

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 28 OCTOBER
2004 AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Cr D Standen (in the Chair)
Crs Crowley, Henderson, Johnston, Mott, Nutt, J Standen, Wilson

161/04 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Crs Gilbert, Wren and Wyatt.

162/04 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cr Nutt declared an interest on Item 168/04(i) (a) (i) on the Licensing Act 2003.
There were no other declarations of interest.

**163/04 MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, 23
SEPTEMBER 2004**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 23
September 2004 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman.

164/04 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

- (a) **TRIANGLE OF LAND – BY GARAGES IN STONHOUSE CRESCENT:** The DC had been asked again if it would tidy up this area.
- (b) **SEWAGE – FOXBOROUGH ROAD:** Cr Johnston reported that Thames Water was investigating the matter further.
- (c) **VANDALISM TO SPORTS PAVILION – COST OF REPAIRS:** The Clerk reported that the work had been undertaken, except for the slope to the double doors – this would be half slope, half step. The insurance company had indicated that, whilst it appreciated why the Council wanted to take the opportunity to improve the security of the premises and attempt to “vandal-proof” them, these were regarded as improvements to the property and not something which could be met by the insurance company. It had asked that two competitive estimates be obtained to repair what was already there or replace whichever was the most economic; they would be happy to contribute this sum towards the improvement work the Parish Council wished to have done. Mr Herring had agreed to prepare an estimate for repair/replacement work only and the Clerk would contact Graham Sillman to see if he could help.

It was reiterated that a letter should be sent to the police indicating that as there were possibly identifiable offenders the Parish Council hoped they were pursuing these people with the aim of taking suitable action.

The Clerk reported that she had met PC Leafe, the Crime Reduction Advisor. He was very happy with the work undertaken by the Parish Council which met a lot of the suggestions he was going to make. He would be sending a report and give details of suitable CCTV and security lighting.

- (d) **TRANSPORT MITIGATION MEASURES FOR VILLAGES SURROUNDING ABINGDON:** Crs Crowley and Mott reported that they had met a representative from Halcrow. They had outlined the points of concern to the Parish Council, including the position at Catharine Close, Footpath 8 and the need for this to be designated as a cycle way, and these would be reported back so that some proposals could be put forward. Gateways at entrances to village and coloured road surfaces had been mentioned.

It had been noted that there was a hole in the hedging which was allowing people to enter Footpath 8 from the road. The Clerk was asked to raise this with Bill Homewood.

- (e) **SOUTH-WEST OXFORDSHIRE PRIMARY CARE TRUST, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 28 SEPTEMBER 2004:** Cr Wren had attended this meeting, and a detailed report which he had prepared was tabled. This was noted with interest.

165/04 POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk reported that PC Wheble was unable to attend the meeting, but the meeting accepted his report that there had been three reported crimes in Radley since 1 October 2004 – a theft of a motor vehicle from Kennington Road, and two episodes of criminal damage at Bigwood and Pebble Hill Mobile Home Parks. In relation to reports of anti-social use of motorcycles, PC Wheble would seek a meeting with Mr Frearson when he was back in his role as ABO next week. In relation to the robbery in Lower Radley reported at the last meeting, CID was currently investigating. There had been some useful information received and enquiries continued. PC Wheble had indicated that part of the problem in reporting incidents such as anti-social motorcycling is that when calls came through to Abingdon Police Station to say that there were offenders there at the time, the Station Duty Officers were just leaving messages for PC Wheble instead of creating incidents on the computer system. This should change as Inspector Farmer had created a trigger plan which stated that all calls should be dealt with as soon as possible.

The Parish Council appreciated that there was a need to train new recruits, but were glad to learn that PC Wheble would be back on ABO duties shortly. The Clerk was asked to press Inspector Farmer to attend a meeting to discuss police cover in the Parish and the need for action in relation to the vandalism at the sports pavilion.

It was queried whether the police surgeries were taking place, and the Clerk would raise this with PC Wheble.

166/04 PLANNING MATTERS

(i) New Applications

- (a) RAD/13502/2 – Proposed garage, 15 Lower Radley: The Parish Council objected as it believed this to be overdevelopment of the site by virtue of the massing of the garage. The plans were ambiguous and it was not clear of the location of the garage in relation to the road.
- (b) RAD/18824 – Erection of a rear conservatory, 3 Drysdale Close, Radley: No objections, subject to comments by neighbours.
- (c) RAD/9042/3 – Erection of a conservatory, 50 St James Road: No objections, subject to comments by neighbours.

