

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 27 JANUARY
2005 AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Cr D Standen (in the Chair)
Crs Crowley, Henderson, Johnston (from 9.30 pm), Mott, Nutt, J
Standen, Wilson, Wren, Wyatt

1/05 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cr Nutt declared an interest in relation to the cheque to be paid to DSJ Newsagent for the Christmas Hamper, and for the item being raised under the Confidential Agenda.

**3/05 MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, 16
DECEMBER 2004**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16 December 2004 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments:

(a) Minute 200/04 (c) delete: "Cr Mott abstained from voting".

4/05 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

- (a) **TRIANGLE OF LAND – BY GARAGES IN STONHOUSE CRESCENT:** The Clerk was still chasing the DC regarding the clearance of the triangle of land.
- (b) **SEWER – FOXBOROUGH ROAD:** The Clerk reported that she had spoken with Mr Alex Natton, Environmental Health, DC. Mr Natton indicated that he had looked through the Berkshire Archives to try to trace that this sewer had been adopted, but could find no proof that this had occurred under the Abingdon RDC. The same contractor who put in the main sewer did the link work with the private sewer, but this would not alter the status of the private sewer. It was unlikely that Thames Water would adopt the sewer. It was not of an acceptable standard and it would be necessary to have easements across a number of properties. Mr Natton considered that he was taking a very sympathetic line with the residents as they were dealing with blockages themselves but, if they were not able to do the work, the DC would have to serve notice on the residents, do the necessary repair work and charge the residents.

The Parish Council was concerned that the DC could not pursue the adoption of the sewer as it was the local authority responsible for the public's health. It was pointed out that the residents of Badgers Copse were in a similar position because, although this was a more modern development, the system was not suitable for adoption. The Clerk was asked to ascertain what information Mr Davie had given to the DC and Thames Water, and what the cost would be of bringing the sewer up to an adoptable standard.

- (c) **VANDALISM TO SPORTS PAVILION – COST OF REPAIRS:** A quote had not yet been received from Mr Sillman.
- (d) **TRANSPORT MITIGATION MEASURES FOR VILLAGES SURROUNDING ABINGDON:** It was noted that a public exhibition would be held in Radley on Wednesday, 9 February 2005, from 13.00 to 21.00.
- (e) **THRUPP LANE LEASE – CORRESPONDENCE WITH SOLICITOR:** A reply had not been received from the Law Society.
- (f) **NOISE NUISANCE:** The Clerk reported that South Oxfordshire DC had not had any feedback from the police, but had written asking for more details. The Parish Council would be kept informed.
- (g) **MEN'S FOOTBALL CLUB – PAYMENT OF RENT:** The OALC could not think of any problems in relation to the transfer of the goal posts in place of the outstanding rent, but had advised that the club should sign the goal posts over in writing, confirming that there were no other creditors who had a call on the equipment. A letter had been sent to the President of the Radley Men's Football Club incorporating this advice.
- (h) **MEETING WITH BURSAR, RADLEY COLLEGE:** The Chairman and Vice-Chairman reported that they had had a useful meeting with the Bursar of Radley College. The Bursar would be looking into the possibility of amending the lease to incorporate the copse, to allow a path across the end of it, and to involve the Oxfordshire County Council, as the local education authority.
- (i) **OXFORDSHIRE BLUE PLAQUES – REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS:** It was noted that the History Club had suggested Bishop Gore, who was the vicar of Radley from 1893 to 1898, and lived in what is now called Gore House next to the vicarage. He started the Community of the Resurrection in that house while he was there and this body still continued (at Mirfield) and has had world-wide impact. The Clerk was asked to pursue this with the Vicar, and also contact Radley College regarding George Butterworth.
- (j) **ACCESS TO RADLEY RAILWAY STATION:** It was confirmed that details of the services for disabled travellers had been put on the Web-Site and in Radley News. The Clerk was asked to press for a meeting with the Oxfordshire County Council regarding the possibility of a footway over the railway bridge.

