

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 24  
SEPTEMBER 2009 AT 7.30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr J Standen (in the Chair)  
Crs Crowley, Davies, Dutton, Henderson, Johnston, Nutt, Pasquire, D  
Standen, Yorston  
County Councillor Arash Fatemian  
Three Members of the Thrupp Lane Residents Association (for part)

**138/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cr Rogers and PC Bryant.

**139/09 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.

**140/09 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Mr Mike Wilson spoke to the Parish Council regarding enforcement action in relation to the Tuckwells site, asking the Parish Council to press the OCC to take enforcement action as soon as possible. He thanked the Parish Council for its support in issues affecting Thrupp Lane. See Minute 144/09 (iii) (a) for Parish Council discussion.

**141/09 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 23  
JULY 2009**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 23 July 2009 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments:

Minute 122/09 (d), last line should read: "... to discuss this further."

Minute 125/09 (b) (x), last line should read: "Food"

Minute 126/09 (d) (iv) should read: "... Mr Chris Mason, Chairman of the Kirtlington Wildlife and Conservation Society,"

Minute 127/09 (b) should read: "... Abingdon to Boars Hill ..." "...There was no mention of the changes to the ...."

Minute 128/09, third sentence should read: "Cr Crowley reported on the type of flora on site, mentioning the New Zealand Pygmy Weed and a number of rare

plant species.”

Minute 132/09 (b) (iii) should read: “There was discussion on the possibility of a 20 mph speed limit past the Primary School,”

#### **142/09 CLERK’S REPORT ON BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

- (a) **COPSE – CHURCH ROAD:** It was noted that Julia Kent, the Parish Council solicitor, had not been able to trace the lease signed and returned to Radley College and, as she needed this to register it at the Land Registry, the Parish Council had been asked to sign a duplicate lease. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Chairman and Cr Crowley should sign the lease.
- (b) **COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD:** This was being renovated.
- (c) **GOODS VEHICLE OPERATORS LICENCES - THRUPP LANE:** It was noted that the Thrupp Lane residents had drawn attention during August to an application from Brian K Winterbourne for a Goods Vehicle Operators Licence and, on behalf of the Parish Council, the Clerk had submitted concerns about road safety along Thrupp Lane by the use of heavy good vehicles to the Traffic Commissioner. The Clerk had been informed that the Parish Council was not able to make representations. The Thrupp Lane residents had also been told that their representation was invalid as they had not sent a copy of their letter to the applicant, although their letter was general remarks about the condition of Thrupp Lane.

The Clerk reported that she had discussed this again with officers at the District Council and had written to Oxfordshire Highways to ascertain what action it took in relation to these applications, stressing that it was fully aware of the Parish Council views on road safety along Thrupp Lane. It was understood that the OCC Development Control Department had made comments on these applications, and a copy of their response to the latest application had been requested. In addition, copies of all correspondence had been sent to the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils and Dr Evan Harris, MP.

- (d) **VILLAGE POND – FENCING:** The fencing had been fitted and a meeting of the Village Pond Management Committee was being arranged to see what work needed to be done in relation to the condition of the area.
- (e) **LAND ISSUES:**
  - (i) **LAND AROUND FIELDHOUSE AND SUGWORTH FARM, SUGWORTH LANE:** A visit had been made by the DC Enforcement Officer to the site on 22 April 2009 when the residents were not available, and the DC had confirmed that a follow up visit would be made shortly. Cr Nutt and Mr King had offered to meet the DC Enforcement Officer on site, but the Clerk had been told that it was not considered beneficial to arrange a site meeting at this stage. Cr Johnston **AGREED** to follow this up with the District Council.

