

MINUTES OF AN MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY ON THURSDAY 24th APRIL 2014

PRESENT: Crs J Standen (in the chair), Cr Crowley, Davies, Henderson, Howard, Johnston, Pasquire, Platts, D Standen, Tomlinson

In attendance: Mr G Steinsberg, Mr Krystian Groom of Curtin & Co and the clerk

53/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cr Kallie, PCSO Claire Smallcombe

54/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.
DISPENSATIONS: None requested.

55/14 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None

56/14 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 27th MARCH:
The minutes were **RESOLVED** to be a true record and were signed as such by the Chairman.

57/14 CLERK'S PROGRESS REPORT:

(a) **PLANNING ENFORCEMENT:**

- (i) Coal yard Thrupp Lane: The Vale had opened a file on activities on the site.
- (ii) Container: Enforcement's report was with the legal team.
- (iii) Shed: This had been delayed by the move to Crowmarsh, but a report was going to the planning committee on 17th April.

(b) **FINANCE:**

- (i) Lower Churchyard: The Justice Ministry had advised that a local authority might but was not required to take responsibility for a churchyard until it was legally closed.
- (ii) Pavilion: The TOE sponsored energy audit was booked for 23rd April.

(c) **HIGHWAYS:**

- (i) Station parking: OCC was not answering calls or emails on the matter. SCRAP noted that the parking situation on St James Road was becoming worse, but there had been no action since their meeting with First Great Western in January.
- (ii) SUGWORTH LANE: Highways had put a temporary hazard sign at the bottom of the road, but none of the potholes or broken road edge was marked for repair.

(d) **COMMUNICATIONS:** Radleyvillage.org.uk was now live.

58/14 POLICE MATTERS:

The clerk reported that PCSO Claire Smallcombe would be off work sick for some time and Cr Davies was asked to contact her senior officer to ensure that a stand –in was in place. He would highlight the parking situation.
Cr Davies was not able to attend the recent NAG meeting.

59/14 PLANNING MATTERS:

(a) **NEW APPLICATIONS:** None

(b) **OTHER APPLICATIONS:** None

(c) **VALE DECISIONS:**

- (i) **P14/V0004/LB:** Park End Kennington Road Relocation of garage, partial demolition of garden wall, single storey extension, internal and external alterations and new boundary wall. **APPROVED**
- (ii) **P14/V0302/HH:** 14 Little Howe Close: Proposed two storey side extension and

- single storey rear extension. APPROVED
- (iii) **P14/V0294/HH:** Wardens Bungalow Pebble Hill Erection of double garage (previously submitted application P13/V2309/HH to include external staircase and repositioning of front gable). APPROVED
- (iv) **P14/V0330/P11:** Radley operational land: Church Road: Installation of 25kV switching station. APPROVED
- (d) APPEALS: None
- (e) LOCAL PLAN:

The Council received proposals for changes to the Planning committee terms of reference and terms of reference for a sub-committee to take forward the Council's objections to the Local Plan housing allocation.

It was proposed by Cr Pasquire, seconded by Cr Johnston and **RESOLVED** that the Council would institute a Local Plan sub-committee, which would operate under the banner of "Save Radley Village". It was proposed by Cr Johnston and **RESOLVED** that the terms of reference should be adopted without amendment.

Mr Steinsberg reported that it was estimated that 40% of the objections to the local plan had come from Radley. The Save Radley Village group's stated objectives were to ensure:

1. Radley Village is actively engaged in the consultation process & has active input to the plans, giving proper consideration to the protection of the Green Belt.
2. The level of any new housing is drastically reduced from the proposed 710 to a level which is proportionate in relation to the rest of the Vale.
3. A sensible timeline is introduced which allows for any new developments to be fully integrated into the existing community.

The Parish Council added: "and if possible do not breach the green belt."

The group had concluded that it was essential to present an alternative plan.