- (k) **REVENUE FROM WEBSITE:** This matter had been raised with the OALC who had made the following points:
- (i) Parish Council would have to be registered for VAT as it would be undertaking a business activity if it charged local businesses. The Clerk was asked to check this with Customs and Excise.
 - (ii) Any funds received would become Parish Council funds and it would be governed by legislation as to how the money was spent. If the Parish Council wanted to make donations, there would be a “knock-on” effect on the Section 137 allowance as the allowance would not be increased by the increase in income. It was noted that the limit for the Parish Council for 2003/2004 was £988.50, and the Parish Council had spent £342.55 of this.
- (l) **SPORTS PAVILION – FLYGT PUMP:** ITT Pump Ltd had not yet responded to the query about the bill, and a further bill had been received making the total payable £556.95.
- (m) **VALE OF WHITE HORSE DC – WORK TO TREES AT PLOT 18 BIGWOOD PARK:** It was understood that the tree which had been removed was at Plot 20 and was heavily infected with honey fungus. The tree at Plot 18 was to have its sides reduced by 20% and some lower very small trunk growth removed, but the tree was not to be removed.
- (m) **GOOSEACRE PLAYING FIELD:** It was noted:
- 1. The Gooseacre field had been cut before Christmas. JV Strong did not recommend that it be rolled.
 - 2. Radley Youth Football Club had been asked if it wished to submit a tender for the grass cutting and maintenance of the field. No reply had been received.
 - 3. JV Strong was hoping to undertake shortly the work on the centenary garden and the planting of the new lime tree in Whites Lane.

5/05 POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk reported that PC Wheble was unable to hold the police surgery on Saturday, 29 January 2005 as he had been put on a Police Support Unit due to a potential animal rights demo in Oxford and a football match at the Kassam Stadium.

PC Wheble was still pursuing the criminal damage at the sports pavilion, had been taking statements and was hoping to make an arrest or two by the end of the month.

The Clerk reported that she had written to the Area Commander about senior police attendance at Parish Council meetings, and this had been acknowledged. The Councillors hoped that the Area Commander could attend a Parish Council meeting to try to help with action in relation to the vandalism at the sports pavilion.

It was noted that a new Area Commander, a Chief Inspector Purnell, had been appointed
Parish Councillors raised two issues of concern:

- (a) Parking on the pavement in Foxborough Road late evening/early morning
- (b) Excessive parking in the village one Sunday morning when a swimming gala was being held at Radley College because signs incorrectly directed traffic to the village. The Clerk was asked to write to the Bursar asking if clear advice could be given to users.

6/05 PLANNING MATTERS

(i) New Applications

- (a) RAD/18900 – Proposed detached garage, land adjacent to 19 New Road: No objections, subject to neighbours' comments.

(ii) Permission Given

- (a) RAD/7808/1 – Proposed loft conversion with front dormer window, 53 Foxborough Road

(iii) Withdrawn

- (a) RAD/18900 – Proposed detached garage, land adjacent to 19 New Road

(iv) Misc

- (a) Development of three terraced dwellings on Bowyer Arms site: It was noted that a formal application was being made shortly. The proposals included the repositioning of the existing bus shelter, and the developers requested permission from the Parish Council to relocate the bus shelter, which would be located in close proximity to the front entrance of a dwelling, further down the lay-by. The Parish Council **AGREED** that the bus shelter should not be moved.

7/05 FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

It was proposed by Cr Henderson, seconded by Cr Crowley, and **AGREED** that the following payments should be made.

(a)	Southern Electric – Sports Pavilion:	£37.71
(b)	Copycat Services – Photocopying:	£14.39
(c)	Inland Revenue – Income Tax/NI:	£314.29
(d)	Thames Water – Sports Pavilion:	£64.56
(e)	Thames Water – Allotments:	£4.28
(f)	Radley College:	£314.66
	Radley Village Pond and Car Park:	£64.66
	Gooseacre Playing Field:	£250.00
(g)	Society of Local Council Clerks – Subscription:	£82.00
(h)	Miss S E Raven:	£416.97
	Salary, January 2005:	£348.22
	Cleaner – January/February 2005	£68.75
(i)	South and Vale Carers Centre:	£100.00
(j)	Radley PCC – Radley News:	£110.00
(k)	DSJ Newsagents - Christmas Hamper:	£48.37
(l)	Oxfordshire Association for the Blind:	£60.00
(m)	Abingdon and District CAB:	£200.00
(n)	Mr J Huddleston – Web Site:	£11.74

(b) **VALE OF WHITE HORSE DC – REQUEST FOR PRECEPT:** It was noted that the official request for the precept had been received. The Clerk had replied.

