

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 22 OCTOBER  
2009 AT 7.30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr J Standen (in the Chair)  
Crs Crowley, Henderson, Johnston, Nutt, Rogers, D Standen, Yorston  
Mr Tim Law (for part of the meeting)

**157/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Crs Davies, Dutton, Pasquire, County Councillor Fatemian and PC Bryant.

**158/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cr Crowley declared a personal and prejudicial interest in activities, finances and the legal position of Save Radley Lakes and a personal interest in the account being paid to him.

**159/09 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Mr Tim Law spoke to the Parish Council about the need to press for a reduced speed limit along the Oxford Road – see Minute 166/09 (c).

**160/09 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 24  
SEPTEMBER 2009**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 24 September 2009 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments:

Minute 142/09 (f) (i), penultimate line should read: "... write to Mr and Mrs Harpwood and Mr and Mrs Talboys,"

Minute 142/09 (f) (iii), first paragraph, seventh line should read: "... agreed to recalculate ..."

Minute 142/09 (f) (iii) first line should read: "... next meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee ..."

Minute 142/09 (g) (i) fourth line should read: "... and a double decker ..."

Minute 147/09 (a) penultimate line should read: "... but had not got a date ..."

Minute 152/09, last line should read: "... the Centenary of the Girl Guides."

## 161/09 CLERK'S REPORT ON BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

- (a) COPSE – CHURCH ROAD: The paperwork had been returned to the solicitor, but nothing further had been heard from her.
- (b) COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD: Work continues on the community notice board.
- (c) VILLAGE POND: The Village Pond Management Committee was meeting on Tuesday, 10 November 2009, to review the work required on the pond site.
- (d) LAND ISSUES:
  - (i) LAND AROUND FIELDHOUSE AND SUGWORTH FARM, SUGWORTH LANE: It was noted that the DC Enforcement Monitoring Officer (Planning) had visited twice and a letter had been sent to the owner on the 28 September 2009, telling him that the engineering works, bund, hard standing and lake, and use of the field for moto-X all required planning permission, but as this was in the Green Belt it would not be forthcoming. The owner had been given 28 days from the 28 September 2009 to remove/reinstate and cease work, and the DC would keep the Parish Council informed of any action taken. Cr Johnston indicated that the DC was taking this matter seriously and he outlined the action to be taken should enforcement action be necessary, an action which could take up to six months.
  - (ii) TRIANGLE OF LAND – JUNCTION BY 33 LOWER RADLEY: Oxfordshire Highways was not happy for the Parish Council to take on the maintenance of this land, although the Parish Council had been asked if it wanted to look after the triangle of land outside 52 Lower Radley. The Parish Council decided not to pursue this further, and the Clerk was asked to let Mr Martin Wilson know the position.
- (e) FINANCIAL MATTERS:
  - (i) BUS SHELTERS: It was noted that the OCC had a contract with Bus Shelters Ltd (the firm which provided the bus shelters at Sugworth Crescent and Pebble Hill) and the OCC was happy for the Parish Council to take advantage of the OCC's negotiated rates. The cost of a bus shelter with a half end panel at both ends would cost £2,863.70 inclusive of installation. The Clerk would pursue this, but it was noted that the footway would not be wide enough for half end panels.

Councillors noted that the OCC has provided a bus shelter outside Radley College.
  - (ii) PEBBLE HILL BUS SHELTER: Cr D Standen **AGREED** to speak to the landowner to see if the trees bordering the highway could be cut back in such a way to provide better visibility for those waiting for buses in the brick-built bus shelter.

- (iii) JUDICIAL REVIEW: Councillors received the sealed Consent Order and the Statement of Reasons and noted the details of the final bill which had been received from Alastair Wallace.
- (f) FOOTPATH 8:
  - (i) No reply had been received from the OCC Field Officer on the suggested wording for the notice regarding cycling along the path.
  - (ii) It was understood that P Mansbridge and Son was applying for a temporary closure order for Footpath 8, and was not able at the moment to give a date when the work would be undertaken.
- (g) ABINGDON MARATHON, 18 OCTOBER 2009: There had been a complaint about the lack of information on road closures in relation to this event. The OCC Traffic Technician had indicated that the OCC did not post notices for this event as the use of public roads lasted such a short time that it was doubtful if the cost of diversion signs etc could be justified. He indicated that in previous years the Abingdon Marathon Organising Committee put up notices on the route of the marathon which just advertised the fact that the marathon was taking place, but this year they put out road closure notices. He would be following this up with the organisers.