- (ii) **PATH – TOP OF TURNERS CLOSE TO STONHOUSE CRESCENT:**  
It was understood from Mr Bill Henderson, Director of Housing Services at the Vale Housing Association that the solicitor acting for Gooseacre Farm had not been in touch for a number of months. Mr Henderson felt the information supplied by the Parish Council could be very useful.
  - (iii) **COMMONS LANE, LOWER RADLEY:** The Land Registry had not been able to help the Parish Council ascertain the ownership of the area around Commons Lane, Lower Radley, as the area did not define the extent of the land in any registered title. The Land Registry had suggested that the Parish Council might wish to refer to the individual register and title plan of any adjoining titles for details of the surrounding registered estates and their general and/or determined boundaries. An illustrative plan of this nature would cost £250, and the Parish Council **AGREED** not to pursue this.
  - (iv) **TRIANGLE OF LAND – JUNCTION BY 33 LOWER RADLEY:** The Clerk had found an old plan showing the grass cutting areas within Radley Parish which indicated that Oxfordshire Highways looked after the triangle of land and the hedge at the back of the triangle. A copy of this plan had been sent to Oxfordshire Highways for clarification.
- (f) **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**
- (i) **BUS SHELTERS:** An application for a new bus shelter in the lay-by on the Oxford bound side of Foxborough Road (by New Road) had been prepared. The Parish Council considered that the OCC should undertake the consultation with the residents, but the Clerk was asked to write to Mr and Mrs Harpwood and Mr and Mrs Talboys, indicating that an application had been made for a bus shelter.
  - (ii) **PEBBLE HILL BUS SHELTER:** Cr Henderson reported that he had inspected the brick built bus shelter and it was in a satisfactory state. The Clerk reported that Oxfordshire Highways had been asked if the trees on either side of the bus shelter could be trimmed as it was very difficult for people using the bus shelter to see if buses were coming.
  - (iii) **PLAYING FIELD EXPENDITURE:** The Clerk reported that she had checked the readings over six financial years from 2003/2004 to 2008/2009, and the average reading over the six year period was 2558. The figures varied because of the dates of the confirmed readings, and the bill for the first quarter was large because a confirmed reading had not been taken between September 2008 and June 2009. Southern Electricity had agreed to recalculate the figures used for estimated bills, and advised that meter readings were checked over five days to ensure the meter was working correctly. This had been done, and the Clerk would ensure there was a confirmed reading at the beginning and end of each financial year. There was discussion on the unnecessarily large freezer supplied by the football club, and Cr Nutt **AGREED** to discuss this with Mr Stuart Sharp, the Secretary of the Radley Youth Football Club.

This would be put on the agenda of the next meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee in November so that consideration could be given to the cost of running the sports pavilion and the playing field.

- (iv) ESTIMATES – GOOSEACRE PLAYING FIELD/FOOTPATH 8: The estimates provided by Berinsfield Community Service for clearing the ditch behind the sports pavilion, the periphery of the playing field, and cutting back both sides of Footpath 8 had been accepted and some work undertaken. However, a site meeting was going to be held to inspect the work before the bill was paid. A second estimate had been received for the clearance of the ditch, and this would be put to the Finance and Administration Committee.
- (v) PLANTING HEDGING ALONG THE NEW WOODEN FENCING, RADLEY ROAD: Berinsfield Community Service had queried if the Parish Council required one type of bush, i.e. rosa rugosa, or a mixed hedge, such as a 90 foot mixed hedge, with plants 40-90cm tall, double staggered row. 70 hawthorn, 12 each of the pink and white rosa rugosa, 12 hazel, 12 cornus and 12 blackthorn, plus canes and spiral guards. The Parish Council **AGREED** to a mixed hedge, but without the blackthorn bushes. It was noted that planting could take place early to mid-December so this should fit in with the repair work to Footpath 8 and the possible removal of the new fencing.
- (vi) JUDICIAL REVIEW: It was noted that Mr Wallace had received sealed copies of the Consent Order which brought the case to an end, but the Court had not sealed and returned the Statement of Reasons. Mr Wallace had followed this up with the Court which had stated that there was no need for the Statement of Reasons to be sealed by the Court. Mr Wallace was now happy about this, and would be getting the final bill to the Parish Council.
- (g) ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, FRIDAY, 8 MAY 2009:
  - (i) USE OF DOUBLE DECK BUSES: It was noted that double deck vehicles remained the spare options for all the Oxford Bus Company services. For the time being the standard allocation for the 35 route was the single deck Mercedes vehicles, and a double decker was only allocated where there was no other option. The bus company had indicated that there was no difference in weight between the single deck and double deck vehicles and the fuel economy pressures meant that the newer ones were more likely to be lighter.
  - (ii) FOOTPATH 8: It was noted that Mark Sumner, the OCC Field Officer, had indicated that the route was a footpath and formed part of the Sustrans Cycle Route No. 5. Councillors did not think that this was the case as the signposted route was along Thrupp Lane. The Parish Council noted that Mark Sumner would be putting a footpath fingerpost at the western end of Footpath 8 to reaffirm the fact that the right of way was a footpath, and that he was happy for the Parish Council to attach a

sign stating that the cyclists must give way to walkers. The Parish Council agreed some wording which the Clerk would clear with Mark Sumner.