(c) **GARDENS BY SHOPS, CHURCH ROAD – WINTER CLEAR:** It was noted that the cost of this would be in the region of £50. The matter was deferred until it was known what would be happening to the proposed development.

- (d) **ADDITIONAL LIGHTING – LOWER RADLEY:** It was noted that an additional light would cost in the region of £500. Councillors agreed to review whether additional lighting was required, and the matter would then be referred to the Finance and Administration Committee.

8/05 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) ACTION REQUIRED:

- (a) Vale of White Horse DC – Abandoned Vehicle Amnesty – rust in peace.
- (b) Oxfordshire County Council:
 - (i) South East Plan: Oxfordshire Consultation Arrangements – consultation period 24 January to 15 April 2005. Cr Standen agreed to attend one of the meetings.
 - (ii) Transport Networks Review: Comments were required by 25 March 2005
 - (iii) Council and local charters – questionnaire: Clerk to answer.
- (c) South East England – South East Plan Public Consultation: The pre-consultation information leaflet was circulated to Councillors.
- (d) Continue to fight for the Oxford Green Belt: The letter from Councillor Jerry Patterson, Leader of Vale of White Horse DC was noted.
- (e) Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Authorisation of the qualified Person and amendments to Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972: Letter from the Deputy Prime Minister was noted.
- (f) The Tree Council – Community Trees Fund: The Clerk was asked to ascertain what trees would be provided through the DC Amenity Tree Planting Scheme. A decision could then be made on whether to apply for funding to The Tree Council.
- (g) The Local Channel – Freedom of Information Act: To be considered by the Web-Site Advisory Group.
- (h) OALC – Circular, December 2004: noted
- (i) Society of Local Council Clerks – New Conditions of Service for Clerks of Local Councils: To be considered when more information was available.
- (j) White Horse Harriers Athletics Club – Half-marathon, 3 April 2005: To be advertised on Parish Council notice boards.

(ii) **CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE:**

- (a) Vale of White Horse DC: Community Safety Audit 2004 – access to full copy of Audit document on [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/Community Development/CrimeAndDisorder](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/CommunityDevelopment/CrimeAndDisorder).
- (b) Oxfordshire County Council:
 - (i) News, January 2005
 - (ii) Home2School Newsletter – Spring 2005
 - (iii) Public Transport Timetables
- (c) South East/South West Oxfordshire PCTs – Public Board Meeting, 27 January 2005.
- (d) Clerks and Councils Direct, January 2005
- (e) Local Council Review, January 2005
- (f) Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association Newsletter, Winter 2005/2006
- (g) Glasdon – Local Councils News-Sheet
- (h) Garrick Outdoor Shelters
- (i) Absolute Tree Care – Details of Service
- (j) Fenplay “Softfall”

9/05 CONSERVATION MATTERS

- (a) **VILLAGE SEATS:** The Clerk was pressing for a reply from the OCC on the sites of the seats at Lower Radley turn and the entrance to Pebble Hill.
- (b) **GARDEN COMPETITION 2005:** Cr Standen reported that the Garden Competition Advisory Working Group had met on the 27 January 2005, and had **AGREED:**

1. Date of Garden Competition:

Garden Competition: Saturday, 9 July 2005
Presentations: Saturday, 23 July 2005

The Clerk would speak to Paddy Dockar-Drysdale to ascertain whether he wished to offer tea before booking the Church Room.

2. Presentation: Thought would be given to displaying photographs at the Presentation

3. **Catering:** Cr J Standen indicated that she was happy to arrange the lunch and tee if necessary at the Church Room on the day of the Garden Competition.
4. **Guides:** Parish Councillors were asked to consider if they were willing to act as Guides on the day before an approach was made to retired councillors – David Buckle, Eric Blanks and David Lloyd.
5. **Judges:** It was agreed that the judges should be approached as soon as the date had been agreed.
6. **Sponsorship:** The following would be approached for sponsorship:
 - (a) Mr Attia
 - (b) Mr Curtis
 - (c) RWEnpower
 - (d) Clerk of the Green Cloth
 - (e) Wick Hall Gardens
 - (f) Copycat Services

The balance from last year would be included.

7. **Review Details:** The Working Group **AGREED** to review the Areas, Criteria and Prizes and the information given to the judges at its next meeting. Further consideration would be given to the criteria for the Parish Council awards.
8. **Marking:** Cr Basil Crowley and Linda Pasquire would be responsible for the marking.

