

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ONLINE on
THURSDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2021 at 7.30pm**

PRESENT: Crs Crowley (Chairman), Cook, Dudding, Johnston, Fraser,
Henderson, Smith, Sparks, Standen

IN ATTENDANCE: 3 members of the public, District Councillor Lugova and the clerk

16/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cr Blagrove

17/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cr Crowley declared a prejudicial interest in item 22/21a) regarding Radley Lakes Trust as trustee.

18/21 DISPENSATIONS: None were requested.

19/21 CO-OPTION:

As an election had not been requested to fill the post left vacant by the resignation of Graham Leonard, the Council was permitted to move to fill the vacancy by co-option.

- **RESOLVED to co-opt John Sparks to the Council.**

Cr Sparks signed his declaration of interest.

20/21 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

- (i) Ms Harriet Moggridge asked the Council to seek to ensure that there was a good level of cycle parking for each of the proposed houses on the NW Radley site on the grounds that people were more likely to choose to use their bike for a journey if it was easily accessible.

Cr Johnston advised that it would not be possible to make representations through the planning process at this stage. Cr Dudding offered to take the question forward to Pye if this proved to be a problem.

- (ii) Standing orders were suspended so that a question could be asked of one of the members of public present, Mr John Colton, regarding the suggestion made at the January Council meeting that the Parish Council should seek to acquire as a community asset the land behind Stonhouse Crescent owned by Mr Colton.

Mr Colton responded that the land forms part of a commercial farm and to sell off any part of it would make it marginal. The Gooseacre Farm partnership would not be interested in selling or leasing any part of it.

In relation to the field being used for exercise, Mr Colton responded that although the land might appear fallow, it was actually being farmed as a hay crop and would be cut in late summer.

**21/21 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28th
JANUARY 2021**

- **RESOLVED that the minutes of the January Parish Council meeting were an accurate account of the meeting and should be signed as such by the chairman when permissible.**

22/21 POLICE MATTERS:

None for report.

23/21 PLANNING MATTERS:

(a) **DEVELOPMENT STEERING GROUP:**

The Council received the minutes of the 4th February steering group meeting.
Radley lakes: (Cr Crowley had declared an interest and did not participate in this item)

- **RESOLVED to accept the quote of £750 for the design of a car park at Sandles as part of phase 1 of the masterplan to be paid for by dedicated S106 funds from the N Abingdon development.**
- **RESOLVED to accept a quote of £2500 for phase 2 in accordance with the previously approved fee proposal.**

Gooseacre:

Cr Dudding reported that the community facilities consultation questionnaire would be delivered to all households that week and would also be available online on the website. The deadline for return of responses was 17 March.

Church road car park: The s278 approval was expected shortly.

OCC's consultants had initially sought approval to remove hedgerow for their site entrance, which would come directly off Church Road rather than through the car park as previously requested, but were happy that this was not necessary.

Cr Dudding reported that Pye Homes had noted that it might be necessary to remove 2 trees to achieve required sight lines at the new car park entrance.

- **APPROVED the removal of these two trees if necessary.**

School extension: OCC had not yet submitted their planning application and nothing more had been heard on the funding agreement for the Council's grant towards the school hall extension.

(b) **STRATEGIC SITES:**

South Kennington:

Reports that the fence between the public footpath and railway line was missing allowing access to the line were noted. Despite assurances from Network Rail that the line had been secured, it was thought that that access was still possible.

Action: Clerk to report again to Network Rail.

The Council was seeking a meeting with Redrow and would raise the questions from residents with them then, and raise the question of the sewerage upgrade with Thames Water.

NW Radley:

Pye Homes hoped to have planning approval by the end of February and to have the first 25 houses ready for occupation by the end of 2021, then 48 in each following year. Construction would start at the Church Road end of the site.

The temporary construction access from Church Road was in place.

A group of residents had put forward comments on the landscape and biodiversity plans to Pye.

- **RESOLVED to endorse and to put forward the residents' comments to the planning authority.**

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Cr Johnston reported that he had raised the residents' question on hard landscaping to the Vale.

SEWAGE/SEWERAGE ISSUES in Lower Radley:

There had been a very serious issue with sewage flooding in Lower Radley at the end of January which persisted into February. It had taken a week for Thames Water to deploy a tanker to relieve pressure on the system, during which time sewage backed up into gardens and homes.

The residents had written to the Chief Executive of Thames Water and the Environment Agency and a meeting was arranged with Thames Water. The system was still not working as normal and 6 tankers were still needed every day to draw off sewage.

- **RESOLVED that if the residents wished, the Council should write to Thames Water in support of the group.**

LODGE HILL A34 SLIPS:

Councillors had attended a presentation by OCC on the A34 interchange plans.