Information from a senior planning officer was that if there was no plan in place any application for 200 houses would be rejected because of a lack of infrastructure and the overwhelming increase that would represent to the size of the village.

Crs Howard and Henderson had circulated notes of the Vale Scrutiny Committee meeting.

60/14 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- (a) FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION MEETING held on 10th April: The Council received minutes of the meeting and Cr Crowley presented recommendations on the budget.
- Provision for energy saving measures in the pavilion,
 - £2,000 for legal advice associated with the Local Plan and
 - £2,000 to support a sustained campaign. The committee had emphasised that the Council should not delegate power to take legal advice and legal action associated with the Local Plan.
 - The Sub-committee must account for all money spent.

Proposed by Cr Platts, seconded by Cr Tomlinson, the Council **APPROVED** changes to the budget: £2,000 for the Local Plan sub-committee (Save Radley Village) and £2,000 for legal fees associated with the Local Plan.

Proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Tomlinson, the Council **RESOLVED** to

add two extra signatories to the bank mandate.

It was **RESOLVED** that staffing matters should be taken in confidential session.

The Council reviewed the maximum financial exposure associated with any one risk and **RESOLVED** to adopt the risk assessment. It received the asset register updated to include the new bus shelter.

- (b) ACCOUNTS FOR 2013-14 and amended BUDGET FOR 2014: 15:
As proposed by Cr Johnston, the Council **APPROVED** the financial statement and the committee's proposals for changes to the budget.
- (c) ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT: As proposed by Cr Tomlinson and seconded by Cr Howard, the Council **ADOPTED** the following statement:
"We acknowledge as the members of Radley Parish Council our responsibility for the preparation of the accounts and confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the council's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2012, that we agree with the eight statements on the Section 2 Annual Governance Statement."
- (d) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: Councillors received the list of receipts and payments. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council should make payments as itemised:

Income:				
VWHDC		Precept 1st half	25,974.00	
VWHDC		Grant	2,319.00	
Expenditure:				
10/04/2014				
803	ST Grounds Maintenance	Clear ditch Empty play area bin	500.00	LG(Misc Provisions) Act 1976
804	Copycat Services	SRV - print letters	96.00	LGA 1972 s111
805	ORCC	Annual subscription	65.00	LGA 1972 s111
806	OALC	Annual subscription	459.43	LGA 1972 s111
807	Radley Village Hall	Rental for open meeting	39.00	LGA 1972 s111
24/04/2014				
DD	British Gas Business	Gas supply pavilion	10.03	LG(Misc Provisions) Act 1976
808	Mrs J E Dymock	Net Salary (April)	1,064.19	LGA 1972 s112
		Village cleaner (May)		Litter Act 1983/LGA 1972 s112
		Expenses (May)		LGA 1972 s111
809	HMRC	PAYE, NIC	144.22	LGA 1972 s112
810	OCC	Pension contributions	257.49	LGA 1972 s112
811	Berinsfield Community Business	Gardening	294.30	LG(Misc Provisions)1976
812	SH Lewis	Clean bus shelters	96.00	LG (Misc Provisions) 1953 s4

813	NALC	Local Council review	17.00	LGA 1972 s111
814	J Stoyle	Website upgrade and training	3750.00	LGA 1972 s111
815	Jenks Oxford	Tree planting St James Road, Whites Lane	636.00	LG(Misc Provisions)1976
816	Jenks Oxford	Tree works, Whites Lane	2216.69	"
817	John Huddleston	SRV - refund website costs	51.60	LGA 1972 s111
818	Cancelled			
819	Thames Water Utilites	Water supply allotments	25.93	Allotments Act 1950

(e) PAVILION: Discussion of the lease was deferred to confidential session.

61/14 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

(a) DISTRICT: Cr Johnston reported that:

- (i) The consultation on the emerging local plan had closed.
- (ii) The move to Crowmarsh had been completed and it was not without problems as it was more difficult for members to meet officers and the Vale had been left with very few places to meet leaving members to travel to Crowmarsh and causing a significant increase in members' expenses.

