

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE RADLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 22
FEBRUARY 2007 AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Cr B Mott (in the Chair)
Crs Crowley, Henderson, Nutt, Rogers, D Standen, J Standen, Wyatt
Mr Graham Collett and Mr Chris Gasson for Item 23/07(d)
Mr Mike Wilson and Mr Robin Calvert-Fisher for Item 21/07 (iii) (a) (ii)
3
Mrs Jo Cartmell for Item 21/07 (iii) (a) (i)

16/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Crs Johnston and Wilson.

17/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cr Crowley declared a personal but non-prejudicial interest as set out in the Standards Board for England lobby group, dual-hatted members and the Code of Conduct, top paragraph, page 7 in relation to matters relating to the Radley Lakes.

There were no other Declarations of Interest.

**18/07 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 25
JANUARY 2007**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 25 January 2007 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman, with the following amendments:

Minute 6/07 (iii) (a), paragraph 3 should read: There was to be a meeting ...

Minute 8/07 (a) (ii) should read: "The Clerk reported that a duplicate cheque was required as she had mislaid the original one. Cr Mott"

Minute 13/07, second paragraph should read: "... the DC Council Tax would be increased by £5.00 on a Band D property, ..."

19/07 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

- (a) **COMPLAINTS ABOUT 35 BUS SERVICE:** The date of the meeting with representatives of the Oxford Bus Company and Kennington Parish Council was not yet known, but dates were being cleared for March.

- (b) **BERINSFIELD COMMUNITY BUSINESS – PARISH GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT 2007:** A meeting would be arranged to review the work being undertaken.
- (c) **PLAY AREA:** It was reported that Playdale had replaced the rotten plank immediately. Advice was still required on the safety surface under the swings and the fixings on the small rocking animals.
- (d) **MR TIM O’CONNOR:** Cr J Standen reported that Mr Tony Rogerson had spoken at Mr O’Connor’s funeral service, having received some background information from a Radley resident, and she, Cr D Standen, the Clerk and the resident had attended the funeral.

20/07 POLICE MATTERS

A detailed report was received from Sgt Price on the position at Radley Lakes and the police presence. The Parish Council noted this but considered that the large response to this compared to the lack of response when one of the Councillors was attacked by motorcyclists on the towpath should be noted.

The police had also been informed of youths on the play area in the evening, and this incident would be kept in mind when planning patrols.

It was noted that, after the police had attended the January meeting, they had searched two vehicles and five people at the village hall and had seized some drugs.

21/07 PLANNING MATTERS

(i) New Applications

- (a) **RAD/1802/3 – Demolition of existing garage, entrance lobby and carport. Erection of two storey extension to west flank. Erection of single storey extension to rear and single storey extension to east flank. Erection of detached pool house, 38 Sugworth Lane:** No objections..
- (b) **RAD/4664/1 – No 113: Construction of bedroom over existing ground floor kitchen; No 115: Demolition of existing ground floor kitchen and bedroom. Construction of ground floor kitchen with bedroom over and extension of lounge. Erection of a double garage, 113 and 115 Lower Radley:** No objections
- (c) **RAD/679/1 – Erection of a rear conservatory, 13 St James Road:** No objections
- (d) **RAD/19969 – Conversion of existing garage and workshop to provide additional living accommodation and refurbishment of existing dwelling, 51 Church Road:** No objections, subject to neighbours’ comments.

- (e) Proposed Telecommunications Installation at Cell 60126 Bowyer Arms, Foxborough Road: No objections.
- (f) RAD/5948/24-CM - Radley Ash Disposal Scheme Lake E:
 - (i) Submissions for Approval Pursuant to Conditions 17, 19, 26, 29 and 30.
 - (ii) Details pursuant to conditions 10 and 11 of Planning Permission

The Clerk was asked to liaise with Cr Crowley and set out replies using the main points put forward by Save Radley Lakes.