#### **162/09 POLICE MATTERS**

- (a) RURAL ABINGDON NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING UPDATE, AUGUST 2009: It was noted that PCSO Wright would be contacting the primary school to arrange a cycle safety talk.
- (b) NAG SURVEY: The Clerk was trying to ascertain when the NAG analysis would be available.
- (c) DAMAGED TREE, WHITES LANE: An insurance claim had been made for the damaged tree.
- (d) SPEEDING – KENNINGTON ROAD: It was understood that the police would be carrying out speed checks in the near future. There had been detailed email correspondence with Mrs Ashton, and this had been copied to Oxfordshire Highways and the police.
- (e) RECENT BURGLARIES: PC Bryant had reported that there had been no further lines of enquiry regarding the shop burglary so this had been filed pending any further evidence coming to light. In relation to the vicarage burglary, enquiries were ongoing.

- (f) **FOOTPATH 9/THRUPP LAKE – PROBLEM WITH MOTORCYCLISTS/WATER SPORTS/SHOOTING OF WILDFOWL:** The problems regarding motorcyclists along Footpath 9 and shooting of wildfowl and water sports at Radley Lakes were discussed. The Police were keeping an eye on the motorcyclists using Footpath 9, and it was noted that Mr Curtis had agreed to put notices up on his land banning motorcyclists. It was suggested that police telephone numbers should be included on the notices, and Mr Curtis would be informed of this suggestion. RWE Npower was concerned about the unauthorised use of Thrupp Lake for water sports, and was following this up as a matter of urgency. The Clerk was asked to write to the RSPB to ascertain the position regarding the shooting of wildfowl in an area where there were protected species of birds.
- (g) **MOTORCYCLISTS – BEHIND STONHOUSE CRESCENT:** This continued to be a problem.
- (h) **THAMES VALLEY POLICE – CAMPAIGNS:** The following campaigns were noted:
  - (i) Alcohol Awareness Week 19-23 October 2009
  - (ii) Halloween week/Not in my Neighbourhood Week 2-6 November 2009
- (i) **FOOTPATH 8:** The Clerk was asked to report to the police that motorcyclists had been seen using this footpath.

**163/09 PLANNING MATTERS:**

- (i) **New Applications:**
  - (a) RAD/4045/2 – Erection of a rear conservatory, 16 St James Road: No comments, subject to neighbours' comments.
- (ii) **Misc:**
  - (a) **NETWORK RAIL – RAILWAY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM, SITING OF MAST:** The DC Planning Department had confirmed that the works proposed did not require planning permission as it was permitted development under Class A Part 17 of the General permitted Development Order 1995. Network Rail had been informed of this.
  - (b) **TUCKWELLS CLEUD APPLICATION:** The Parish Council noted the letter Mr Chris Hodgkinson, the OCC Senior Planning Enforcement Officer, had written to Tuckwells, and that a Planning Contravention Notice should be issued within a week. A further up-date on the position would be given by the 30 October 2009.
  - (c) **TARMAC CLEUD:** The Clerk was asked to write to the DC to clarify what activity could take place at the site, and whether the activity level was restricted

to that in place when the CLEUD was issued. It was not understood why this application for a CLEUD had been dealt with by the DC.

- (d) VALE OF WHITE HORSE DC – CONSULTATION DOCUMENT ON REFERRAL OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO THE DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE: The Parish Council considered this document and decided not to make any comments.
- (e) PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL PLANNING EVENING, 18 NOVEMBER 2009: Crs Crowley, Rogers and D Standen **AGREED** to attend this meeting.