(ii) Permission Given

- (a) RAD/18671/1 – Two storey rear extension. New dormer to front and demolition of garage, 30 Sugworth Lane.

(iii) Lower Radley Conservation Area – Planning Application RAD/12411/2 – 23 Lower Radley

The Chairman reported that he and the Clerk had met the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Development Control Committee, with officers from the Planning Department, to discuss the problems being experienced with the development at 23 Lower Radley. It was noted that the house was being built according to the planning permission, and the planning officer had suggested a solution to the unsightly garage wall by the provision of a sloping tiled roof. However, this was dependent upon the neighbour giving access to allow the building work to take place. The Chairman of the Development Control Committee indicated that he would be writing to the neighbour, who had asked him to look into the matter, with the proposed solution.

At the same time, the Chairman indicated that he raised the question of Lower Radley becoming a conservation area, and the disappointment felt by the Parish Council because there was no likelihood of this work being undertaken because of other commitments. The DC officers had indicated that currently the appraisals necessary for those areas designated as Conservation Areas was not being carried out, and there was no possibility of new areas being designated in the foreseeable future.

(iv) Planning Application Areas

The Clerk was concerned that the Parish Council was missing deadlines for planning applications. **IT WAS AGREED** that planning applications should be submitted to a small group of Councillors so that a view could be obtained and passed back to the Clerk as soon as possible. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Crs Nutt, J Standen and Wilson were available to look at planning applications

during the day, and agreed to participate in this new arrangement. The Clerk would email the views and recommended response to all Councillors, so that, unless other views were expressed, responses could be sent off in good time to the Planning Department.

167/04 FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Nutt and **AGREED** that the following payments should be made:

Payments made in between meetings:

(i)	Public Works Loan Board:	£1,302.00
(ii)	Inland Revenue:	£314.29

Payments to be made:

(i)	BMA Varsity – new security lock for sports pavilion:	£72.54
(ii)	Radley PCC – Rent for Church Room:	£42.00
(iii)	Copycat Services – Photocopying:	£23.74
(iv)	MRH Services:	£4,086.22
	Temporary Repair of Doors to Sports Pavilion, repair to closing gate and repair of manhole cover:	£170.25
	Work at sports pavilion, steel covers on shutters and double doors; and clearing veranda, and Providing concrete base:	£3,915.97
(v)	Miss S E Raven:	£1,559.10
	Salary – September 2004:	£348.00
	Salary – October 2004:	£348.22
	Payment to Village Cleaner – November 2004:	£68.75
	Expenses - Quarter ended 30 June 2004:	
	Expenses:	£25.00
	Telephone:	£21.74
	Mileage:	£65.65
	Postage:	£36.96
	Working for Your Council (update):	£12.50
	Expenses – Quarter ended 30 September 2004:	
	Expenses:	£25.00
	Stationery:	£23.50
	Telephone:	£21.74
	Mileage:	£170.69
	Postage:	£54.46
	Barrier Tape – Sports Pavilion:	£3.02
	Village Cleaner – Bags:	£6.98
		£9.60
	Padlock Keys – Play Area:	£17.00

Replacement Lock and Cylinder:	£44.97
Photocopying:	£5.32
2004/2005 – Rent for Use of Computer:	£250.00

(b) GRANTS BY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council considered whether it should have a policy for determining the future level of support it gave for the benefit of sports clubs. As a general principle whatever the Parish Council decided to do it should be transparent, i.e. any decisions made on charging should be clearly set out, and if the Parish Council provided any financial assistance to any group it should be clear and explicit. **IT WAS AGREED** to revisit this matter when the new scale of charges from Radley College were known.

(c) ACCOUNTS 2004/2005

The Parish Council noted the accounts 2004/2005, showing the position at 30 September 2004.

(d) THRUPP LANE LEASE – CORRESPONDENCE WITH SOLICITOR

IT WAS AGREED that the Law Society should be asked to look at the correspondence to see whether the Parish Council should take any further action.

168/04 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) **ACTION REQUIRED:**

(a) Vale of White Horse DC:

(i) Licensing Act 2003 – Statement of Licensing Policy: Councillors **AGREED** to look the document up on the Web, and pass any comments to the Clerk.

