

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 18 DECEMBER
2008 AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Cr J Standen (in the Chair)
Crs Crowley, Davies, Henderson, Johnston, Pasquire, D Standen,
Yorston
PC Jimmy May and three colleagues, for Item 222/08
Four Thrupp Lane Residents, for Items 223/08 (i) (a) and (b)
Mr Law, for Item 229/08 (a)

218/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Crs Dutton and Nutt.

219/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Crs Crowley and Pasquire declared a personal and prejudicial interest in activities, finances and the legal position of Save Radley Lakes. Cr Johnston declared a personal interest in village hall matters. Cr Davies declared a personal interest as a member of Radley Swimming Club.

**220/08 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 27
NOVEMBER 2008**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 27 November 2008 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman with the following amendment:

Item 204/08 should read: "... the Chairman indicated that she could attend ..."

Item 205/08 (b), sixth line should read: " by Cr Pasquire and **AGREED** in principle that the matter of ..."

Item 205/08 (e) should read: "... and the overall estimates for 2009/2010, it was proposed"

Item 206/08 (d) should read: "It was noted that the green on the top of the pond was not algae but a mixture of two species of duckweed. The Parish Council **AGREED** that it would not purchase duckweed control material, but would look for a source of water snails to see if this would help. The Bursar was asked to see if there was a source at Radley College."

Item 210/08: the sentence relating to Footpath 9 should be deleted.

221/08 CLERK'S REPORT ON BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

- (a) SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL PERSON:
- (b) LAND REGISTRY:
- (c) COPSE, CHURCH ROAD – AMENDMENT TO LEASE:
There was no further information on these three items.

- (d) LEADBITTER HOARDINGS – RECENT DEVELOPMENT IN STONHOUSE CRESCENT: It was noted that the hoardings had been removed.

- (e) PLAY AREA: It was reported that Playdale regarded the damage to the tube as misuse and therefore not covered under the guarantee. The tube was designed to be crawled through and not to be climbed upon, and the pictures sent by the Clerk showed that the tube had collapsed inwards from someone jumping on top of it. The cost of repairing the tube was £630 plus VAT, and the cost of replacement was £1,294.10 plus VAT. The damage to the tube was not regarded as dangerous to children so it was **AGREED** that this should be put on the agenda of the next Parish Council meeting to allow a decision to be made on the expenditure to be incurred.

- (f) NETWORK RAIL: No further information was available.

- (g) MOTOCROSS, CULHAM: The Principal Planning Officer (Enforcement), South Oxfordshire DC had been in touch and had indicated that Motocross could use the land for a total of 14 days each calendar year for the purposes of motorcycle racing. This included practice sessions and any days used for setting up and clearing up events. One note of caution – moto-cross had been held at Culham for many years. If they were able to demonstrate that they had used the land in excess of 14 days per calendar year for the past ten years, the use would become immune from any enforcement action by this council. This was different than the 28 days the Parish Council had been told previously, and the Clerk had asked the officer for clarification.

- (h) COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD: No further information was available on the provision of the community notice board.

- (i) PLAYING FIELD:
 - (i) FENCING AT BACK OF VILLAGE HALL: An estimate was being obtained and would be discussed at the next Finance and Administration Committee.

 - (ii) FLYGT PUMP: No further information had been obtained from ITT Water and Wastewater UK Ltd.

- (j) VALE OF WHITE HORSE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP – FORUM, 11 DECEMBER 2008: Cr Davies reported that he had been unable to attend the Forum.

- (k) **FUTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE VALE – CORE STRATEGY PREFERRED OPTIONS – WORKSHOP FOR TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS ON 22 JANUARY 2009:** The workshops were at the same time as the January meeting of the Parish Council, and Parish Councillors were asked to advise the Clerk if they wished to attend the Workshop. Cr Johnston reported that he would be attending as District Councillor and he **AGREED** to represent the Parish Council should no one else wish to attend.

222/08 POLICE MATTERS

PC Jimmy May attended with Adi Wright and Sue Bradshaw, the two Community Support Officers covering Radley, and a trainee. They introduced themselves to the Councillors and outlined the duties they performed, which showed that the area was not patrolled by just one person. PC May pointed out the difficulties experienced by the officers through the lack of dedicated transport, with the officers having to rely on bus transport or the limited availability of bicycles/cars. He outlined the crimes which had taken place in Radley over the last few weeks, which indicated that it was a low crime area, and reported that work would be undertaken in relation to speeding within the next two/three months. The Clerk would liaise with him regarding the details. There was discussion on a recent NAG meeting, and the public survey to be carried out, details of which needed to be clarified.