#### **164/09 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- (a) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Rogers and **AGREED** that the following accounts should be paid. As one of the cheques was for Cr Crowley, he did not participate in the voting.

1. Account paid in between meetings:

- (a) Radley Village Hall Management Committee – Hire of Hall: £10.00

2. Accounts to be paid:

- (a) Miss S E Raven: £745.44
  - Salary September 2009: £659.46
  - Village Cleaner September 2009: £85.78
- (b) Mrs K Sharp – Salary September 2009: £146.68
- (c) Post Office Ltd (for HM Revenue & Customs) – Income Tax/NI: £630.40
- (d) BDO Stoy Hayward LLP – External Audit: £494.50
- (e) Mr J Huddleston – Reimbursement of Website Hosting Renewal: £57.49
- (f) Abingdon and Vale Pest Control Service Ltd – Wasp Nest, Sports Pavilion: £57.50
- (g) SLCC – National Conference 2009 (Day Delegate): £34.50
- (h) Lockwood Plumbing, Heating and Gas Services Ltd – Servicing of gas appliances, Sports Pavilion/ Repair of ball valves: £316.25
- (i) Berinsfield Community Business – Grass Cutting/Gardening: £267.90

(j)	Railfuture – Subscription:		£21.00
(k)	Cr Basil Crowley:		£51.23
	Reimbursement of Travelling Expenses:	£16.23	
	Photographs, Garden Competition:	£35.00	
(l)	Public Law Solicitors:		£8,190.54
	Mr Alastair Wallace’s fees:	£6,428.04	
	Mr Philip Petchey’s fees:	£1,762.50	
(m)	ITT Water and Waste Water UK Ltd:		£3,155.60

- (b) EXTERNAL AUDIT, YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009: Section 3 of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2009 (the External Auditor’s certificate and opinion) had been circulated to Councillors. This showed that the annual return was in accordance with the Audit Commission’s requirements. It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Henderson and **AGREED** that the report be accepted.
- (c) 2009/2010 NATIONAL SALARY AWARD FOR LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS: It was noted that there was a 1% salary award, and that there was a variation of conditions of service to 21 days of annual leave and 4 days additional annual leave after five years of continuous service.
- (d) SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS – CONFERENCE ON FRESH AIR AND EXERCISE – COMMON LAND, VILLAGE GREEN, RIGHTS OF WAY AND OPEN SPACES, MONDAY, 9 NOVEMBER 2009: It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Yorston and **AGREED** that the Clerk should attend this conference.

### 165/09 CONSERVATION

- (a) CONSERVATION (NATURE) WORKING PARTY: The notes of the meeting held on the 5 October 2009 were noted. It was noted that the Working Party were pursuing the preparation of a Community Landscape Character Statement for Radley, and a public meeting was being arranged for January/February 2010 to launch this initiative.
- (b) GARDEN COMPETITION: It was noted that more judges had reiterated the view that an earlier date would be to the disadvantage of bedding plants and baskets.
- (c) DOG BIN, SANDLES, THRUPP LANE: RWE Npower/Northmoor Trust was giving consideration to the placement of this bin. The Parish Council could not see any difficulty about this being placed at the Thrupp Lane end of Sandles.

## **166/09 HIGHWAY MATTERS:**

- (a) **THRUPP LANE – USE BY HEAVY VEHICLES AND THE GOODS VEHICLES (LICENSING OF OPERATORS) ACT 1995:** It was noted that the OALC Executive Committee would:

- (i) Support Radley and raise their specific case with NALC.
- (ii) Investigate the possibility of principal authorities being asked to notify parishes of applications. The OALC had a meeting of the Oxfordshire Partnership for Local Councils in November which would provide an opportunity to raise this point with representatives from the District and County Councils.

It was noted that a resident of Drysdale Close had written to Oxfordshire Highways asking if anything could be done about the amount of heavy traffic along Thrupp Lane. The position should ease once Veolia stopped using Thrupp Lane, but a letter should be sent to Mr Mike Gilbert, DC Planning, asking the position regarding the other businesses which had temporary planning permission.