- (iii) **STREET LIGHT POLLUTION – RADLEY COLLEGE ALL WEATHER PITCH:** The light was now off by 10 pm.
- (iv) **SPEED LIMIT – REPEATER SIGNS:** It was noted that repeater signs were not put where there were street lights if it was the recognised national speed limit. Therefore, none could be put in 30 mph stretches along Sugworth Lane. The rest of Sugworth Lane did not have a speed limit.
- (h) **BIRD SCARERS:** Cr Nutt reported that he had spoken to Mr Nick Frearson and the problem had been reduced. The Environmental Health Officer, DC, had also spoken to Mr Frearson and ascertained that he had some gas guns deployed about 500m from Bigwood. Mr Frearson indicated that he had turned them off for the time being, but would be using them again as he has a big problem with pigeons although he would try to avoid early morning use. It was noted that bird scarers could be used from 6 am.

#### **143/09 POLICE MATTERS**

- (a) **RURAL ABINGDON NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING UPDATE, AUGUST 2009:** Noted. The report was received. The Parish Council were pleased to learn that Mr Neil Irwin, the organiser of the Culham moto-cross events, had indicated a willingness to work with PC Bryant to help with motorcycling problems on private land. The Councillors were interested in the talks on cycle safety at Dry Sandford School, and thought it would be useful to do something similar at Radley.
- (b) **NAG MEETING, 15 SEPTEMBER 2009:** Cr Davies reported that he had not been able to attend this meeting.
- (c) **NAG SURVEY:** It was not certain when the analysed results would be available. Cr Davies indicated he would be doing work on the results for discussion by the Parish Council.
- (d) **DAMAGED TREE, WHITES LANE:** The Clerk reported that she was expecting to hear from the taxi driver's insurance company.
- (e) **SPEEDING – KENNINGTON ROAD:** Oxfordshire Highways had reported that the speeds were higher than the limit along the stretch of road by Radley College. Unfortunately, new traffic calming scheme requests far exceeded the available budget and schemes had to be prioritized against the personal injury accident record, and the records showed Kennington Road had no personal injury accidents from Church Road junction to the end of the 30mph speed limit within the last 5 year period. In view of this traffic calming measures at this location were not likely, but Oxfordshire Highways had contacted Thames Valley Police to ask that speed enforcement be carried out. The Clerk

would pass this information to Mrs Ashton.

- (f) RECENT BURGLARIES: The Clerk was asked to obtain feedback from the police on the recent burglaries at the vicarage and the shop.

#### **144/09 PLANNING MATTERS:**

##### **(i) New Applications:**

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council – Radley Ash Disposal Site: Erection of a 3.0 metre high security fence with gates between Lake A and the settling pond and discharge pond, and the construction of a gravity drain with associated inlet and outlet headwalls between Lake A and Pumney Farm Ditch: This had been discussed in between meetings and the Parish Council endorsed the action taken. The comments which had been made on this application were that there was no objection to this application on the basis that the work was necessary to allow the Waste Management Licence to be surrendered. However, a recent botanical survey of this area had revealed a number of plant species that were rare or uncommon in Oxfordshire. Ecological surveys (as proposed) should look for where these species might be growing in the areas to be affected by the works, and measures put in place to prevent unnecessary harm
- (b) RAD/3715/3 – First floor extension over existing garage to enlarge existing bedroom. Single storey conservatory extensions to living room and utility area, 13 Little Howe Close: No objections.
- (c) RAD/20810/1 – Erection of a single storey rear extension, Christmas Cottage, 44 Lower Radley: No objections.
- (d) Network Rail – Railway Communications System, Siting of Mast: The Parish Council thought there was no restriction on what Network Rail could put up on its own land. The Clerk was asked to thank Network Rail for its communication and ask what the transmission power of the mast would be.

