

SOUTH LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, 27th OCTOBER 2020, 19:30

Present were:

- Nicky Brooks (Chair)
- Mark Walker (Deputy Chair)
- Lysette Nicholls (Parish Councillor)
- Martin Wilson (Parish Councillor)
- Eileen Mawle (Parish Councillor)
- Charles Mathew (County Councillor)
- Carl Rylett (District Councillor)
- Gary Nicholls (to discuss a proposal for becoming a Conservation Area)
- Martin Spurrier (to update on South Leigh Forest restoration)
- Dick Pears (to update on Mobile Phone Signal)
- Rachel Murphy (to update on Church Green)
- Tammy Heavens (Clerk to Parish Council)

The meeting was held via ZOOM - two additional members of the public joined.

1. Apologies: Graham Soame (Parish Councillor)
Dan Levy (District Councillor)
2. Declarations of interest: Eileen Mawle - Shores Green and Church Farm
Mark Walker - Shores Green
3. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.
4. Matters of concern from Parishioners: Covered under the agenda items below.
5. Matters of concern from County Council or District Council: Carl advised that a full WODC Council meeting was to be held on Wednesday 28th October to discuss motions that were in stages before the start of the pandemic. Carl Rylett also advised that the new leader of WODC was due to be confirmed at this meeting.
Charles Mathew advised that he was struggling to acquire any updated information on Shores Green. Charles advised that OCC are starting to work out the budget for the money allocated from the government.
6. Matters arising from previous minutes not covered elsewhere: None.
7. Constitutional Matters: Nicky Brooks re-advised everyone that all Parish Council information would only be communicated via their southleigh.info email addresses.
8. Payments to approve: as per spreadsheet issued to Parish Councillors.
9. Conservation Area: Gary Nicholls presented to the meeting an idea for taking the next steps in considering South Leigh becoming a Conservation Area. Gary Nicholls and the Conservation group would like to send an opinion poll to all South Leigh Villagers to get gather information on their thoughts for the village becoming a Conservation Area, in order to be in a position to present the outcome of the poll and present options for the next stages to the Parish Council at the December meeting. Gary explained that to have full options on the next steps, a Heritage Consultant would need to be appointed to advise on the best options to be proposed. The Councillors debated over the information given to date, and whether more information was needed before an opinion poll should be sought. After which Nicky Brooks proposed a motion where that poll would go ahead but only after the poll and any covering letter was approved by Parish Councillors. The motion was seconded by Lysette Nicholls, agreed by two further councillors. The motion was passed for the opinion poll to proceed under these guidelines.
10. Mobile Phone Signal: Dick Pears updated that since the report he sent earlier in the month that an update meeting with himself, Nicky Brooks and Robert Courts and the heads of the mobile phone companies had been arranged for 19th March. The Parish Councillors are extremely grateful for Dick's efforts and progress to date.

11. The Lymbrook: Lysette Nicholls advised she has met with a representative from the Eynsham Estates and walked the course and discussed the issues. Lysette has been assured that if evidence can be shown, then the Estate will look to remedy as much as they can, although any works will have to take into consideration the possibility of moving the issue to another area and that there are some areas that will always flood. Lysette reported that that the areas by the Mason Arms which had previously suffered with prolonged flooding, seemed to clear quicker on the recent flooding (3rd / 4th October) thanks to the clearing of the areas by Martin Collett.
12. South Leigh Forest Restoration: Martin Spurrier reported that holes had been dug for the 11 trees on Chapel Road and they will be planted next week. Nicky Brooks advised that one of the trees was to have a plaque installed for Phyllis Broom who has donated money to the fund.
13. Church End Farm: Rachel Murphy advised that they were on plans for submissions. Once the plans were ready for submission she would advise the Parish Council, for further discussions. She thought that some form of planning permission would be required.
14. Shores Green: Nicky Brooks advised that publication of information for consultation has been pushed back to January. Martin Wilson and Charles Mathew both suggested writing to the County Council with points that would directly affect the village and asking these to be taken into consideration during the planning process. Nicky and the Clerk to draft thoughts to pass to the Parish Councillors and then to forward to Yvonne Constance OBE, ahead of the report in January.
15. Tree Safety: The chestnut tree on the roadside opposite the church with significant die back is due to be addressed within the next two weeks by OCC.
16. Facilities updates:
 - a. The Phone Box: is no longer in-situ.
 - b. Playground: the works are complete and the new equipment and safety flooring has been installed. Thanks to Karen Wilson for all her hard work in progressing this project to completion.
Cottsway have been in touch with the Clerk and will be providing an update on the draft lease shortly.
17. Responses to Planning Applications: None.
18. Items to Note: Local Energy Oxfordshire(LEO)
19. Any other Business:
 - a. Martin Wilson advised that Ray Agg's house in Lymbrook Close is suffering from Lymbrook bank erosion. Lysette Nicholls will contact Ray and write to Cottsway on his behalf.
 - b. Mark Walker advised that the road between High Cogges and South Leigh is washing away and becoming dangerous. Mark will report via fixmystreet.co.uk
20. Date for the next meeting: 8th December at 7:30pm via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 21:16