

SOUTH LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, 16TH AUGUST 2021, 19:30

Present were:

- Nicky Brooks (Chair)
- Lysette Nicholls (Vice Chair)
- Graham Soame (Parish Councillor)
- Rita Sawrey-Woodwards (Parish Councillor)
- Dick Pears (Parish Councillor)
- David Auger (Parish Councillor)
- Melody England (Clerk)

The meeting was held at the South Leigh Village Hall - two additional members of the public joined.

1. Apologies: None received but no other officers were present.
2. Declarations of interest: Graham Soame with regard to April Cottage. He had given advice in the past but not with regard to the current application.
3. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.
4. Notification of change in post box collection times, from 09:0 and 16:00 to only one collection at 09:00. It was agreed to write to Post Office requesting 16:00 pick up instead.
5. Appointments of Melody England as Clerk and Tammy Heavens as Data Protection Officer were confirmed.
6. Payments approved and in line with budget.
7. A40 Consultation - Two Freedom of Information requests have been sent to O.C.C. asking for detailed figures, firstly for the proposed Shores Green junction and secondly for the recorded traffic movements through the village; reply deadline is 1st week in September. It was agreed that if there is not a satisfactory reply, we will contact The Press.

Meeting has been requested regarding the possible closure of the Barnard Gate road to South Leigh.

Lysette Nicholls to investigate whether these proposed schemes have to be approved by WODC planning department.

8. Conservation Area, nothing new to report.
9. Mobile phone signal - Dick Pears to send all councillors a copy of National Survey to complete.
10. Lymbrook and pollution - Thames Water are in the process of cleaning and repairing the sewage plant tanks. The works are due to continue to the middle of September. Rita Sawrey-Woodwards raised concerns that this does not solve the problems of overflow and pollution, larger tanks are needed. We are awaiting a reply to previous enquiries promised by the 20th August. It was agreed that we would raise the matter of the larger tanks then. Rita Sawrey-Woodwards outlined high levels of phosphate and nitrate in the Limb Brook in the July water samples. She reported attending a Riverfly Project training day; skills can be applied to monitoring the Limb Brook. Awaiting a complementary kit from Lucy Kennery.

Lysette Nicholls is liaising with four other Parishes, all with similar problems, it was agreed that we will act jointly to apply more pressure.

Lymbrook and Nature - The Council have cut the verges and the Northern part of the Village Green, the Parish Council are concerned that wild flowers hadn't had time to spread their seeds and several young trees/shrubs have been destroyed. Graham has contacted the contractors who have agreed to liaise with regard to timing of future cuts. There have been sightings of mink in the area which pose a particular danger to water voles. Traps are available. The Parish Council is looking for volunteers to site traps on their land, training will be given.

11. Flooding - Martin Collett has passed on a list of his concerns, Lysette Nicholls will action. Thanks were given to Martin for his input.
12. Facilities - Playground - Rospa safety report received and forwarded to Karen Wilson. There were no major problems that the report brought to light.

Football pitch - we are looking for new contractor to cut the grass on an ongoing basis, quotes are being sought. In the meanwhile the PC would like to thank all the villagers who helped in keeping the grass to a reasonable level

Bus shelter - it was noted that it had been decorated to a Summer holiday theme.

13. Planning matters - Tar Solar Farm - Jonathan Selwyn from Bluefield Renewable Developments Ltd. gave a presentation prior to them applying for planning. A copy of their presentation can be found [here](#). It was agreed that the Parish Council will have further meetings and negotiations with them to ensure this will have as little impact as possible.

No issues were recorded for the applications for High Cogges Farm and The Gables at High Cogges.

14. Speed Watch - to recommence in September, new volunteers are needed.
15. Boundary Commission - We are investigating the possibility of remaining in the current Parliamentary Constituency; meeting to be held with Robert Courts in September.

Rita Sawrey-Woodwards requested extra waste bins for dog poo bags and general rubbish and that roadside kerbs are cleaned, Nicky Brooks to contact the WODC.

Green Week - Rita Sawrey-Woodwards to liaise with Eynsham Nature Recovery group and use some of our 'green bus shelter' information.

Village Hall committee has requested consultation with Parish Council regarding celebrating the Queen's Platinum Anniversary in 2022. This was enthusiastically agreed.

Next meeting: Monday 27th September at 19:30 in the Village Hall.