

MINUTES OF AN MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY ON THURSDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2013

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

In attendance: 2 members of the public and the clerk

153/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Crs Kallie (work), Davies (holiday) and Tomlinson (holiday).

154/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Crs J Standen and D Standen declared and interest in item 8d) as one of the cheques was for Cr J Standen.

DISPENSATIONS: No requests had been received.

155/13 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Mrs Handscomb asked the Council to consider making a grant to the Radley News. She explained that it just broke even that year and the cover price would have to increase to cover costs.

Standing Orders were suspended so that item 7d) Donations could be discussed at this point.

156/13 DONATIONS:

On a recommendation by the Finance and Administration Committee, it was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Henderson and **RESOLVED** that a donation of £300 should be made to the Radley News.

Proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Henderson, it was **RESOLVED** to make donations as recommended by the committee:

- Citizens Advice Bureau: £1,000
- South and Vale Carers Centre: £250
- Radley Youth Football Club: £300 as payment of a proportion of the annual supply of line paint.

157/13 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24th OCTOBER 2013:

The minutes were **RESOLVED** to be a true record of the meeting and signed as such by the Chairman.

158/13 CLERK'S PROGRESS REPORT:

- (a) **POLICE MATTERS:** The clerk had written to the neighbourhood team and again to PCSO Wright asking them to address parking on junctions and the bridge approach.
- (b) **PLANNING - ENFORCEMENT:**
 - (i) Foxborough Road: The officer had said that irrespective of whether the Parish Council withdraws its objection, he would not wish to set a precedent which could lead to a proliferation of buildings in front gardens along Foxborough Road.
 - (ii) Bullfield Lake: The clerk was asked to email an update to councillors.
- (c) **HIGHWAYS:**

The Pebble Hill replacement shelter and the replacement panel at Sugworth Crescent had been installed that day.

- (d) **FINANCE:**
 - (i) **Pavilion:** All minor items had been completed.
It was noted that there was graffiti on the far (west) end of the pavilion and that render around the fire exit door was damaged
 - (ii) **Website:** The Council received a weekly update from Mr Stoye. He was making good progress. Mr Surrey had returned website disks.
- (e) **CONSERVATION:**
 - (i) **Post box at Sugworth Crescent:** The clerk had contacted the Post Office and the local sorting office asking them to report the condition of the box. Cr Johnston noted that Kennington's experience was that it could take some time for the post office to repaint boxes.
 - (ii) **Land beside the Bowyer Arms:** Greene King had confirmed that the land next to the pub was not available for disposal as it was seen as a valuable asset.
 - (iii) **Village Hall trees:** Cr Platts would provide a specification for quotes to be sought. Trees in Whites Lane and St James Road:
Cr Platts has provided schedules for quotes for work to trees in Whites Lane, planting new trees and dealing with the sapling growing from the telegraph pole in Foxborough Road and the Council **RESOLVED** to seek quotes for the work.
 - (iv) **Town and Parish Forum:** Cr J Standen attended the meeting on 13th November and had come back with useful information on grants and permitted development which would be circulated.
 - (v) **Thrupp Lane Issues:** There was nothing further to report on the Inquiry

159/13 POLICE MATTERS: No issues were raised by councillors.

160/13 PLANNING MATTERS: Cr Johnston withdrew from the meeting whilst new planning applications were discussed.

- (a) **NEW APPLICATIONS:**
P13/V2467/HH: 2 Stonhouse Crescent: Replacement rear single storey extension. Rear two storey extension. New entrance porch **NO OBJECTION**
- (b) **OTHER APPLICATIONS:** For information only – No action required:
P13/V2499/D: Radley Lakes Pigging Station Radley Ash Disposal Site Lower Radley: Prior notification for the demolition of a single storey industrial building and removal of pipes and thrust blocks: **Noted**
- (c) **VALE DECISIONS:**
 - (i) P13/V1619/HH: Moving the current entrance to a different location on our boundary: Bayworth Manor West Lodge Bayworth (In the parish of Radley). **Approved** following the submission of additional information.
 - (ii) P13/V1951/FUL: Single storey 2-bed dwelling (Re-submission of application P13/V1676/FUL).(as amplified by additional section plan 13033.5r received 29 October 2013): 12B Lower Radley : **Approved**

161/13 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- (a) **EXTERNAL AUDIT:** It was noted that the external auditor's report on the 2012-13 accounts produced no issues which required a separate audit opinion.
- (b) **BUDGET AND FINANCIAL REPORT:** The Council received the financial statement to the end of October, projection of the position at year and the budget for 2014-15, along with notes on the budget, as reported to the Finance and Administration committee.
- (c) **PRECEPT:** Discussion was deferred to the next meeting, when the tax base for 2014-15 should have been received.