- (b) **THRUPP LANE – OVERNIGHT LORRY PARKING:** There had been complaints from residents of Norfolk Close about overnight lorry parking opposite the entrance to Norfolk Close. The Clerk had asked the residents for more details on the lorries parking in the area, and had referred the matter to Oxfordshire Highways and the Police. It was understood that this was a furniture van which went to Dalton Barracks, but more information would be ascertained, i.e. the registration number and whether there was any name on the van.
- (c) **CYCLEWAY C5 – HAZARDS:** Cr Crowley would ascertain if the hazard had been removed.
- (d) **SIGN BY SHOP/SPINNEYS CLOSE BUNGALOWS INDICATING PEOPLE CROSSING:** It was not known if this sign had been installed.
- (e) **POTHoles:**
- (i) **CHURCH ROAD:** Oxfordshire Highways had reported that the damaged footpath had now been repaired. The Parish Council thought that this was a failed footway which needed major repair work. The request for edging out would be repeated. Additional funding (HAMP) had been requested for Church Road, but was very unlikely to be successful. The white lines would be repainted, and it was planned to give Church Road a surface dressing in the spring.

- (ii) LOWER RADLEY: It was noted that some areas had been marked for repair but Councillors could not understand the choice of areas for repair. The Parish Council were informed that there had been discussion on the provision of a footpath between the Lower Radley Caravan Park and Shaw's Copse, and **IT WAS AGREED** that the person interested in making this provision should write formally to Oxfordshire Highways.
  - (iii) RADLEY ROAD: This road had been marked up in places for repair, but not all the bad areas were marked.
- (f) FOXBOROUGH ROAD:
- (i) Foxborough Road had been inspected and Oxfordshire Highways would not be doing any repair work. The problem with sunken manhole covers and potholes had been raised, but these did not appear to meet the criteria for repair.
  - (ii) The width of the footway had been raised with Oxfordshire Highways. As previously, the officers had agreed that the path should ideally be wider, but there was no funding to carry out this type of scheme at this time. Schemes were assessed against the personal injury accident record and there had been no such accidents involving pedestrians in Foxborough Road in the last five year period.
- (g) SUGWORTH LANE: Extensive repair work had been undertaken in Sugworth Lane. Oxfordshire Highways had indicated that the main problem was that, because of the narrowness of the road, drivers used the verges for passing and a lot of the holes were actually in the verges not the highway. Oxfordshire Highways were looking into the possibility of signing indicating that this was a narrow road.

The Clerk reported that she had continued to have discussions with Oxfordshire Highways about the junction at the Oxford Road end of Sugworth Lane. They are looking at bringing the signs nearer the end of Sugworth Lane, and putting some details on the junction sign on the Oxford Road. Councillors were concerned about the number of notices clustered around the Oxford Road/Sugworth Lane junction, and it was hoped that it would be possible to review this. The danger of turning right on to the Oxford Road had been continually stressed, but Oxfordshire Highways had indicated that the accident rate showed no accidents in the last five years.

Mr Tim Law spoke to this item and asked the Parish Council to press for a reduced speed limit along the Oxford Road and the introduction of a speed limit on the road leading to Sunningwell. The Parish Council **AGREED** that it would request a site meeting with a representative from Oxfordshire County Council.

### **167/09 RADLEY LOCAL LIAISON GROUP (RWE NPOWER)**

- (a) MEMBERSHIP OF THE RADLEY LOCAL LIAISON GROUP (RWE NPOWER): It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Rogers and **AGREED** that Cr Pasquire should replace Cr Nutt on this Group.
- (b) REPORT OF RADLEY LOCAL LIAISON GROUP (RWE Npower), 28 SEPTEMBER 2009: The notes would be circulated to members of the group and an amended version would be circulated to the Parish Council at a future meeting.
- (c) MEETING WITH HARRY BARTON, NORTHMOOR TRUST: Councillors noted that the next Parish Council meeting would commence at 7 pm when a presentation would be made by Harry Barton.
- (d) APPLICATION FOR MODIFICATION TO THE DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT OF PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: This had been discussed at the Radley Local Liaison Group (RWE Npower) and with Harry Barton, and it had been agreed that this matter needed to be handled very carefully at a time when discussions were taking place with the landowners regarding their land being included in the wildlife area.

