

**MINUTES OF SONNING & SONNING EYE SOCIETY
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Held in the St. Sarik Room at 8pm

Wednesday 15 June 2005

1. PRESENT: Chris Clarke (CC), John Edmonds (JE), Dennis Mason (DM), Carole Barnett (CB), Brian O'Callaghan (BOC), Diana Coutler (DC), Nick Marks (NM) and Penny Feathers (PF). Also present Ken Henderson (KH) representing the Traffic Panel.

APOLOGIES: Sally Hughes (SH) and Lynette Padfield (LP)

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: These were agreed and signed by CC.

3. TRAFFIC PANEL: CC welcomed Ken Henderson and thanked him for attending. Ken said the last meeting to discuss the TCCG computer study carried out on where to put a bridge by S.Oxon/Reading/Wokingham had been cancelled. The next meeting would be 29 June in the Sonning Cricket Pavillion. Frank Brown had attended the previous meeting and said he had wanted to include an easier option. Results of this were awaited. Representatives of the Traffic Panel would attend the forthcoming meeting on 29 June and Ken thought Steve Chapman would also attend. The panel had not looked at the question of the Charvil Lane footpath.

4. PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT PANEL: JE reported that the panel had met on 13 April and were joined by Nick Marks and Pat Doyle. He recorded that he felt it would be good if a younger chairman for this panel could be found.

Old Walls. A new application had been submitted and most appeared to be in favour on this. The Parish Council's view was that the wall should remain.

Greendown. The situation looked as though it was calming.

South-East Plan. Another questionnaire had been received, but Sonning remained in the same category.

Russells field. There could be good news as it looked as though Blue Coat School would purchase the land.

La Farge. JE had heard no more about this. NM said he could draft a letter saying S&SE S were against this development as were the Parish Council. He would welcome JE signing this.

NM said that there were 17 hoardings along the riverbank by the Great House, which was very unsightly. JE said he would look into it and consider writing to WDC.

5. EDUCATION PANEL: DC reported that the programme of events for 2005/06 was more or less complete and would be promoted in the next issue of Bridge and at the Village Show. The deadline for contributions to Bridge was 9 July.

Guides. It appeared that there were 7 people on board and DC felt very positive about this.

Civic Trust Logo. This was now on the website.

Village Show – 10 September 2005. As before, S&SE S would be sharing space with the PA system. Clare Grove had offered a double gazebo. PF would provide written evidence of public liability insurance, which was needed for all stands. Could all panels submit a rota of who would be available to 'man' the stand during the hours of 14:00 – 16:30. Linked with the summer competition, which would be released in Bridge and be available on the web, a craftsman blacksmith had been invited to bring a travelling demonstration to the show. This could be a useful draw to the stand.

Woodyer Open Day – 11 September 2005. The Steering Group had met and the day had been registered with The Civic Trust. An expression of interest had already been received. A budget of £1,500 had been developed to cover costs of the day, including the production of a booklet. Not all of this would be recovered immediately, but sales of the publication would continue after the day. DM and the committee approved a budget of up to £1,500.

Social Committee. DC said she felt it would spread the workload if a Social Committee could be formed to handle the social side of future events, and organise some purely social activities. PF had agreed to coordinate this group and would approach others to join. **(Since the Executive Meeting, Carole Barnett, Carole Rose, Dennis Mason and Tony Swell had agreed to join this group and an initial meeting has been held. David Penny has agreed to be the speaker at the AGM. A full report will be given at the next Executive meeting).**

Oral History Project. DC said that sadly this hadn't progressed. She said that the British Library ran affordable courses on how to approach this, which included aims, objectives, interviewing skills and the equipment needed. The cost was £70 per head and she suggested that one or two people interested in taking this project forward be funded by S&SE S to attend. Cost of transport should also be covered, which would bring the total cost to approximately £100 per person. Perhaps the Fire Brigade Trust would be prepared to give a grant for this work. JE thought this was a good idea and CC said the committee would promote it and prepare a budget with the right person to take this forward. DC AND JE would liaise on this matter. KH said he knew someone from Phyllis Court who may be able to advise on suitable equipment.

6. CIVIC TRUST: Nothing new to report.

7. PARISH COUNCIL AGM: This was an interesting meeting with a lot of public debate, particularly about the proposed footpath in Charvil Lane. Some felt it presented a big safety issue and would need to be tarmaced and have lighting, which would begin urbanisation of the area. Numbered questionnaires had been sent out to residents asking for their views. When returned these were counted in the presence of independent observers. Robert Drew had been elected as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council.

8. SOCIETY NOTICE BOARD: DM would deal with this when the time was appropriate.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS: CB said there had been no new members, so the number remained at 204. She suggested giving a flyer to everyone visiting S&SE S at the Village Show. DC said she had spoken to Valerie Moncur about giving free newsletters to residents of the Alms Houses.

Footpath widening was being considered in High Street, over the bridge and in front of Pat Doyle's house. It was agreed to keep a 'watching brief' as it was necessary to retain access for fire engines, ambulances and delivery vehicles.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9:35p.m.

The next meeting will be held at 8pm in the St. Sarik Room on Wednesday 17 August. Please let PF have agenda items by Monday 15 August.