##### **(ii) Permission Given:**

- (a) RAD/17043/1 – Erection of a two storey extension to front of dwelling with associated single storey extensions to enclose porch and enlarge garage, 33 Selwyn Crescent.
- (b) RAD/5882/2 – Proposed extension and garage, 50 Sugworth Lane

**(iii) Permission Refused:**

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council – Tuckwells CLEUD Application: It was noted that Mr Mike Wilson was still pressing for enforcement action. His understanding was that Tuckwells had six months from the date of the official notification to object to the ruling about the CLEUD application. If they were to object to the OCC ruling this would involve appealing to the Secretary of State. A letter had been received by Mary Thompson from Tuckwells, but they have only said they were reviewing their options and had not said whether they would/would not object. Mr Chris Hodgkinson had indicated that he was waiting for the outcome of the CLEUD, before proceeding further with any enforcement action. As the OCC had been very reluctant to carry out enforcement action in the past, Mr Wilson felt it would need a concerted effort on behalf of interested parties to encourage them to carry out enforcement action in relation to Tuckwells. Mr Wilson spoke to the Councillors at the beginning of the meeting, reiterating this view, and the Parish Council **AGREED** that the Clerk should write to the OCC pressing for enforcement action as soon as possible stressing that this should not wait to see if the firm appealed against the OCC decision to refuse the CLEUD application. There was concern about the monitoring carried out by the OCC, but this would be followed up later.

**(iv) Misc:**

- (a) TARMAC CLEUD: The Enforcement Officer had reiterated that the DC were happy that the height of the new buildings was not higher than those which had been demolished. A copy of the Tarmac CLEUD was received. The Parish Council considered that the CLEUD should have agreed to the position at the time it was given and that there should be no increase in traffic to the site without further agreement.

**145/09 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- (a) FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2009: The Clerk reported that she had not prepared the statement as she was waiting for the final bill in relation to the Judicial Review.
- (b) ESTIMATES:
- (i) INSTALLATION OF COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD: It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Davies and **AGREED** that the estimate from MRH Services of £104.75 should be accepted.
- (ii) PLAY AREA – REPAIRS TO BOW TOP FENCING: It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Pasquire and **AGREED** that the estimate from MRH Services of £804.17 plus VAT should be accepted. It was noted that the Parish Council's policy with Allianz Insurance, whilst providing cover for the bow-topped fencing, cover for gates and fences was limited to loss or damage arising from impact by animal or vehicle. The insurance company did not provide All Risks cover for gates and fences so unless the damage resulted from impact by a vehicle or animal

no claim would be paid.

- (c) **PROVISION OF NEW KITCHEN, VILLAGE HALL:** The letter from Cr Johnston in his capacity as Secretary to the Radley Village Hall Management Committee was received. It was proposed by Cr Pasquire, seconded by Cr Nutt and **AGREED** that the Parish Council should take on the project of providing a new kitchen at a cost of approximately £12,000 during 2010/2011, providing the necessary grants could be obtained. It was noted that the village hall would not require the £2,000 set aside in this year's budget, and the Parish Council **AGREED** that this could be transferred to the 2010/2011 budget for this project. Applications would be made for grants to the DC and WREN. It was noted that the Radley VHMC would be able to provide funds to purchase some of the equipment required.

Cr Johnston did not participate in the discussion and voting on this item.

- (d) **FOOTPATH 8:** It was reported that a site meeting had taken place with Paul Mansbridge, Crs Rogers and Johnston, and Mr John Jewitt, a recently retired expert in civil engineering who had spent his entire working life building roads and bridges across the world. The firm accepted that there was a problem with the path it had laid, and they were in dispute with the firm which had supplied the tarmac. However, they appreciated that this work had to be carried out before the frosty weather to stop further deterioration, and the firm indicated that it would be possible to do the work in November. Two options were discussed with the firm:

- (i) To supply tac coat emulsion and overlay to form and upgrade the footpath extension: Cost £5,005 plus VAT;
- (ii) Plane off the footpath and relay new tarmac across the total width of the footpath: Cost £8,645 plus VAT

At the site meeting option (ii) had been favoured by the Councillors as the original path was not in a good condition and this option would provide a much better surface across the total path. However, it had been stressed that it would depend on whether the Parish Council would agree to spend the additional money. On the estimate available, the additional cost to the Parish Council would be £3,640. It was proposed by Cr Nutt, seconded by Cr Yorston and **AGREED** that option (ii) should be accepted at an additional cost of £3,640 to the Parish Council.