10/05 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- (a) **FOOTWAY BY RAILWAY BRIDGE:** The Clerk was asked to stress the need for this facility, and ask for a site meeting.
- (b) **FOOTPATH BY CEMETERY:** No reply had been received from the Bursar.
- (c) **CONDITION OF FOOTWAYS:** The outcome of the OCC bids for funding was not yet known.
- (d) **FOOTPATH 8 – CHANGE OF DESIGNATION TO CYCLEWAY:** An approach had been made to the OCC Footpaths Officer and ABITS. ABITS had confirmed that the footpath was on the long list of issues that had been identified by Halcrow.
- (e) **SAVE OUR STREETS:** It was noted that the Women’s Institute and English Heritage were asking members to carry out an audit and give details to their elected representatives. **IT WAS AGREED** that the details would be put on the WebSite.
- (f) **STREET FURNITURE:** The Clerk was asked to report the following to the OCC Highways Department – the Give Way Sign at St James Terrace and several bus stops were leaning.

11/05 SPORTS PAVILION

- (a) APPOINTMENT OF CLEANER: It was noted that Mr and Mrs Crabb had been unable to clean the sports pavilion since December, and would not be able to do so for several months. They were willing to continue later in the year if the Parish Council had not made regular arrangements. It was noted that Radley College students would be cleaning the pavilion for a few weeks as part of their community work programme.
- (b) CONDITION OF SPORTS PAVILION
 - (i) The loose toilet has been fixed.
 - (ii) The roof was not leaking, but vents in roof had been allowing rain in. Mr Herring had made an aluminium guard to prevent this happening. On inspection of roof, Mr Herring noticed that pipe lagging was being eaten. Environmental Health had recommended that the Parish Council put sachets of rat/mice poison in the roof area, replacing them annually.
 - (iii) Two new toilet seats have been fitted.
 - (iv) Evidence that some of the showers are leaking, and arrangements would be made for them to be inspected and repaired.
 - (v) Evidence that three electric sockets had been burnt, and a light in one of the toilets was not working. Arrangements would be made for the electrical installations and equipment to be inspected and the faults repaired. In addition, the Parish Council thought that the electrical equipment used by the Radley Youth Football Club should be inspected. In addition it should be made clear to the club that only equipment approved by the Parish Council would be allowed in the sports pavilion.
 - (vi) Some of the ceilings have evidence of damp, and the inside walls are in need of a wash.
 - (vii) Showers need pressure washing.
 - (viii) Front door was difficult to lock. Mr Herring had been asked to look at this.
 - (ix) A lock installed on outside of side door by Radley Youth Football Club had been removed, but the door was in need of repair.

The Secretary of the Radley Youth Football Club had asked for more keys indicating that, with twelve teams, it was extremely

difficult to manage with one key. The managers were having problem securing the building when teams were playing and they had experienced people going into the building. In addition, the club had requested permission to fit locks on the "Home" and "Away" changing rooms.

The Parish Council did not consider that more keys could be given. According to the record, the club had three keys.

- (x) First Aid box needs review, and Radley Youth FC would be asked what they required.

12/05 PARISH WEBSITE

The Website was continuing to improve. The formal report was being prepared for the OCC, and would come to the next meeting. There was some funding left, and consideration was being given to the way this should be spent.

13/05 REPORT OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cr Johnston reported that the Oxfordshire County Council had had a lot of discussion on the highway requirements outlined by ABITS. This included consideration being given to changing the priority at the Whites Lane/Foxborough Road junction, and widening the footways along Foxborough Road. This would not affect the bus route. The OCC Council tax would rise by 4.5%, the lowest rise for some years.

In relation to the Vale of White Horse DC, the Local Plan was now ready for the next stage and there would be an enquiry starting in June. By the end of June 2006 the Local Plan would be in place, which would mean that the Green Belt around Radley was secure until 2016.

14/05 NOTIFIED BUSINESS

NIL

Date:
Chairman

The Chairman formally moved that the Parish Council moved into confidential session and that the public and press be excluded for this item to avoid the release of exempt information.

15/05 DEVELOPMENT AT 5, 7 AND 9 CHURCH ROAD/FUTURE OF VILLAGE SHOP

Cr Nutt reported on the Development at 5, 7, and 9 Church Road and the future of the village shop.

Date:

Chairman