

SOUTH NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 19th November 2024 at 7.30pm
In the Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: Vanessa Doyle, Stephan Lucks, Graham Smith and Mike Rapp

Mrs Christine Coles (Parish Clerk), three villagers, District Councillor David Rogers and District Councillor Andrew McHugh (arrived after another meeting)

The Chair welcomed District Cllr David Rogers to the meeting. He is a newly elected Councillor. His interests are supporting his ward and Parish Council's. He is helping with work on the Local Plan and was in London today to support the farmers.

24/54. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Wilson-Medurst (personal) and County Cllr George Reynolds

24/55. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda

No interests were declared.

24/56. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2024

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

24/57. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda

There were no matters arising.

24/58. To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillor

Cllr David Rogers had circulated a report. The main headings included:

Cherwell Local Plan Review, Primary Healthcare developer contributions, SLCC awards, Flooding reports, Parish Precept, Your thoughts on free parking in Banbury and Bicester for December, Information from CDC, Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) Business Grant scheme, Business Accelerator, Residents able to declutter for charity with new service, Key housing plan goes to consultation. The full report will be on the village website www.southnewington.co.uk. Cllr Smith noted the free parking in Chipping Norton and he would support free parking in Banbury.

Cllr Andrew McHugh arrived at the meeting. He gave an update on the Local Plan. An additional 1400 houses are included in the plan and there will be speculative development. There is no housing allocation for South Newington. An eight week consultation will start on 19th December. It will go to examination in April 2025.

A report had been received from Cllr George Reynolds. Firstly, a suggestion that streetlights be turned off between 11.30pm and 5.00am has been delayed for further consultation. An idea being floated is that each village decides for themselves if they want the lights turned off. Secondly, anybody who wishes to use the tips has to book a slot. The reasons being site safety, better recycling figures and the staff having more time to help.

24/59. To discuss a winter plan and an update on the drains

The salt bins are fine and were used a bit today. They can be topped up next year.

Drains along Barford Road are still blocked with silt from the lorries that travel along it. Cllr McHugh has been helping many villages who have been suffering with flooding. Silt is a common problem with blocked drains and field run off and sewage. The drains are not up to spec and gullies across the whole ward are not being maintained. Inter connecting pipes are also blocked. Cllr Smith asked if there are rules allowing Parish Council's to pay private contractors to do the work. Cllr McHugh agreed to check and he will arrange a site meeting with Councillors to look at the problems.

24/60. To discuss the lighting of the defibrillator

The bulb has been taken out of the phone box which houses the defibrillator due to its brightness. Concern has been expressed as there are no street lights. Guidance from South Central Ambulance Service reads 'The AED cabinet should also be illuminated at night and whenever possible, exterior signs should have supplementary lighting'. It was agreed it is important it is lit for both villagers and visitors to the village. It was agreed to place a bulb with a lower wattage in the phone box.

24/61. To set the precept for 2025/26 (details circulated)

A precept sheet had been circulated showing estimated income and expenditure for 2025/26. Estimated income is £10,215.00. Although inflation is 2.2%, many every day costs will increase. It was agreed to increase the precept by 10%. It will be set at £10,086.00.

Action: The Parish Clerk to notify CDC.

24/62. To receive the Clerk's Report – circulated

Planning

New

- 24/02867/F, *Retrospective – Creation of concrete base and erection of 20 x 10 windowless shed with flat roof at The Old Vicarage, High Street.* Councillors to look at the online documents. The Parish Council to comment by 5th December.

Older

- 24/02520/TCA, *Tree work at The Old Bakehouse, Church Lane.* No comments or observations by PC.

Determined

- 24/02193/F, *Erection of outbuilding, for use as a wine lodge, ancillary to the main dwelling house, with associated works at Paradise Farm, Wigginton Road.* Granted by CDC.
- 24/01636/F, *Replace the current non-compliant extension in line with planning regulations. Addition of dormer window to front elevation to facilitate loft conversion to create an extra bedroom at 5 St Peters Close.* Granted by CDC.
- 23/00998/F, *Single storey glazed side extension, continuation of existing lean-to front extension with entrance canopy porch, along with single storey timber outbuilding at Fenbury.* Granted by CDC.
- 24/02744/TCA, *Tree work at Manor Cottage.* No further comments or objections by CDC.

Finance

To note the Pay Award for the Parish Clerk in line with the Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024/25

This has been approved and is applicable to the Parish Clerk on SCP 12, to be back dated to 1st April 2024, equivalent of 63p per hour.

The following payments were approved under statutory powers

£133.85 to CDC (dog bin emptying)

£36.00 to Sort It (website maintenance October)

£36.00 to Sort It (website maintenance November)

£330.00 to Nigel Prickett (grass cutting July)

£157.20 to Nigel Prickett (grass cutting August)

£387.60 to Nigel Prickett (grass cutting October/November)

£65.00 for the Royal British Legion wreath

£594.53 To Parish Clerk (hours)
£148.60 to HMRC
£54.00 To Parish Clerk (mileage)
£23.99 To Parish Clerk (expenses)

Correspondence

CDC Enforcement, Land near pumping station. The structure on the land remains despite the land owner being given 28 days to remove on 2nd October. CDC Enforcement visited again on 13th November. A planning application may be forthcoming to retain the structure.

OCC, School Applications for Reception (September 2025) – A poster is on the noticeboard. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2025.

24/63. Councillors Reports

There is a footpath to Barford which is impassable.

Action: The Chair to report.

The Chair has purchased a plaque for the Tree to commemorate the Late Queens Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

24/64. Public participation session (*Members of the public are invited to address the council. The session will last for a maximum of fifteen minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 3 minutes*)

A member of the public reported mud on the road from the lorries visiting the local soil business. He asked for it to be reported.

Action: The Parish Clerk to write a letter to OCC Minerals and Waste Department.

Another member of the public spoke about a few retrospective planning applications which have been put through the local Planning System recently. He asked if the residents should be reminded about work in a Conservation Area and the rules. It was agreed to include a map in the newsletter twice a year. He also noted the demise of Carrdus School at Overthorpe, just outside of Banbury. Do local primary schools have room for these children once the school closes? In other areas people are moving to catchment areas to have the choice of three schools. Cllr McHugh has written to the MP. Some staff have tied cottages and there will be housing problems.

24/65. To note meeting dates for 2025

21st January, 18th March, 1st April, 6th May, 15th July, 16th September and 18th November.

Meeting finished at 8.30pm.