- (e) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Henderson and **AGREED** that the accounts paid in between meetings should be accepted:

- (i) Thames Water – Sports Pavilion: £94.73
- (ii) Thames Water – Allotments: £19.99
- (iii) Miss S E Raven: £745.44

	Salary August 2009:	£659.46	
	Village Cleaner August 2009:	£85.98	
(iv)	Mrs K Sharp – Salary August 2009:		£146.68
(v)	MRH Services:		£2,282.50
	Fencing, Village Pond:	£2,250.00	
	Play Area Inspection:	£32.50	
(vi)	Abingdon and Vale Pest Control Services Ltd: - Wasp Nest, Line of Fencing, Village Pond:		£57.50
(vii)	Copycat Services – Garden Competition:		£40.24
(viii)	Berinsfield Community Business – Grass Cutting/Gardening:		£267.90
(ix)	First Radley Guides – Donation:		£150.00

It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Davies and **AGREED** that the following accounts should be paid:

(i)	Miss S E Raven:		£1,385.70
	Salary, September 2009:	£659.66	
	Village Cleaner – Salary, September 2009:	£85.98	
	Expenses, 1 July to 30 September 2009:	£635.06	
	1. Expenses:	£25.00	
	2. Telephone:	£21.74	
	3. Mileage:	£203.14	
	4. Postage:	£88.72	
	5. Stationery:	£103.49	
	6. Photocopying:	£101.25	
	7. Photocopying – Garden Competition:	£7.40	
	8. Photocopying – Parish Plan:	£20.70	
	9. Barrier/Mega Tape, Play Area Slide:	£14.74	
	10. Cleaning Material, Sports Pavilion:	£48.88	
	11. Land Registry – Fee:	£5.00	
(ii)	Mrs K Sharp – Salary, September 2009:		£146.68
(iii)	Berinsfield Community Business - Gardening/Grass Cutting:		£535.80
	July 2009:	£267.90	
	August 2009:	£267.90	
(iv)	PlaySafety Limited – Play Area Inspection:		£75.90
(v)	Southern Electric – Sports Pavilion:		£91.64

(vi)	Radley PCC:	£190.00
	1. Hire of Church Room:	£152.00
	2. Hedge Cutting:	£38.00

## 146/09 CONSERVATION

- (a) GARDEN COMPETITION 2009: It was reported that the Garden Competition Advisory Working Group had met to review the arrangements for the 2009 Garden Competition and:
- (i) TROPHIES/CATEGORIES: The Parish Council accepted that the present arrangements worked well and it was proposed by Cr Crowley, seconded by Cr Pasquire and **AGREED** that the Parish Council should rescind its previous resolution to reduce the number of categories and retain the current arrangements.
  - (ii) DATE OF COMPETITION: There was discussion on whether the date should vary from year to year. The Clerk had approached the judges for comments on bringing the date of the Garden Competition forward, i.e. to weekend of 12 June 2010. The feed back indicated was that this would be too early for bedding plants and baskets, which covered two of the categories. The Parish Council **AGREED** to keep the date as the first Saturday of July.
  - (iii) NUMBER OF AREAS: Currently Radley was divided into six areas. Cr Crowley would look at the possibility of reducing the number of areas to five. This in turn would reduce the number of judges and guides required.
  - (iv) MINI-BUS: It considered that the mini-bus hired this year was a very poor standard and considered that a letter should be sent to the company complaining about this. The Parish Council **AGREED** to use a firm nearer to Abingdon in 2010.
  - (v) **IT WAS AGREED** that RWE Npower should be approached for a donation towards the 2010 Garden Competition.
- (b) FOOTPATH 9/BOAT: It was noted that Mark Sumner, OCC Field Officer, had contacted the Clerk to let the Parish Council know that the concrete blocks had been removed at his request, and that he was also trying to get the collapsible bollard removed from the Barton Lane end of the footpath. This was in line with his statements when Councillors and residents walked this path with him some two years ago. Mark Sumner said he would try to do something about the barbed wire along this path, and it was understood that some of this had been replaced with plain wire.

- (c) LITTER/DOG BINS: The litter/dog bins in the Church Road car park and Whites Lane had been installed. The position on the dog bin by Sandles, Thrupp Lane, was not known.

