

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 27 MARCH  
2008 AT 7.30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr J Standen (in the Chair)  
Crs Crowley, Davies, Henderson, Rogers, D Standen, Wilson

**38/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Crs Johnston, Nutt and Yorston.

**39/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**40/08 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 28  
FEBRUARY 2008**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 28 February 2008 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments:

**Minute 19/08, Minute 20/08, Minute 21/08:** All declarations of interest relating to Cr Crowley should read “Cr Crowley declared a personal and prejudicial interest in activities, finances and the legal position of Save Radley Lakes.”

**Minute 22/08 (c)** - The penultimate sentence should read: “... and problems had been found with the content of the landfill found during excavations.” should read:

**Minute 24/08(i) (b) (iv)** should read: “... should be constructed within the curtilage of the site without further permission...”

**41/08 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

- (a) **PLAY AREA:** The Clerk reported that she was meeting an engineer from Playdale on site on 2 April 2008.
- (b) **SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL PERSON:** No further information had been obtained on this, but the Clerk was trying to arrange a meeting with the Head Teacher.

- (c) **ADOPTION OF RADLEY STATION:** Work is still continuing at the Station so the meeting regarding the Adoption of Radley Station was not yet being arranged. It was reported that the work being undertaken was very noisy and was moving slowly. The area was a well lit area of the village and was attracting youths to the site.
- (d) **APPLICATION FROM H TUCKWELL & SONS LTD:** There is no further news on the Tuckwell application as the OCC Officer was currently on leave.
- (e) **LAND REGISTRY:** The queries were still being followed up.
- (f) **RAD/5948/24-CM: RWE Npower – Radley Ash Disposal Site:** It was reported that Cr Johnston had looked at Dr Eeles report and was in agreement with this. This was incorporated in the response to the OCC.
- (g) **RADLEY SWIMMING CLUB:** No further information had been obtained from Radley Swimming Club.
- (h) **COPSE – CHURCH ROAD:** The Clerk had been in touch with Julia Kent of Franklins Solicitors, and she was able to undertake the necessary work on behalf of the Parish Council. The cost would be in the region of £750 plus VAT plus the Land Registry fee, and this would be put to the next meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee. The Clerk was taking the necessary papers to the solicitor next week.
- (i) **AWARDS TO LOCAL PEOPLE:** The Clerk and Chairman had not yet discussed the arrangements for this event.
- (j) **OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – ABINGDON ITS:** It was noted that Radley Parish Council had been invited to attend the Drayton PC meeting on 12 May 2008 at 7.15pm, for this item.
- (k) **REVIEW OF PRIMARY SCHOOL PROVISION:** The Clerk had asked the Head Teacher for a meeting to discuss this.

#### **42/08 POLICE MATTERS**

- (a) **REPRESENTATIVE ON NAG:** It had not been possible for Crs Yorston or Nutt to attend the meeting on the 19 March 2008. The next meeting was planned for 7 pm on Wednesday, 7 May in Kennington
- (b) **MOTORCYCLISTS BEHIND STONHOUSE CRESCENT:** There had been no problem from motorcyclists in the last few weeks.

#### **43/08 PLANNING MATTERS:**

**(i) New Applications**

NIL

**(ii) Permission Given**

- (a) RAD/20421- Dining room and porch extension, 20 Ferny Close

**(iii) Appeal**

- (a) RAD/11540/5 – Conversion of existing building to single 2-bed dwelling involving raising of ridge by 300mm and insertion of 3 no dormer windows.

#### **44/08 APPLICATION FOR TOWN GREEN STATUS – THRUPP AND BUILFIELD LAKES, RADLEY**

The following matters were discussed:

- (a) RWE NPOWER: No response had yet been received from Mr Rainford, but the Parish Council would still like to go ahead with this meeting. There was discussion on a meeting with senior officers at RWE Headquarters, but the Parish Council **AGREED** that the first step was the meeting with Mr Rainford. It was noted that Dr Evan Harris, MP, was hoping to meet Mr Rainford.

There was concern about the state of the site and it was hoped that RWE Npower would take some steps to clear the site following the work they undertook last year.

**IT WAS AGREED** that the Parish Council should ask the OCC to designate as official footpaths those footpaths mentioned in the Inspector's report. Cr Crowley would let the Clerk have a map of the footpaths concerned.

- (b) FUNDING: It was reported that the Open Spaces Society had not yet decided on its donation, but thought it might be in the region of £50. The Parish Council hoped that the Society could help in other ways. The Clerk reported that Sunningwell and Kennington Parish Councils, Oxford City Council and the Vale of White Horse DC were discussing this matter during the next few weeks.
- (c) PRESS RELEASE: **IT WAS AGREED** that a press release should be issued when the outcome of the discussions by the other Councils was known and when it had been cleared with the Councils that their support could be announced.

