

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

Held in the St. Sarik Room at 8pm

Wednesday 17 August 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), Sally Hughes (SH) and Penny Feathers (PF). Also present Steve Robinson.

APOLOGIES: Lynette Padfield (LP)

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

3. TRAFFIC PANEL: SH said that at a recent TCG meeting, some people were still in favour of a north-eastern by-pass, which was worrying. The Parish Council representative didn't mention that 96% of residents were against this. She would write to the Parish Council asking that representatives present local views. The Model hadn't yet covered the affect on B-roads, and as the July deadline had been missed, there would be a further 5 years to wait. Pat Doyle had attended the meeting re: The pathway opposite the barns.

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. An application to knock a hole in the wall had been submitted. The Panel would write a letter opposing this.

Greendown. The application to build a house had been withdrawn. A nice letter of thanks had been received from Oscar DeVille.

Great House Hoardings. The District Council had refused permission for these.

Pound Lane South. A objection to this had been written, but no response had been received to date.

Dower House. The Panel had objected to an application for additional parking space. A similar objection to development on **West Drive** had also been lodged.

South-East Plan. Numerous questionnaires had been completed.

Russells field. Reading Blue Coat School wished to purchase the land for a rugby field, but this would be delayed because of the need to do a survey on the impact on the environment of the Great Crested Newt. This could only be conducted during the month of May.

La Farge. NM said a new plan had been submitted for treatment after the gravel had been extracted. The next meeting to discuss this would be in September when he would be away. JE said someone else should try to attend.

5. EDUCATION PANEL - DC reported on the following:

Village Show. S&SE S would be using the church's gazebo. Help would be needed to put it up at 11:30a.m. on 10 September. PF, CB, SH (and perhaps 2 others?), said they were willing to assist. Proof of Public Liability insurance would be needed. DM has the current documents and SH had received the renewal notice, which she gave to DM. PF and DM to liaise regarding this. DC asked each panel to provide a rota of those willing to assist on the day between 14:00 – 16:30. **Names need to be with DC by Monday 5 September.**

Woodyer Open Day – 11 September 2005. This had been advertised on The Civic Trust's website and the regional booklet would be available in libraries and TIOs. Most of the risk assessments and insurance notifications had been completed. Posters, free leaflets, exhibition boards, balloons and tea arrangements (social committee), were in hand. The proposed booklet was being edited. Tours had largely been sorted, but DC asked that the committee encourage members to participate. There will be a briefing session in the **St. Sarik Room at 8p.m on Monday 5 September.**

Stones of Sonning. Bruce Sellwood has an unavoidable family commitment on 2 October, so the date will have to change. DC will try to organise a new date in time for the Village Show.

Oral History Project & Guiding. Mary Chapman was interested in doing the one-day course at the British Library and would be ideal to run the project. It was agreed to only fund the course at the non-members' rate rather than take out institutional membership. Good material came out of the meeting of the guides in June leading to at least one article for Bridge (with hopefully others to follow). The Guides will meet again after the bank holiday weekend and will then broaden their scope.

Press Officer. Clare Grove would be resigning as Press Officer and DC asked for ideas about who to ask to replace her. It was thought that either Bart Guthrie or Pat Doyle might be suitable and willing.

Bridge. Copy deadline for Bridge and the Special Bulletin for the AGM is Friday 7 October. (DC and PF to liaise).

Both JE AND CC thanked DC for her hard work on behalf of the Society and said the last issue of Bridge had been excellent.

6. AGM – ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE: JE said that although he would be willing to continue as Vice-Chairman of S&SE S, he would like to stand down as Chairman of the Planning & Environment Panel. All other officers and members of the Executive Committee were prepared to continue. DC and PF would liaise about voting forms.

MEMBERSHIP: CB reported that there were 4 new members, the Guys and Fieldmores.

It was agreed that people joining S&SES are the Village Show would receive 15 months membership. The cost would be the same as before, and DM and CB would liaise about a standing order form. Renewal forms for those already members would

be included with the next Bridge. Perhaps distributors could knock on doors and ask people to sign?

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: PF said the sub-committee had met for the 1st time on 18 July.

Village show. CB and PF would help to man the stand and deal with membership applications and tickets for the AGM.

Woodyer Open Day. Pearson Hall was booked from 11a.m – 7p.m. CB and Carole Rose had met to discuss teas.

AGM. 11 September. As there will be little time to prepare the hall, it was agreed that the start would be 7:15p.m for 7:30p.m. To keep the time of the business meeting to a minimum it was agreed that all Panel Chairman would submit a report on their activities, which could be distributed with last year's minutes. David Penny had agreed to be the speaker, and had been asked to give emphasis to Sonning. CB and Carole Rose were speaking to Rachel Stansfield about the cost of catering. TM and Tony Swell will liaising about wine etc. The Occasional Licence had been applied for and a cheque for £10 paid. Publicity would be through Bridge and the website. Numbers for eating would be restricted to 80.

2006 – Garden Lunch. PF had approached LP who, in principle, was ready to consider the possibility of holding this event in her garden sometime in June.

9. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** DM distributed his report to all those present. Balance in bank as of August 2005 was £1,458.47

10. **CIVIC TRUST:** JE said there would be an all-day conference in Reading Town Hall on Saturday 1 October. The cost would be £22 per member. It was agreed that S&SES would fund 4 delegates. Please let PF or JE know if you wish to attend. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

11. **PARISH COUNCIL:** The next meeting would be on Tuesday 13 September. SH said she would attend. The following meeting would be Tuesday 11 October. CC said he could attend.

NM said Dunsden did not meet on a regular day, but he would find out the date of the next meeting and CC said he would try to attend.

12. **SOCIETY NOTICE BOARD:** DM said the brewery were willing to contribute towards the cost. CB suggested that Terry Hunt might be an appropriate person to approach about making the board. CC said he would speak to him. It was agreed that JE, DC and BM would look at the proposed site and decide on the size and location of the board.

13. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9:05p.m.

The next meeting will be held at 8p.m in the St. Sarik Room on Wednesday 19 October. Please let PF have agenda items by Saturday 15 October.