PC May and his colleagues were thanked for attending the meeting

223/08 PLANNING MATTERS:

(i) New Applications:

- (a) **CERTIFICATE OF LAWFULNESS (CLEUD)** for the Application for Certificate of Lawful Existing use and Development for the retention of the aggregate washing and sand classifying plants including ancillary conveyors, pumps, storage bins, storage areas, silt lagoons, equipment stores, buildings and facilities and their continued lawful use for the washing and processing of imported aggregates at H Tuckwell and Sons Ltd, Thrupp Lane: Mr Mike Wilson expressed the concerns of the Thrupp Lane Residents Association in relation to this application, and outlined the action being taken.

Parish Councillors considered the paper prepared by Cr Crowley, and **AGREED** that this should be submitted to the OCC as a preliminary response, indicating that legal advice was being sought. The Clerk reported that the OCC were unhappy about extending the deadline for comments until the end of January 2009, but had not responded to the request to extending the deadline until after the January 2009 Parish Council meeting. Manches Solicitors had been willing to meet representatives of the Parish Council to discuss this within the financial limit set by the Parish Council, but the Clerk reported that she had approached the Environment Law Foundation and they were willing to see if they could help within the timescale available. In view of this, copies of the paperwork had been submitted to them.

- (b) REVIEW OF OLD MINERAL PERMISSION AT THRUPP FARM, RADLEY – ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCOPING OPINION: **IT WAS AGREED** that the paper prepared by Cr Crowley should be submitted to the OCC with minor amendments.

Cr Crowley was thanked for the work he had undertaken in relation to these two matters.

- (c) GOODS VEHICLE OPERATORS LICENCE, CPL DISTRIBUTION, THRUPP LANE: The Clerk reported that the Thrupp Lane Residents Association had drawn the attention of the Parish Council to this application, which had been advertised in the local press recently. It was noted that other advertisements had appeared in relation to different firms over recent months. The regulations did not stipulate that Parish Councils had to be consulted but the Clerk reported that at one stage the DC had obtained comments from the PC on applications of this nature and she had asked the DC why this was not happening now. A response was required by the end of December 2008, and the Clerk was asked to repeat the comments put forward by the Thrupp Lane Residents Association.

The Parish Council was concerned that it was not being consulted on these applications, and the Clerk was asked to follow this up with the DC, OALC and Dr Evan Harris, MP.

(ii) Permission Refused:

- (a) RAD/3963/4-CM: The development of land without complying with condition 25 of the planning permission (RAD/3963 for the extraction of sand and gravel, erection of plant) and the variation of that condition to extend development for five years, H Tuckwells and Sons Ltd. The Clerk was asked to follow this up with the OCC Enforcement Officer to ascertain what action was being taken to stop Tuckwells undertaking work on site. If necessary, the Parish Council would need to take this up with the Local Government Ombudsman.

(iii) Misc:

- (a) 51 Church Road: It was noted that the Enforcement Monitoring Officer (Planning) had confirmed that the works were “permitted development” under part 4 of the allowances of the Town and Country Planning (General permitted Development) Order 1995. As such the works did not require formal planning permission as the temporary nature of the works would mean that the land would be returned to its former condition as it was before the works were carried out.

224/08 APPLICATION FOR TOWN GREEN STATUS – THRUPP AND BULLFIELD LAKES, RADLEY

The Parish Council was very pleased at the recent announcement by Npower that Thrupp Lake would no longer be needed for pulverised fuel ash following an agreement between Npower and WRG. Councillors congratulated Save Radley Lakes on the work it had undertaken over the last few years.