#### **45/08 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** It was proposed by Cr Davies, seconded by Cr Rogers, and **AGREED** that the following accounts should be paid:

(i)	Miss S E Raven:	£1,008.00
	Salary, March 2008:	£491.38
	(This includes back pay for 2007/2008)	
	Expenses, 1 January to 31 March 2008:	£413.24
	1. Expenses:	£25.00
	2. Telephone:	£21.74
	3. Mileage:	£161.02
	4. Postage:	£38.82
	5. Stationery:	£47.56
	6. Photocopying:	£119.10
	Village Cleaner, April 2008:	£78.90
	Village Cleaner, Back pay for 2007/2008:	£24.48
(ii)	Mrs K Sharp – Salary, March 2008: (including back pay for 2007/2008)	£180.49
(iii)	Southern Electricity – Sports Pavilion:	£48.35
(iv)	Berinsfield Community Business:	£1,506.94
(v)	Oxford Green Belt Network - Subscription:	£15.00
(vi)	Dr B Crowley – Photography, Garden Competition/Tuckwells Planning Application:	£39.00
(vii)	Steelway Fensecure – Playing Field:	£5,082.26

Cr Crowley did not vote on the accounts.

(b) **RADLEY VILLAGE HALL:** It was noted that the firm had sent an estimate for the soundproofing between the doors and the main hall and the fire doors, and this had been passed to Cr Bob Johnston, in his capacity as Secretary to the Radley VHMC.

#### **46/08 CONSERVATION**

(a) **ACTION ON “ENVIROCRIMES” – POWERS FOR PARISH COUNCILS:** No date had been arranged for this meeting.

(b) **CONSERVATION WORKING PARTY:** It was not known whether Cr Yorston had obtained a representative from Radley College. The Clerk had contacted the other members of the Working Party to start working out a date for the first meeting.

- (c) **PLACES FOR PEOPLE – FOOTPATH 8:** The Clerk reported that TOE did not alter its decision to give a grant of £10,000 for this project following further information from the Parish Council. TOE had applied for ENTRUST registration for the project, and would notify the Parish Council once this had been received.

Crs Rogers and Wilson **AGREED** to meet the contractors who had given estimates to ensure the work undertaken would be satisfactory.

The Clerk was asked to approach the OCC regarding change of status for this footpath to cycle way/footpath.

- (d) **VILLAGE POND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:** It was noted that the fencing had been moved before the Clerk could raise any further questions.
- (e) **DESIGNATION OF LOWER RADLEY AS CONSERVATION AREA:** The Parish Council considered the English Heritage's Guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals. **IT WAS AGREED** that it was important to pursue the designation of Lower Radley and that an approach should be made to the Radley History Club to ascertain if the work could be undertaken in conjunction with that group. It was noted that the next meeting of the Radley History Club was Monday, 14 April 2008. Cr Wilson **AGREED** to lead on this.

#### **47/08 HIGHWAY MATTERS:**

- (a) **THRUPP LANE:** It was noted that Mr Mike Wilson had heard from Mr Mike Gilbert, DC Planner, and the question of whether the industrial uses remain authorised was not straightforward and this was being followed up with Mr Curtis' representative...

The amount of traffic along Thrupp Lane had not decreased as yet, and residents had not undertaken another traffic survey. The residents wondered if it would be possible to get a traffic counter strip put at the end of the road which could record the number of vehicles using the lane on a 24/7 basis. The Clerk was asked to request this.

It was noted that Veolia had agreed dates to relocate the West Oxfordshire based lorries. Mr Wilson understood that they would still drop their loads in Thrupp Lane through out the day, but they should not be racing off early in the morning as from 7th April.

- (b) **SPEED LIMIT – RADLEY/SUNNINGWELL TURNS, OLD A34:** This was being followed up with OCC Highways.
- (c) **TREE – FOXBOROUGH ROAD:** It was noted that the tree had been cut down.

- (d) **CONDITION OF ROAD BY 35/36 STONHOUSE CRESCENT:** No further information was available on this.
- (e) **PROVISION OF BUS SHELTER:** It was noted that the Pebble Hill Bus Shelter should be installed the week commencing 31 March 2008.
- (f) **FLOODING, TWELVE ACRE DRIVE:** There had been recent flooding which it was thought was due to a blocked watercourse.
- (g) **RADLEY COLLEGE – COLLAPSE OF BANK:** This Bank had collapsed into the road following the heavy rain. The OCC Highways Department were aware of the problem.