(ii) Permission Given

NIL

(iii) Misc:

- (a) RWEnPOWER – filling of gravel pits: The following matters were raised during the update on this planning application:
 - (i) THRUPP AND BULLFIELD LAKES, RADLEY – APPLICATION TO REGISTER AS A TOWN GREEN: It was reported that the OCC had announced that there would be a Public Enquiry in relation to this application. It would be held at Radley Village Hall from 2 to 5 April 2007.
 - (ii) RADLEY LAKES:
 - 1. The Clerk tabled a summary of action she had taken between meetings.
 - 2. Cr Crowley reported:
 - (a) The squatters were evicted on the 6 February 2007
 - (b) The Town Green Meeting on the 9 February 2007 was well attended.
 - (c) The demonstrator who had been sleeping on site, The Ant, had been detained and arrested (witnessed by four Parish Councillors), and had sustained serious injury in custody.
 - (d) RWEnPower had issued an injunction on the 15 February 2007
 - (e) There was harassment of the public
 - (f) Clearance work was underway. This was not subject to planning conditions as “development” had not started. Various complaints received included:
 - Weekend working (noise and disturbance)
 - Debris on byway
 - Temporary structures on byway
 - Temporary obstruction of byway due to works and loading/unloading
 - Destruction of birds’ nests

- Commencing work in advance of Town Green application
- (g) A demonstration had taken place on the 17 February 2007, and a further one was planned.

It was thought that the Forestry Commission law should have prevented the wide spread cutting of trees, and the Clerk was asked to follow this up.

3. Increased traffic along Thrupp Lane/Condition of Thrupp Lane: Mr Mike Wilson and Mr Robin Calvert-Fisher, residents of Thrupp Lane, spoke about their concerns of the increased traffic along Thrupp Lane, the condition of Thrupp Lane, the early starts by Cleanaway, and pressed for traffic from the Curtis Site to be allowed access through to Barton Lane to reduce the traffic along the deteriorating Thrupp Lane. The Parish Council were informed that Thrupp Lane was likely to be designated a “failed” road, and **AGREED** to press for the changes. In addition, it would write to the DC regarding the timing of Cleanaway vehicles.
4. Re-Establishment of Liaison with RWEnPower: The further letters from RWEnPower were noted. It was proposed by Cr J Standen, seconded by Cr Wyatt, that RWEnPower should be invited to a special meeting of the Parish Council. This was **AGREED** by five votes to four. The Clerk was asked to include a request that no further work be undertaken on the site until after the Public Enquiry on the Town Green Application.

22/07 FUTURE OF VILLAGE SHOP

Cr Wyatt reported that the money had been raised to go ahead with the shop following a further distribution around the Parish. An advertisement for a shop manager would be appearing soon, and a notice board had been erected so that the latest details of the development could be available to the community. It had been necessary to make a planning application to vary the size of the windows, and it was hoped this would be successful as it would give more security and also better wall space for displays.

23/07 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (a) **PATH FROM CAR PARK TO SCHOOL:** The Parish Council endorsed the action taken in between meetings to accept the estimate from Gordon Hill & Sons for £3,996.00 plus VAT. This was £15 higher than the amended quotation received from Peter L Mansbridge & Son Ltd, but was accepted because of the good work Gordon Hill & Sons had done on the main car park. It was reported that the work should be undertaken shortly.
- (b) **CCTV PROVISION – SPORTS PAVILION:** The Clerk was still trying to obtain comparable estimates.

- (c) FENCING – PLAY AREA: The Clerk was still trying to obtain estimates for this work.
- (d) DONATIONS 2006/2007: Mr Graham Collett and Mr Chris Gasson attended for this item, and presented details of the arrangements for funding the fete and the type of events they were trying to arrange to attract more people . The main problem was initial funding to allow them to book events, and it was proposed by Cr Rogers, seconded by Cr D Standen and **AGREED** that the Parish Council should make a grant of £200. The Clerk would ascertain whether there was a specific power to allow this funding and, if not, it would be funded under the Section 137 allowance.

(e) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS:

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

(i)	Radley PCC – Donation towards Radley News:	£40.00
(ii)	Abingdon and District CAB – Donation:	£200.00
(iii)	Oxfordshire Association for the Blind - Donation:	£60.00
(iv)	South and Vale Carers Centre:	£200.00
(v)	Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance Trust:	£100.00
(vi)	Oxfordshire Carers’ Forum:	£40.00
(vii)	Pond Conservation –Report on Village Pond:	£200.00
(viii)	Thames Water – Sports Pavilion:	£49.26
(ix)	Thames Water – Allotments:	£7.31
(x)	Miss S E Raven:	£456.06
	Salary, February 2007:	£379.06
	Village Cleaner, March 2007:	£77.00
(xi)	Mrs K Sharp, Cleaner/Caretaker, Sports Pavilion – Salary February 2007:	£139.33

- (f) APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR: **IT WAS AGREED** to ask Mr Roger Symes to act as Internal Auditor for the 2006/2007 accounts.
- (g) APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR: It was noted that the Audit Commission had extended the appointment of BDO Stoy Hayward as the

external auditor to local councils for the financial year 2006/2007. It had also been agreed that new fees would operate from 2006/2007.