225/08 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (i) **DONATIONS:** The Parish Council considered the requests for donations and it was proposed by Cr Yorston, seconded by Cr Davies and **AGREED** that £1000 should be spent on donations in 2008/2009, as follows:

(a)	Abingdon and District CAB:	£300.00
(b)	South and Vale Carers Centre:	£250.00
(c)	Oxfordshire Association for the Blind:	£50.00
(d)	Oxfordshire Children's Information Service:	£100.00
(e)	Victim Support Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire:	£100.00
(f)	Radley News:	£50.00
(g)	Oxfordshire Carers' Forum:	£50.00
(h)	WRVS Emergency Services:	£50.00
(i)	Air Ambulance Berks/Oxon/Bucks:	£50.00
(j)	Sustrans – towards reprint of leaflet:	£50.00

The Parish Council decided that it would not give grants to Root and Branch and Ryder-Cheshire Volunteers. It also considered the request for a donation from the Radley Swimming Club, but **IT WAS AGREED** that the small amount it would be able to give would not help the club out of its present situation and therefore no donation should be given. Cr Davies did not vote on this issue.

- (ii) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Henderson and **AGREED** that the following accounts should be paid:

(i)	Miss S E Raven:	£1,558.98
	Salary, December 2008:	£398.55
	Village Cleaner, January 2009:	£74.14
	Allowance for Use of Computer:	£250.00
	Expenses, 1 July to 30 September 2008:	£492.35
	1. Expenses:	£25.00

2.	Telephone:	£21.74
3.	Mileage:	£193.71
4.	Postage:	£43.20
5.	Stationery:	£103.14
6.	Photocopying:	£105.56

Expenses, 1 October to 31 December 2007: £343.94

1.	Expenses:	£25.00
2.	Telephone:	£21.74
3.	Mileage:	£98.62
4.	Postage:	£37.80
5.	Stationery:	£13.58
6.	Photocopying:	£82.67
7.	Cleaning Material:	£64.53

(ii)	Mrs K Sharp – Salary, December 2008:	£142.76
(iii)	Southern Electric – Sports Pavilion:	£48.21
(iv)	Thames Water – Sports Pavilion:	£98.94
(v)	Peter L Mansbridge & Son Ltd – Footpath 8:	£17,341.83

- (e) PRECEPT 2009/2010: The Council noted that the official request for the precept had been received from the DC.

226/08 CONSERVATION

- (a) LITTER: The Parish Council discussed the report prepared by the Clerk. **IT WAS AGREED** that there would need to be a priority list for the provision of additional litter bins and that:
- (i) The Clerk should obtain feedback from Mr John Rogerson on the areas from which he collected the most litter.
 - (ii) Cr Denis Standen and the Clerk would do a “walkabout” around the village to review the position.
 - (iii) An approach would be made to the Master-in-Charge of Rowing asking if the boys could collect litter on their way to and from the Radley College Boat House to help the Parish Council litter initiative.
- (b) CONSERVATION WORKING PARTY (NATURE): The Clerk reported that she was still trying to find a suitable date for representatives of the Parish Council to meet the firm who provided digital mapping system.
- (c) PLACES FOR PEOPLE – FOOTPATH 8: It was noted that the work had been completed satisfactorily.

- (d) **VILLAGE POND:** No further information was available in relation to the provision of water snails.

227/08 STREET LIGHTING

The Clerk reported that she had written to residents in properties around King's Close, asking for their views on additional lighting along the lines suggested by the Oxfordshire County Council. The OCC had supplied maps showing the position of street lights in Radley Parish, and had advised that, although the climate issue was changing the picture about street lighting growth, policies had not been set. One positive process the OCC was starting to apply in agreed locations after consultation was part-night lighting where specific units were switched off for approximately five hours (roughly midnight – 5 am).

This item would be put on the agenda of the January meeting so that the views of residents could be considered.

228/08 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr D Standen and **AGREED** that subject to minor amendments the Scheme should be adopted by the Parish Council from the 1 January 2009.

229/08 HIGHWAY MATTERS:

- (a) **SPEED LIMIT – RADLEY/SUNNINGWELL TURNS, OLD A34:** Mr Law, Coach House, Bayworth Manor, spoke to this item pressing for speed restrictions along the Oxford Road from Chandlings Manor. The Parish Council supported this request, and the Clerk was asked to write to the Speed Reference Group asking for serious consideration to be given to this request.
- (b) **POTHoles THROUGHOUT THE VILLAGE:** The amount of potholes throughout the Parish continued to be of concern.
- (c) **SUGWORTH LANE:** The condition of Sugworth Lane continued to be of concern.
- (d) **CORNER OF SUGWORTH LANE/OXFORD ROAD – OVERGROWN VEGETATION:** It was noted that the vegetation had been cut back.
- (e) **PROVISION OF BUS SHELTERS:** The Clerk was pursuing the provision of further bus shelters in this financial year.
- (f) **ROAD SWEEPERS:** This matter was being pursued.
- (g) **CYCLEWAY C5 – HAZARDS:** Cr Crowley reported that he had given the Clerk detailed information on the hazards along the cycleway.