#### **48/08 PARISH WEBSITE**

There was discussion on and **IT WAS AGREED** that more use should be made of emails between Councillors in between meetings. It was noted that the viewing figures were holding up.

#### **49/08 REPORT OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

The following report from the District and County Councillor was given to Councillors:

Vale of White Horse District Council: The Old Gaol was now nearing final resolution; only three issues remained to be resolved. These were Harcourt Way where a final report from the Environment Agency was awaited. This was expected to clear the way for the development of 14 social housing units. The other issues were archaeology and planning permission; neither of these was expected to cause any particular problems.

Cr Johnston gave a detailed report on bus passes. It was noted that the contractor had underestimated the amount of work and some people would not receive the new bus pass by the 1 April 2008, but he had had an assurance that the bus companies would use the old bus pass for a short period.

Oxfordshire County Council: Things had gone fairly quiet on the County. Councillors will have heard of the savage reduction in the monies available for highway capital schemes. Cr Johnston feared that locally the scope for dealing with AbITS would be further reduced, and that was not good news.

Cr Johnston also reported that he had changed his Shadow Cabinet responsibilities. He was no longer shadow Transport, but something called “Change Management”, which broadly approximates to personnel issues. He was taking a particular interest in something called the “Shared Services” project. This was an ambitious attempt to unify services such as finance, personnel and training in one place, instead of having them dispersed among the

directorates. He would keep the Parish Council concerned on matters relating to these matters.

## **50/08 CORRESPONDENCE**

### **(i) FOR ACTION**

- (a) Vale of White Horse DC:
  - (i) Celebrating Youth in the Vale – Lunch 26 April 2008  
Parish Council has been asked to nominate a young person from Radley Parish who has achieved success in one form or another over the past 2-3 years. Some suggestions were given to the Clerk who would follow this up. **IT WAS AGREED** that a request of this nature should have been circulated to the Councillors as soon as it had been received.
  - (ii) Parish Council Representatives for Standards Committee: Councillors noted the vacancies.
- (b) Oxfordshire County Council:
  - (i) Youth Opportunity Fund and Youth Capital Fund Celebration Events, 3 April at 4 – 8 pm, Common Hall Café, County Hall, Oxford: noted
- (c) Radley CE Primary School – Building Works at Radley Primary School: noted. The Clerk was asked to press for a meeting with the Head Teacher.
- (d) Constants Loud Bangs: The Clerk reported that she had had a complaint about the loud bangs, but the Environmental Health Officer had indicated that this would not be regarded as a nuisance.
- (e) Leadbitter hoardings - recent development in Stonhouse Crescent: The Clerk was asked to write to the firm asking for the hoardings to be removed.

### **(ii) FOR INFORMATION**

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council CAG Oxfordshire, February 2008
- (b) ASHTAV – New Director/Update
- (c) Letters of thanks for donations: Letter has been received from Abingdon and District Citizens Advice Bureau, Oxfordshire Children’s Information Service, Oxfordshire Association for the Blind, and South and Vale Carers Centre.
- (d) RWE Npower – Grants for community projects or events worthy to sponsor
- (e) Clerks and Councils Direct, March 2008
- (f) Local Council Review, March 2008



- (g) Open Space, Spring 2008
- (h) Glasdon – Products for Local Councils
- (i) RailWatch, April 2008
- (j) The Standards Board – Newsletter March 2008.

**51/08 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION FOR PRESS RELEASE**

The Parish Council **AGREED** that, once the outcome of the approaches to other Councils were known, a press release should be issued indicating that a Judicial Review had been lodged and that a meeting had been requested with RWE Npower. Radley Youth Football Club should be asked to give some feedback on its results so that these can be reported locally.

**52/08 NOTIFIED BUSINESS**

NIL

Date: .....  
Chairman

**CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE, 27 MARCH 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.

**53/07 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 28 FEBRUARY 2008**

The Confidential Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 28 February 2008 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman with the following amendment:

The statement that Cr Crowley left the meeting should be moved and put in after Minute 36/08 (a).

**54/07 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

- (a) RADLEY COLLEGE: The Councillors were updated on recent discussions.

**55/07 APPLICATION FOR TOWN GREEN STATUS – THRUPP AND BULLFIELD LAKES, RADLEY**

- (a) The Parish Council considered the documents from the solicitor and Save Radley Lakes.
- (b) **IT WAS AGREED** that Cr Rogers should be on the Working Party.

Date: .....

.....  
Chairman