### **168/09 RADLEY VILLAGE PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE**

The notes of the meeting of the Steering Committee on the 19 October 2009 were noted by the Parish Council. It was proposed by Cr Crowley, seconded by Cr Johnston and **AGREED** that the Steering Committee should be asked to rename it as Radley Parish Plan Steering Committee.

### **169/09 PARISH WEBSITE**

- (a) DISABILITY CONSIDERATION: Discussion on the paper recently circulated to Councillors should be deferred until the next meeting.
- (b) STATISTICS ON USE OF PARISH WEBSITE: Noted

### **170/09 REPORT OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

- (a) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR:  
Cr Johnston reported that the Local Planning Framework was almost ready for publication, and that the Green Belt throughout the Vale would remain intact. Discussion was continuing on the harmonisation of Terms and Conditions of Service for Vale and SODC staff, and Unison would be balloting its members on this in a few days.
- (b) COUNTY COUNCILLOR: No report was available.

### **171/09 CORRESPONDENCE**

(i) **FOR ACTION**

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council:
- (a) Use of Road Safety Team's Mobile Information Unit: This would be referred to the Village Fete Committee and Radley College.
  - (b) Bus Routes 31 and X30 between Wantage and Oxford – Formal Bus Stop Markings – Consultation: The Parish Council was happy with the suggested changes to the bus stop markings at the bus stops on the Oxford Road by Sugworth Lane
- (b) Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils – Members Update, September 2009: Councillors noted that a revised copy of Legal Topic Note 31 on Section 137 had been received
- (c) Oxford Green Belt Network – AGM, 11 November 2009, at 7.30 pm, in Begbroke Village Hall: It was not possible for Radley Parish Council to be represented.
- (d) Oxfordshire Rural Community Council: Extraordinary General Meeting and adjourned Annual General Meeting, 9 November 2009, at 1.30 pm, Jericho Farm, Worton: It was not possible for Radley Parish Council to be represented.
- (e) Requests for Donations:
- Sue Ryder Care – The Nettlebed Hospice
  - Abingdon and District CAB
- These requests would be referred to the Finance and Administration Committee.
- (f) DOG WALKING, GOOSEACRE PLAYING FIELD: The Parish Council discussed the difference in policy in relation to dog walking on the playing field in Radley and the playing fields in Kennington. The Kennington playing fields had a much larger area of land surrounding the playing areas and had footpaths around the periphery of some of the playing areas. **IT WAS AGREED** that the policy regarding dog walking at Gooseacre Playing Field should not be changed, and that a dog notice should be provided between the Thrupp Lane Playing Field and Gooseacre.

(ii) **FOR INFORMATION**

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council – Oxfordshire Road Casualty Report 2009
- (b) Vale of White Horse DC – Adoption of local red telephone kiosks
- (c) Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust – Health News, No. 3 2009
- (d) RailWatch, October 2009

- (e) ASHTAV, October 2009
- (f) Oxfordshire Nature Conservation Forum's Weekly Environmental E-Bulletin, 24 September 2009, 1, 8 and 15 October 2009
- (g) Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association Newsletter, Autumn 2009
- (h) Open Space, Autumn 2009
- (i) Glasdon: Latest Products for Local Councils, Autumn 2009
- (j) Children's Play Ground Equipment – Kompan and Timberline

**172/09 NOTIFIED BUSINESS**

NIL

**173/09 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION FOR PRESS RELEASE**

A report should be put on the website expressing the Parish Councils disapproval at the jet skiing on Thrupp Lake, and unhappiness at the shooting taking place which could affect protected species of birds.

Date: .....  
.....  
Chairman

**CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE, 22 OCTOBER 2009**

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.

**174/09 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF  
PARISH COUNCIL, 24 SEPTEMBER 2009**

The Confidential Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 24 September 2009 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman.

Date: .....  
Chairman