- (h) LOWER RADLEY – SPEEDING VEHICLES: The Chairman reported the correspondence between a resident in Lower Radley and Radley College was noted.

230/08 MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS – 2008/2009

Deferred until January meeting

231/08 DATES OF MEETINGS 2009/2010

The Parish Council noted the meetings for 2009/2010.

232/08 PARISH WEBSITE

The Clerk reported that the monthly statistics had been received from Mr John Huddleston.

233/08 REPORT OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cr Johnston reported that:

- (a) District Council: The arrangements for the new shared services at senior management had taken a big step forward with the appointment of three strategic directors, these appointments being confirmed by both Councillors. There would be a 4.99% increase in Council Tax which would amount to an additional £5.00 a year on a Band D property. The DC was looking to negotiate a deal in relation to the Abingdon Precinct.
- (b) Oxfordshire County Council: Discussions continued on the budget for 2009/2010, but it was anticipated that there would be a 3.85% increase in Council Tax, which would amount to a £50 a year increase on a Band D property.

234/08 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) FOR ACTION

- (a) Parking at Radley Station: It was noted that there had been a complaint about the lack of parking spaces at Radley Station. The Friends of Radley Station had referred the matter to the OCC/Network Rail, but no response had been received in time for the Parish Council Meeting. Councillors indicated that it was possible to park in The Bowyer Arms car park with permission from the pub manager.

(ii) FOR INFORMATION

- (a) Vale of White Horse DC – Standards Committee, 15 December 2008
 - (i) Standards Committee, 15 December 2008
 - (ii) Parish Council Information Sheet
- (b) Oxfordshire Rural Community Council Review, Autumn/Winter 2008
- (c) TOE – 10TH Anniversary Report
- (d) Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust
 - (i) Health News, Winter 2008
 - (ii) NHS Dentistry in England
- (e) Office for National Statistics – Quarterly Vacancies Inquiry
- (f) Glasdon brochure, Winter 2008/09
- (g) ONCF Environmental Bulletins 4 and 11 December 2008
- (h) Local Council Review, January 2009
- (i) South Oxfordshire DC: Core Strategy – Issues and Options Consultation

235/08 NOTIFIED BUSINESS

NIL

Date:
Chairman

CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE, 18 DECEMBER 2008

The Chairman formally moved that the public and press be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that if they were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information relating to legal and financial affairs.

236/07 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 27 NOVEMBER 2008

The Confidential Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 27 November 2008 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman.

237/08 APPLICATION FOR TOWN GREEN STATUS – THRUPP AND BULLFIELD LAKES, RADLEY

The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting of the Working Party on the Judicial Review when Mr Alastair Wallace could attend so that full consideration could be given to the recent announcement by RWE Npower and how this affected the Judicial Review. This would be followed by a Special Meeting of the Parish Council to consider the recommendations of the Working Party. It was noted that Mr Wallace had indicated that there was a tight deadline as parties needed time to prepare the papers for the Judicial Review Hearing, and the Clerk was asked to ascertain the deadline to ensure the Parish Council meetings were held to fit in with this.

238/08 CLERK'S CONTRACT AND GRADING

The Clerk left the meeting. The Parish Council considered the note of the meeting between the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee and **AGREED** the following recommendation:

- (a) The grading of the Clerk should be changed from Grade LC1, Point 22, to LC2, Point 29. This meant an increase from £6,282 per annum to £7,891 per annum based on her contract of twelve hours a week on the 2008/2009 salary scales.
- (b) The regrading should take place from 1 January 2009.

In addition, from 1 April 2009, the Parish Council **AGREED** to pay fifteen hours a week, and in September/October 2009, the Parish Council should consider an honorarium to cover the exceptional situation of recent times. **IT WAS AGREED** that there was no requirement for the Clerk to keep a log of hours spent.

The Clerk was informed of the decision which she accepted with thanks.

Date:

Chairman