#### **147/09 HIGHWAY MATTERS:**

- (a) POTHoles: The damaged footpath in Church Road had not been repaired, and Mr Phil Saunders has been in touch with the Oxfordshire Highways about this, drawing attention to an article in the Oxford Mail showing how much was being paid out in compensation on bad roads and pavements. The Clerk reported that she had been pressing Oxfordshire Highways but had not got a date when the repair work would be undertaken.
- (b) CYCLEWAY C5 – HAZARDS: The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Oxfordshire Highways again about the remaining hazard.
- (c) SUGWORTH LANE: It was reported that some of the bad areas had been marked, but not all. The Clerk had been pressing Oxfordshire Highways for a date when the repair work would be undertaken.
- (d) SIGN BY SHOP/SPINNEYS CLOSE BUNGALOWS INDICATING PEOPLE CROSSING: The Elderly Persons signs had been ordered for this area and should be installed within 28 days. There were no other suitable signs to cover this.
- (e) CYCLE WAY, KENNINGTON ROAD: More signing has been put up to indicate clearly the end of the cycle way.

#### **148/09 RADLEY LOCAL LIAISON GROUP (RWE NPOWER)**

- (a) The next Liaison Group would be held on Monday, 28 September 2009.
- (b) The Chairman reported that she had met Harry Barton, Northmoor Trust, and had walked the route of the new fencing, which was mostly in line with what had been agreed, apart from the fence on the isthmus which was post and wire and was fenced whereas the Parish Council did not feel this area should be fenced.
- (c) Harry Barton had been invited to the Parish Council in October or November. Councillors agreed that he should come at 7 pm so that the Parish Council would not finish too late.

- (d) Membership of the Radley Local Liaison Group: Cr Nutt indicated that he wished to stand down from the Group as he was finding it very difficult to attend meetings. Crs Pasquire and D Standen indicated a willingness to sit on this Group, and a paper vote was in favour of Cr Pasquire. This action would be confirmed at the next meeting.
- (e) Application for Modification to the Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way: The OCC had considered an outline request for paths in the vicinity of Bullfield and Thrupp Lake to be considered as a modification of the Definitive Map, taking into account the information produced following the Public Inquiry into the application for the area to become a Village/Town Green. It was noted that different information was required for an application for a modification and individuals who used the area would need to complete statements marking on a map the areas they walked, and therefore a lot of work was needed before a formal application could be made.

#### **149/09 RADLEY VILLAGE PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE**

The notes of the meeting of the Steering Committee on the 21 September 2009 were tabled and noted by the Parish Council.

#### **150/09 PARISH WEBSITE**

**IT WAS AGREED** that details of Friends of Radley Station should be put on the website.

There was discussion on whether the needs of the visually impaired had been taken into account when the web site was designed. It was pointed out that the web site had been set up with funding from the Oxfordshire County Council and to the standards it set out. However, members of the Web Site Working Party **AGREED** to look into this and report back to the Parish Council.

The website statistics were available for July and August 2009.

#### **151/09 REPORT OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

- (a) **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR:**  
Cr Johnston reported that the Vale would shortly take a decision on where to put all the extra housing required by Government within the Vale over the next 30 years or so. At the moment the choice was between Abingdon (to the South) or Wantage and Grove. There were no proposals to breach the Green Belt within the Vale area and if agreed this would safeguard the planning status for Radley for the foreseeable future.

The harmonisation of terms and conditions of service for both Vale and SODC staff is proceeding. Much of it looked uncontroversial e.g. linking pay rises to average RPI instead of national negotiations. The two areas of contention were hours of work and leave. It was hoped to resolve these differences in the next week or so. UNISON would then be balloting its members on the results. This would then be binding on all staff because their contracts stipulated that only UNISON was recognised as a negotiating body on pay and conditions.

(b) COUNTY COUNCILLOR:

County Councillor Fatemian reported that he would be holding surgeries in Radley at 2.30 pm on the second Saturday of every month in the Church Room.

On highway matters, the Chairman of Radley Primary School would be undertaking a survey on traffic and cyclists at the school on Friday, 2 October 2009, at 8.30 am.

The potholes in the area were being followed up. At the moment repair work appeared to stop at the boundary with Kennington and this was difficult to understand. There had been improvements to the Church Road highway, but the pavement needed urgent attention. Councillors pointed out that there were a number of counter-sunk manhole covers, and the Radley Road from the Whites Lane junction to the Audlett Drive roundabout had some very poor areas. A lot of the problems were caused by bad repair work by the utilities, and it was difficult to understand why Oxfordshire Highways did not put more pressure on these organisations.

Ardley had been chosen as the site for the Oxfordshire incinerator. The Councillors had given “blind” consideration to this application.