24/07 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) FOR ACTION

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council - : Oxfordshire Minerals & Waste Development Framework Minerals & Waste Core Strategy – Preferred Options Consultation Paper February 2007: Cr Henderson **AGREED** to look through this and report back at the next meeting.
- (b) Vale of White Horse:
 - (i) Department of Trade and Industry Consultation: Cr J Standen would liaise with the Clerk regarding a reply.
 - (ii) Parish Council Comments on Planning Applications – Code of Conduct: noted
 - (iii) District and Parish Elections – 3 May 2007: noted
- (c) Communities and Local Government: A Revised Model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members and the NALC Legal Briefing Note: The Parish Council did not wish to comment on this.
- (d) Oxfordshire Children’s Information Service – Application for grant for 2007/2008: This would be considered by the Parish Council when the donations for 2007/2008 were considered.
- (e) Railwatch – an independent voice for rail users: The Clerk was obtaining the advice of Dr Robin Rees on this organisation, and the Parish Council **AGREED** to consider whether it should become a member at its next meeting.
- (f) Junior Citizen Trust – Safety education for young children in Oxfordshire: the request for a donation would be considered by the Parish Council when the donations for 2007/2008 were considered.
- (g) Enjoy England – Celebrate St George’s Day, 23 April 2007: noted

(ii) FOR INFORMATION:

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council: The Oxfordshire Three Unitary Council Proposal – Does it make sense?
- (b) Vale of White Horse DC – Standards Committee, 22 February 2007
- (c) Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils – Circular February 2007

- (d) ORCC – News Bulletin February 2007
- (e) NALC – Review of the Quality Town and Parish Council Scheme
- (f) Literature on Play Equipment – Wicksteed Leisure and Safe and Sound Playgrounds Ltd
- (g) ASHTAV – Notice of Seminar at Crewkerne: “Engaging Young People in Heritage through the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery.
- (h) Open Spaces Society – Newsletter, Spring 2007

25/07 CONSERVATION MATTERS

- (a) FOOTPATH 10: The weather had been too wet to review the condition of this footpath after ploughing.

26/07 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- (a) SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL PERSON: There was no further information on this.
- (b) TRAFFIC PROBLEMS – LOWER RADLEY: A detailed report had been received on the speed survey and this did not reveal any speeding problems.
- (d) CATHARINE CLOSE: It was noted that tarmac had been put in the sunken manhole cover to level it out.
- (e) POTHoles – FOXBOROUGH ROAD: The number of potholes in the Parish was increasing, and the Clerk was asked to follow up with OCC Highways.
- (f) CYCLE TRACK – OVERHANGING TREES: The Clerk was asked to draw these to the attention of the OCC Highways.

27/07 PARISH WEBSITE

There was no report on the Website.

28/07 REPORT OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

A report from Cr Johnston was tabled. It indicated that:

- (a) Vale of White Horse DC: The Vale had set its budget. The free bus pass scheme was being maintained at a cost of £1 million pounds.

- (b) Oxfordshire County Council: On Radley Lakes, Cr Johnston had discussed the matter with very senior County Officers, and it appeared that there was nothing to prevent RWE cutting down trees, because they are the landowners. There were likewise no restrictions on the hours for such work, because it was outside the terms of the planning permission. However, there were a lot of details relating to the planning permission, and these had to be agreed in writing before any further work could be done.

29/07 INFORMATION BOOKLET FOR RADLEY HOUSEHOLDS

The Chairman reported that the Parish Council did not need to discuss this as the idea had been dropped.

30/07 NOTIFIED BUSINESS

- (a) **IMPROVEMENTS TO RAILWAY STATION:** The Clerk reported that the OCC were still progressing plans to improve the station and its environment. Proposals had been submitted to First Great Western as they needed to give their agreement before action is taken. Subject to funding, the OCC hoped to implement an extensive list of improvements over the next 6-12 months, including a paved area at the top of the approach road with seating and real-time bus information, a wider approach road, new footpaths from Radley Road to the platforms, improved lighting to increase security, extra cycle parking, an extension of the car park, replacement signage in and around the station, new anti-vandal waiting shelters, resurfaced platform and car park. The Parish Council was pleased to learn of the possibility of improvements at the railway station.

Date:
Chairman