- (d) FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE held on 14th November:
- (i) SALARY: It was proposed by Cr Johnston and **RESOLVED** that the clerk should be awarded the 2013/14 National Salary Award for Local Council clerks of 1% backdated to 1st April.
- It was proposed by Cr Johnston and **RESOLVED** that the clerk should be awarded an increment once she had completed CiLCA.
- (ii) REFUNDS: It was proposed by Cr Henderson and **RESOLVED** that the clerk should be given a fixed monthly sum of £50 against which she would draw for extraneous expenses. She would account for the balance each month and the account would be reconciled at the end of the year.
- (iii) BUDGET 2014/15:

Memberships and subscriptions:

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Council should renew subscriptions when due to:

(In brackets still to pay in the current year)		
OALC		363.75
ORCC		65.00
OPFA		50.00
SLCC		(145.00)
ASHTAV		(25.00)
Open Spaces		(45.00)
CPRE		(29.00)
Information Commissioner		35.00

Cr Johnston refrained from voting as he was the chairman of the OPFA

Grants budget: It was proposed by Cr Platts, seconded by Cr Crowley and **AGREED** that the donations budget should remain at £3,000 for 2014-15.

- (vi) Precept 2014/15: The committee was minded to recommend that the precept should remain at the same level was noted.
- (e) BUS SHELTER SIGNAGE: The Council **RESOLVED** to accept a quote of £130 per shelter to install new transparent panels with lettering on the gables of the Pebble Hill and Sugworth Crescent shelters.
- (f) FINAL PAYMENT TO PENINSULA: The Council **RESOLVED** to make a full and final payment of £488.40 including VAT. The Council believed that Peninsula Graphite's conduct in this matter was tantamount to sharp practice and it recommended that other councils should be aware of the pitfalls of entering into such a contract.
- (f) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:
It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Platts and **RESOLVED** that the Council should make payments as itemised:

749	Jenks Oxford	Tree surgery allotments	180.00	Allotments Act 1950.
750	Berinsfield	Gardening	834.30	LG(Misc Provisions)1976
		Including cleaning		Parish Councils Act 1957
752	ST Grounds Maintenance	Empty play area litter bin	50.00	Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6
753	Oxfordshire PAT testing services	Pavilion PAT testing	65.00	LG(Misc Provisions)1976

754	Ms L Pasquire	Refund - website hosting	56.40	LG Act 1972 s111
755	SH Lewis	Cleaning bus shelters	72.00	LG (MiscProvisions) 1953 s4
756	Mrs J E Dymock	Net Salary (November)	994.16	LGA 1972 s112
		Village cleaner (Dec)		Litter Act 1983/LGA 1972 s112
757	Mrs J E Dymock	Expenses (November)	50.00	LGA 1972 s111
758	HMRC	PAYE, NIC	156.49	LGA 1972 s112
	OCC	Pension contributions	249.16	LGA 1972 s112
759	MRH Services	Minor pavilion repairs	116.88	LG(Misc Provisions)1976
		Play Area inspection		Public Health Act 1874 s164
760	SLCC	Annual membership	147.00	LG Act 1972 s111
761	CPRE	Annual subscription	29.00	LG Act 1972 s111
762	Berinsfield Community Business	Gardening	294.30	LG(Misc Provisions)1976
763	Peninsula Graphite	HR Advice final payment	488.40	LG Act 1972 s111
764	Mrs J Standen	Councillor petrol expenses	29.38	Local Authorities (Members Allowances)(England) Regs 2003

162/13 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

- (a) DISTRICT COUNCIL: Cr Johnston reported that the Vale continued to be quiet: About 400 OCC staff would be moving into Abbey House, with only approximately 60 Vale staff remaining.
- (b) COUNTY COUNCIL: Cr Johnston reported that:
- (i) Much was going on with the budget that would emerge in the New Year. He expected at least three budgets to be proposed and that the final budget was likely to be a combination of those.
 - (ii) There was no update on the ROMP at present or anything related to it. He expected to meet the officer responsible the following Monday, after which he would have more to report
 - (iii) He had attended a briefing on rail electrification. All was on course at present and electrification was expected to reach Oxfordshire by the end of 2016. A new high output train was capable of laying 3km per week. A question had been raised about the type of rolling stock which would be used and Cr Johnston reported that he might come back to the Council to ask them to lobby for newer stock on the line.

Re: Cr Johnston confirmed that the Abbey House move would result in a saving for OCC.

Re: Station provision at Oxford during redevelopment: Cr Johnston confirmed that the station would be completely rebuilt to address under-capacity, to cater for electrification and the East West link and Bicester connections. Temporary platforms would be used during construction works.

163/13 HIGHWAY MATTERS:

- (i) **CHURCH ROAD:** The Council thanked Cr Johnston for releasing some of his budget so that the new step could be provided. It would also thank OCC officers for their input.

It was noted that the pavement behind Catherine Close had been repaired.

- (ii) **RADLEY STATION PARKING:**

Contact with First Great Western and OCC was noted. Cr Pasquire reported that the press would be present the following day.

The Council confirmed its view that the village did not wish to see yellow lines installed for the sole purpose of forcing commuters to park in the car park.

Cr Johnston was asked to put pressure on OCC to resolve the matter.

