meeting. **(Clerk to action)**

110/21 Matters for future consideration signage on Dunsden Green and Furleigh Bank; flooding in Playhatch and at Thatched Cottage

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Date of next meeting: September 21st 2021

REPORT TO EYE & DUNSDEN PARISH COUNCIL JULY 2021 FROM CLLR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW

GENERAL OCC REPORT

THIRD READING BRIDGE

I took the opportunity attend the first meeting of the new Cabinet and submit a written question to the new Cabinet Member for Transport (Duncan Enright, Labour) about the Third Bridge status. Officers supplied an answer which provided some new context in relation to the delayed Outline Business Case (OBC). It seems that far from agreeing to progress the OBC, the Department for Transport (DfT) wants the Cross Thames Travel Group to go back to the earlier Strategic Outline Business Case and upgrade it. This would be costly and would have to be funded locally – such funding has not been forthcoming. Additionally, DfT has confirmed its reluctance to progress the bridge at all unless all parties are in agreement. I think the threat of a car-based bridge is sunk for the foreseeable future.

OXFORDSHIRE COVID CASES SURGE – MAINLY THE UNDER 30S

People in Oxfordshire are being asked to take extra care and accept the offer of first and second vaccinations as cases in the county reach heights not seen since the winter. Cases have risen from 21.1 cases per 100,000 in late May to 101.8 cases per 100,000 in the week ending 25 June. The largest number of cases remain in people aged below 30, with 20 to 29-year olds accounting for 46 per cent of all new cases. All people aged 18 and above are now eligible to receive their first jab.

PATHWAYS TO ZERO-CARBON OXFORDSHIRE REPORT PUBLISHED

A key climate action report – [Pathways to a Zero-Carbon Oxfordshire](#) – by the University of Oxford's Environmental Change Institute and Bioregional has been published. The county council was one of many organisations involved in commissioning the report as part of its commitment to a zero-carbon future, as outlined in the Carbon Action Framework published last October. The report seeks to provide an evidence base for the transition to zero carbon and the role of partnerships in achieving these goals.

SURVEYS ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT ISSUES

People who live and work in Oxfordshire are urged to have their say on highways and transport issues around the county, including congestion, safety, cycling and the condition of roads and footpaths. Oxfordshire County Council has launched a number of roads and transport [online surveys](#), which are open to the public to comment on. The council is keen to hear views as soon as possible but people will have the chance to comment until February 2022. The online survey categories are:

- accessibility

- highway maintenance
- public transport
- road safety
- tackling congestion
- walking and cycling
- business users.

Earlier this year, the council announced it was investing £31.3 million in improving the highways network for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians in 2021/22. Roads, cycleways, bridges, drainage, pavements and streetlights will all benefit from the programme. The full list of projects and their locations is available to view [online](#).

SPECIFIC OCC REPORT FOR EYE & DUNSDEN

THIRD READING BRIDGE

I have covered this in my general report.

NARROW SECTION OF A4155 NEAR FLOWING SPRING/BOTANY BAY

I have arranged for existing lines and signs to be refreshed/repainted and for some additional items to be introduced. I have sent a detailed schedule of works to the clerk and chairman, but in summary:

- For the lining, the majority of the works will be focused around refurbishing the current speed roundels and the 'SLOW' markings along the section of road from Playhatch roundabout to Hampstead Hill. There will also be new 'SLOW' markings installed along the road approaching Botany Bay from the southern direction.
- For the signs, there is some general maintenance work to be done such as realigning and cleaning. There will also be a new warning sign placed roughly 100m from the junction to Spring Lane, facing traffic coming from Henley direction.

P20/S3501/FUL-3: CHANGE OF USE OF LAKE FOR RECREATION/SPORTS PURPOSES

As per my May report, OCC continues to object to the application on highway and drainage grounds, and reiterates that there is a conflict between the proposals and the S106 agreements relating to Caversham Quarry. I have no update.

SPECIFIC SODC REPORT FOR EYE & DUNSDEN

P20/S3501/FUL-3: CHANGE OF USE OF LAKE FOR RECREATION/SPORTS PURPOSES

Further to the above, I have had extended discussions with both SODC and OCC officers regarding breaches of planning requirements. Initially each authority was adamant enforcement was the responsibility of the other; I have now had agreement between senior managers that responsibility lies with SODC.

RETURN OF CALL-IN POWERS TO PARISH COUNCILS

Under emergency COVID powers, SODC withdrew the right of parish councils to call-in planning applications to the planning committee. These emergency powers lapsed last week and officers sought to extend them in a report brought to Full Council last week. Councillors were united in unanimously rejecting this recommendation. There is a question as to why the Cabinet Member for Planning allowed the recommendation to come to Full Council in the first place.