(b) COUNTY:

- (i) The Council had met in Banbury to make use of the meeting room's webcam and the meeting was duly recorded. The cost of adopting this as a permanent measure would be in the region of £30,000.
- (ii) Cr Johnston had regained access to £16,000 of highway funding and was spending some of this on weed killing in Selwyn Crescent and Ferny Close. He told the Council that Highways' official policy was one of "managed decline" whereby Highways would concentrate on the busier sections of the highway network and the more lightly used sections will receive no attention.
- (iii) The southern access to the A34 at Lodge Hill had been included in the Transport Plan so it could attract national funding.
- (iv) Radley should expect a short period of profound disruption associated with electrification. Network Rail would be using their high output train to pile drive stanchion base plates at the rate of a third of a kilometre a night. Cr Johnston would be briefed fully on the works and expected to have more information shortly.

In answer to a question regarding Old Abbey House, Cr Johnston reported that the Town Council had moved its offices to the Guildhall and the building could be sold.

62/14 HIGHWAY MATTERS:

- (a) STATION PARKING: It was agreed that the Council would complain in writing that despite assurances from OCC, their consultation had not yet been received.
- (b) SUGWORTH LANE: The Council would ask Mr Homewood to cut back the hedge opposite Bigwood.

63/14 THRUPP LANE ISSUES:

It was noted that Thrupp Lane Residents were running their own campaign against the Local Plan.

- (a) HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC: None.

- (b) ROMP: The Inquiry would re-convene on 13th and 14th May.
- (c) MINERALS AND WASTE PLAN: None.

64/14 CONSERVATION:

- (a) GARDEN COMPETITION: Cr J Standen reported that First Great Western had pledged a donation of £300 towards the competition. It was agreed that this should be accepted in the context of the hard work done by the Friends of Radley Station on station upkeep.
- (b) TREE WORKS: It was proposed by Cr Crowley seconded by Cr Tomlinson and **RESOLVED** that the Council should accept the quote by Jenks Oxford for tree surgery in Gooseacre.
- (c) TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS: The Council was asked to consider applying for TPOs on trees in the village. Cr Platts would write applications for the Council to consider at its next meeting.
- (d) MOTORBIKE NOISE: Crs J Standen and D Standen had visited the site during an event and reported that about 1000 people had attended. They noted that amplification had been arranged so that it pointed into the site and tracks ran in deep gullies but did face towards Radley.
Environmental Health would monitor the next event and measure the noise.

65/14 CORRESPONDENCE: The Council noted items of correspondence.

- (a) FOR ACTION:
 - (i) Invitation to join a Rural Sounding Board
- (b) FOR INFORMATION:
 - (i) ORCC's News Bulletin April 2014
 - (ii) Carers Oxfordshire Monthly Update - March 2014
 - (iii) SLCC News Bulletin
 - (iv) LCR Online: Bringing you the latest news - Power to Communities
 - (v) Invitation from Radley History Club - book launch The History of our Villages - Sat 17th May in Radley Village Hall 10 to 12.30
 - (vi) Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association Spring Newsletter – sent by email
 - (vii) Welcome to the PAF Public Sector Licence
 - (viii) OPT Awards 2014 for the Green Surrounds of Oxford and its City – invitation to nominate.
 - (ix) SCRAP: Update on the campaign 30/03/14
 - (x) Hill End family open day - Saturday 31 May 2014
 - (xi) Elections to the Council of Governors of the Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

66/14 MATTERS FOR REPORT:

The website was now live. The Council thanked Crs Pasquire and Crowley for their extensive input into the revamp.

67/14 CONFIRMATION OF THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

Ordinary meeting: Thursday 22nd May at 7.30pm in the Church Room.

Signed.....Date.....
(Chairman)