The County Council has been restructured, with the Cabinet being extended and other members being able to raise individual questions at Cabinet. This will be reviewed in a year. Theme debating had been introduced which allowed discussion on matters directly affecting the people of Oxfordshire.

## **152/09 CORRESPONDENCE**

(i) **FOR ACTION**

- (a) RWEnPower – Week commencing 21 September 2009, statutory requirement for the boiler safety valves to be tested following unit overhaul – possibility of some limited noise: noted
- (b) Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils – Members Updates, August and September 2009. The Parish Council **AGREED** to discuss the preparation of a Community Emergency Plan at a future meeting.

- (c) Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association – AGM, 21 October 2009, 7.30 pm, Islip Village Hall: noted
- (d) Play Area:
- RoSPA Play Area Safety Inspection Report: noted
  - Complaint about metal seat: The Clerk reported that a member of the community had reported her concern about the metal seat when a child fell and knocked her head against it. Although it was regarded as suitable it was advisable to replace by a wooden seat, and the Clerk was asked to obtain details of suitable seats so that the metal seat could be replaced.
  - Repair to Safety Surface/Slide: It was noted that the repair work had been undertaken.
- (e) Abingdon Marathon, Sunday, 18 October 2009: Councillors noted the appeal for local support when runners came through Radley.
- (f) KEEN (Kids Enjoy Exercise Now) – request for donation: To be referred to the Finance and Administration Committee for consideration.
- (g) Friends of Radley Station – request for donation: To be referred to the Finance and Administration Committee for consideration
- (h) Local Works – Campaigning to implement the Sustainable Communities Act: The Parish Council decided to take no action.

**(ii) FOR INFORMATION**

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council:
- (i) Countryside Service - Annual Report 2008/2009
  - (ii) Oxfordshire Highways – Annual Report 2008/2009
  - (iii) Local Transport Plan 3: Objectives & Strategic Environmental Assessment Consultation, comments by 4 September 2009
- (b) Vale of White Horse DC:
- (i) Parish Information sheet - interesting information including details of funds available for communities and funds for flood prevention schemes
  - (ii) Letter and Schedule of Proposed Amendments in connection with the revised draft gambling policy.
  - (iii) Proms in the Vale” a fundraising concert in aid of Vale House Alzheimer’s Home and Abingdon Town Band, 3 October 2009
  - (iv) Oxfordshire Stronger Communities Alliance (OSCA) and the Vale of White Horse District Council - networking event at the Abingdon Guildhall on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009 5.15 – 7.30 pm.
- (c) Oxfordshire Rural Community Council:
- (i) First edition of the online Oxfordshire Rural Services Directory
  - (ii) News Bulletin, September 2009

- (iii) ORCC Annual General Meeting, 7 October 2009, followed by presentation of awards to the winners of the Calor Oxfordshire Villages of the Year Competition
- (d) Radley Rail Service – increase in service: the press release was noted
- (e) Clerks and Council Direct, September 2009
- (f) Local Council Review, Autumn 2009
- (g) Oxfordshire Nature Conservation Forum’s Weekly Environmental E-Bulletin, 23 and 30 July 2009, 6, 13, 20/27 August 2009, 3, 10, 17 September 2009
- (h) 1<sup>st</sup> Radley Guide Company  
Thank you card for donation  
The Chairman reported that she had attended the recent awards evening when it was noted that one of the Radley Guides had won the local badge competition related to the Centenary of the Girl Guides.
- (i) Abingdon & District CAB – Annual Report 2008/2009
- (j) Radley Parish Local Information Handbook, compiled by Radley PCC 2009
- (k) Office for National Statistics – Quarterly Vacancies Inquiry
- (l) Oyster Productions – one day film shoot at Warren Bank Farm, Culham on 5 August 2009
- (m) Oxford Green Belt Network, Newsletter August 2009
- (n) ASHTAV AGM, 31 October 2009, Newark, Nottingham

**153/09 NOTIFIED BUSINESS**

NIL

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

**CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE, 24 SEPTEMBER 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.

**154/09 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 23 JULY 2009**

The Confidential Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 23 July 2009 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman.

**155/09 LONGMEAD LAKE**

It was noted that the site had been sold subject to contract to a construction company. Save Radley Lakes had expressed an interest in buying the site but had had no reply.

**156/09 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION FOR PRESS RELEASE**

NIL

Date: .....  
Chairman