- **RESOLVED to submit comments as drafted.**

Cr Johnston reported that he was pressing for the 30mph limit in Sugworth Lane to be extended to beyond the upper entrance to Bigwood caravan park.

24/21 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

(a) RECONCILIATION: The Council

- **ACKNOWLEDGED scrutiny and acceptance of the bank statement and reconciliation**

(b) ACCOUNTS

- **RESOLVED that the accounts as itemised on the monthly cashbook for February should be approved for payment.**

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Ref</u>	<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Payment</u>
<u>Date</u>		<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Gross</u>
		113 Mrs J E Dymock	Refund for gate closer	142.14
		114 HMRC	Balance of January payment	76.92
		DD Google	PC email addresses	55.20 LG Act 1972 s111
		DD Everflow	Water supply pavilion	59.48 LG (Misc Provisions)1976
		DD Everflow	Water supply pavilion	7.91 LG (Misc Provisions)1976
		DD Opus Energy	Pavilion electricity supply	54.75 LG (Misc Provisions)1976
		DD Opus Energy	Pavilion gas supply	0.00 LG (Misc Provisions)1976
15/2/2021		115 Mr J Rogerson	Salary	65.00 Highways Act 1980 s96
25/2/2021	2020/			
		116 HMRC	PAYE and NI	395.86 LG Act 1972 s112
		117 OCC Pension Fund	Staff/employer contributions	530.42 LG Act 1972 s112

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	118 ST Grounds Maintenance	Bin emptying, rubbish clearance	120.00 Public Health Act 1936 s2601875 s614
	119 Leach	Gooseacre questionnaire leaflet	411.10 Localism Act 2011
	120 MRH Services	Play Area quarterly inspection	53.00 Public Health Act 1936 s260
	121 Ady Podbery	Gooseacre brambles	72.00 Public Health Act 1936 s260
	122 Mrs J E Dymock	Gooseacre drawings (50%)	109.25 LG (Misc Provisions)1976
	123 OPFA	Annual subscription	53.00 LG Act 1972 s111
	DD Paypal re: Cult Pens	Stationery	21.45 LG Act 1972 s111
30/2/2021	SO Mrs J E Dymock	Salary (net), telephone	1,315.43 LG Act 1972 s112
31/2/2021	124 Mr J Rogerson	Salary (net)	67.86 Highways Act 1980 s96
15/3/2021	125 Mr J Rogerson	Salary (net)	65.00 Highways Act 1980 s96
			5798.75

- (e) • **RESOLVED to approve the appointment of IAC Audit solutions as internal auditor for the 2021 audit.**

The Internal Audit had been booked for 12th April with the intention that the annual return could be approved at the April meeting.

- (f) CAR PARK ACCESS:

- **RESOLVED to accept a recommendation that Financial regulations should be waived on this occasion** for the reason that it was expedient to accept a single quote because any other contractor would find it impossible to carry out this work independently from the proposed pedestrian crossing and road layout changes to the detriment of the project as a whole. This is as permitted by Financial regulation 11.1d)
- **RESOLVED:**
 - i) **To accept an indicative quote received from Pye Homes to rearrange the car park entrances and associated works and to**
 - ii) **To delegate acceptance of the firm tender to the clerk with the chairman, vice-chairman and Cr Dudding.**

The clerk confirmed that that earmarked CIL funds were available for this project and this could be considered an infrastructure project in the terms of acceptable use of CIL funds.

- (g) PLAYING FIELD: Residents had raised concerns that dogs are being exercised on the field. It was agreed that no action was required to supplement the current no dogs bylaw.
- (h) PAVILION:
- **RESOLVED to accept a quote of £825 from Sharman Roofing to repair and replace guttering and downpipes on the pavilion and to repair the facia.**
- (i) PLAY AREA:
- The annual play area report was received. It was noted that all findings were either low or very low risk but some minor repairs had been carried out at the time of the inspection. No concerns were raised at the function of gates

The play area quarterly report was received. It recommended that equipment is in satisfactory condition but may require some replacement parts shortly.

A volunteer was looking at fitting the hydraulic closer to the gate between the play area and the playing field.

(j) GARDENING CONTRACT:

- **RESOLVED** the recommendation that Ady Podbery should be asked to continue the gardening contract in 2021.

(k) MEETING ARRANGEMENTS:

It was noted that while the regulations permitting online meetings expired on 7th May, gathering indoors was not expected to be permitted until June.

- **RESOLVED** to adopt a proposal for arrangements after May 7th if virtual meeting regulations are not extended (as appended to these minutes)

25/21 REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS had been circulated to the Council in advance of the meeting.