Cr Pasquire reported that she had spoken again to the Department for Transport and gleaned that it was unhappy that FGW might set a precedent by rescinding parking charges. She had established that the DfT recoups grant funding through a percentage of increased footfall and a percentage of parking revenue.

The Council **RESOLVED** to continue to press FGW to review charges.

- (iii) **BUS SHELTER CONSULTATIONS:**

The Council received the few comments on the proposed shelters and read a letter received from the owner of 23 Church Road stating his objection to having a bus clearway and bus shelter outside his house.

The Council resolved that since the process had been started before the post office closed to resolve the problem of cars parking in the bus stop; it would proceed with the installation.

Cr Johnston was consulted in his position as ward councillor and he endorsed the decision.

164/13 THRUPP LANE ISSUES:

- (a) **HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC:** None
- (b) **PLANNING:** Cr Crowley reported his attendance at a Thrupp Lane residents' meeting.

Lafarge Tarmac intended to submit a VOSA site licence application for 3 lorries, their argument being that this would reduce vehicle movements, those and the beginning and end of the day being replaced by car journeys.

They also planned to submit an application for determination of permitted development rights for a new hopper which would be used for a new product. They stated that this would not increase the capacity of the plant but might increase production and would not make any contribution to mitigate the effects such as for road improvements.

The Council **RESOLVED** that it should maintain pressure for a road out of the back of the site. Cr Johnston was asked to keep the Council apprised of any developments on the site.

- (c) **RADLEY WETLANDS CENTRE:** Nothing further.
- (d) **MINERALS AND WASTE PLAN:** Cr Johnston reported that there was much going on behind the scenes which he would report as soon as it was in the public domain.

165/13 CONSERVATION

- (a) **BYLAWS:** It was proposed by Cr Johnston and **RESOLVED** that the Council should adopt Part 2 item 12 of the Model Byelaws relating to lighting fires as it was appropriate for the letting off of Chinese lanterns.
- (b) **LAND AT THE BOWYER ARMS:** It was proposed by Cr Pasquire and **RESOLVED** that the Council should apply for an improvement notice for the land.

- (c) **PLAY AREA REPORT:** Noted.
- (d) **RADLEY WETLANDS GROUP MEETING:** Cr Crowley reported that Russell Matthews had resigned as trustee and was no longer chairman of the Trust. The Trust had looked at the cost of managing Thrupp Lake once RWEnPower had made their last payment and the Trust would be looking for grants to make up the shortfall. The Council would refer them to the New Homes Bonus. The appeal against condition 7 of the planning approval was expected to be determined by the end of the year.
It was understood that officers thought that there was no point in resurrecting the Thrupp Lane liaison group until the Inquiry had been heard.
- (e) **RADLEY LIAISON COMMITTEE:** Crs J Standen, D Standen, Crowley and Pasquire had attended the meeting and reported that RWEnPower planned to clear the conditions on the restoration and would dismantle the pigging station. The footpath would be diverted for some time whilst water levels were manipulated. The fences must remain as they were built as a continuous unit. Pipes under the railway bridge would be filled with ash and sealed, as would the pipe under the river.
RWEnPower hoped to do a full environmental restoration, but OCC's demand for a 25 year after-budget was a sticking point.

166/13 MEETING DATES 2014-15: Meeting dates were agreed.

167/13 CONSULTATION: Notice of Community Governance Review: Noted.

168/13 CORRESPONDENCE: The Council noted items of correspondence.

- a) **FOR ACTION**
 - (i) High Sherriff's awards: Councillors were invited to make personal recommendations.
 - (ii) OALC training courses: Noted.
- b) **FOR INFORMATION:**
 - (i) NHS Choose Well Campaign article
 - (ii) **STEPPING UP: THE NEXT CREATIVE GENERATION:** Oxfordshire Association for Young People
 - (iii) Request for your thoughts on Fields in Trust
 - (iv) Weekly Email News Digest
 - (v) Rural Opportunities Bulletin
 - (vi) OCC: FREE Community-Led Neighbourhood Planning Conference at Exeter Hall, Kidlington on Saturday 25th January
 - (vii) SLCC Practitioners' Conference
 - (viii) Weekly Email News Digest - 11 November 2013
 - (ix) Rural Vulnerability Service - Transport (November 2013)
 - (x) Parish Online: Parish Online Events, Community Payback Innovation & Updates
 - (xi) ILC Open Day - Wed 4 Dec – Assistive Technology
 - (xii) Your Fields in Trust November update
 - (xiii) Weekly Email News Digest - 18 November 2013
 - (xiv) Reminder: A34 College Farm Bridge (Beedon): Full Weekend Northbound Closure (22 - 25 November)

- (xv) VHWDC Planning: Application number P13/V2130/HH will be considered by the council's planning committee on Wednesday 27/11/2013 – sent by email 19/11/13
- (xvi) A message from the NALC Chairman to all member councils on Council Tax Benefit Support Grant

169/13 MATTERS FOR REPORT: None

170/13 CONFIRMATION OF THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:
Thursday 19th December at 7.30pm in the Church Room.

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