(a) COUNTY: Cr Johnston reported:

1. In the event the County only raised its Council Tax by 2.9% instead of the 4.9% it could have. My Group and others were concerned about this. This is for three reasons. Firstly because the Adult Social Services budget could have benefitted from another £8 million pounds which in our opinion is badly needed. Secondly it will leave a permanent hole in the base budget. This is bad because all government assistance assumes that the maximum in Council Tax has been raised and any grant aid is then reduced accordingly because it is based on the size of the base budget. Thirdly because there are some important contracts coming up for renewal such as the Live Well at Home contract and we don't see how they can be financed with the present budget.
2. You should by now have had the briefing on Lodge Hill. In that context while welcoming the traffic calming, I am trying to get the 30 mph at the bottom of Sugworth Lane taken further up the hill above the top entrance to Bigwood to improve safety. Currently it is between the two entrances, which makes no sense.
3. I have been following up concerns about landscaping on the North West Radley development. Following a briefing I am reasonably satisfied that the tree planting will be what we want, but await absolute final confirmation. Any ornamental shrub planting will be in the centre of the development and not in the wildlife area.

(b) DISTRICT: Crs Lugova and Johnston reported:

1. Oxfordshire's symptom-free testing programme is being expanded to include all public-facing workers and volunteers across the county. Vale testing facility is based in The Beacon, Wantage (OX12 9BX): open 8.30am - 8pm, Monday to Friday, 9.30am-12.30pm Saturday.
2. Vale's Cabinet approved a further Council Tax Relief for up to up to £255 to each eligible Council Tax account for the financial year 2020-21.

3. Vale DC Cllrs voted unanimously for Twenty is Plenty motion to reduce speed limit to 20MPH in residential areas across the district. It will take some time to work out practicalities but it's a good first step.

26/21 HIGHWAY MATTERS:

- (a) ITEMS FOR REPORT ON FIX MY STREET: None
- (b) ITEMS REPORTED: Fly tipping on Thrupp Lane
- (c) 20mph LIMITS: Cr Johnston had previously reported that OCC's policy on 20mph limits had been reversed as they had agreed that they should be the norm in villages.

- **RESOLVED that the Council should seek 20mph limits on village roads where possible.**

Action: Road Safety working group to bring a proposal forward to the next meeting.

- (d) SIDS DATA: None
- (e) LOWER RADLEY JUNCTION: OCC had agreed that the junction of Lower Radley and Church Road would benefit from the installation of pedestrian dropped kerbs and that drops on the footways approaching the bridge would improve the pedestrian link to Lower Radley. They hoped to do the work early in the new financial year.

27/21 CONSERVATION: None

28/21 THRUPP LANE: It was noted that the Prohibition Order would return to OCC in March. The Council had submitted representations asking OCC to take seriously an application for a partial prohibition order as previously suggested by OCC officers. It was hoped that OCC's legal team would be asked to consider this as a way forward as no gravel remained on that part of the site.

29/21 MATTERS FOR REPORT or discussion without decision:

- Dog waste bag dispensers

30/21 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA: None

31/21 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:

- Planning committee: Thursday 25th March 2021 at 7.15pm (if required)
 - Ordinary meeting: Thursday 25th March 2021 7.30pm
- All meetings to be held virtually on Zoom.

Signed.....Date.....

(Chairman)

Radley Parish Council

Arrangements for meetings after 7 May 2021.			
Meeting	Normal timing	Statutory requirement	Agreed
Annual Parish Meeting	April	Annually during April or May	The Council would hold an online meeting in April followed later in the year with an in-person meeting when feasible.
Annual Meeting	May	Annually in May	To be held remotely on either 1 st or 3 rd - 6 th May to conduct the following business 1. Chairman election 2. Adopt working arrangements 3. Agree committee membership
Ordinary Meeting	4 th Thursday of each month	6 per year	To review the scheme of delegation agreed in March 2020 and to delegate to clerk with the agreement of advisory committees (to be agreed) meeting remotely. To report all delegated decisions on the website as required by accessibility regulations. To review regularly in the light of: regulation changes, venue constraints, whether attendees are comfortable to meet in person. The Council would consider holding future meetings in the larger space of the village hall (this would require a temporary change of evening)
Finance and Administration Committee	April, July, November	Committees must be open to the public.	No change. Meeting online in April.
Advisory Working Groups eg Development Steering Group		Not required to be held in public	Permissible to continue to hold meetings remotely.
Garden competition	End June/ beginning of July.	Normally an all day event catered Number of people involved: 22 in total.	Wait until closer to time to see what is permitted. (Write to judges and guides saying the PC hopes it will go ahead in some form).