(b) Oxfordshire County Council:

(i) Inland Waterways Scrutiny Review:
(ii) Customer Service Strategy:
The Clerk was asked to submit the comments prepared by Crs Standen and Standen

(c) Victim Support – Request for Grant: to be referred to the Finance and Administration Committee.

(d) Crimestoppers – increasing understanding: to be advertised on notice boards and in Radley News.

(e) Oxfordshire Association for Local Councils:

(i) A Guide to becoming a Quality Council: noted
(ii) OALC Circular, October 2004: noted

(ii) **CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE:**

- (a) Vale of White Horse DC:
 - (i) Standards Committee, 12 October 2004
- (b) Oxfordshire County Council:
 - (i) News, October 2004
 - (ii) An Introduction to Environment and Economy
 - (iii) Supported bus services – Chipping Norton and Woodstock area review and other services changes from December 2004
- (c) Oxford Rural Community Council:
 - (i) Breaking Down Barriers – Dealing with rural isolation and social exclusion in Oxfordshire, 24 November 2004.
 - (ii) News, Autumn 2004
 - (iii) Annual General Meeting 2004, 24 November 2004
- (d) Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association Newsletter, Autumn 2004
- (e) Wicksteed Leisure – The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and how the October 2004 provisions relate to your outdoor public play areas.
- (f) Radley PCC:
 - (i) Invitation to Vice-Chairman to service for the Licensing of new Priest.
 - (ii) Radley Upper Burial Ground (Adjacent to Primary School) – Acceptance of agreement with Parish Council
- (g) Office of the Deputy Prime Minister – New Ethical Framework Regulations come into force on 4 November 2004
- (h) Grove and Wantage Waterside Campaign Launched

169/04 CONSERVATION MATTERS

- (a) FOOTPATH 9 - THRUPP LANE: The Oxfordshire County Council had indicated that it was very difficult to get status of a right of way downgraded. It would be necessary to prove that the path had been incorrectly recorded as a Byway and produce evidence to show that it was historically only used as a footpath.
- (b) VILLAGE SEATS: The Chairman reported that he and the Clerk had met Mr Ed Carter, a pupil from Radley College who, as a project, was going to make a seat for the village. He had brought a profile with some 16 designs, and two designs had been selected for development. The seat would be sited on the grass verge by the bus stop outside the entrance to Pebble Hill.
- (c) OAK TREE, VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK: It was reported that the tree had been cut down. **IT WAS AGREED** that the planting of a tree in this area should be added to the Amenity Tree Planting List if possible.

170/04 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- (a) RAILWAY BRIDGE: The possibility of a footpath over the railway bridge should be pursued.
- (b) FOOTPATH BY CEMETERY: The Clerk reported that she had arranged to meet the Bursar.
- (c) CONDITION OF PAVEMENTS: Cr Johnston reported that he had made strong representations about the need for urgent work on the pavement between 137 and 151 Sugworth Lane. In addition, he had pressed for improvements to the pavement in Church Road/Foxborough Road between St James Road, and the widening of the Foxborough Road pavement.
- (d) WEIGHT RESTRICTION NOTICE: The notice in Audlett Drive had been knocked down.

171/04 OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER – CONSULTATION:

It was not possible to discuss the following documents as Cr Wyatt had been unable to attend the meeting:

- (i) Draft Code of Conduct for Local Government Employees, and
- (ii) A review of Restrictions on the Political Activities of Local Authority Employees and Pay of Political Assistants.

172/04 OXFORDSHIRE STRUCTURE PLAN

Cr Johnston explained the procedure taking place at the Examination in Public. It was noted that land at Pebble Hill was not one of the proposals.

173/04 UPDATE ON PROJECTS

- (a) PLAY AREA: The Clerk was pursuing dates with TOE AND WREN for the opening ceremony. **IT WAS AGREED** that the village cleaner should be asked to empty the rubbish bin in the Play Area.

174/04 PARISH WEBSITE

The website would be launched on the 5 November 2004. Flyers had been prepared to drop through every house in the Parish, and Councillors were asked to help with their delivery. It was noted that it would be possible to look at the website from the middle of next week. A table had been hired at the Bazaar, when laptops would be available for use.

175/04 PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES – VACANCIES

It was noted that there was a vacancy on the Finance and Administration Committee, and it was suggested that Cr Wren should fill this. Further consideration would be given to membership if Cr Gilbert wished to be on any of the Committees.

176/04 RWEnpower LIAISON COMMITTEE, 19 OCTOBER 2004

The notes of the meeting held on the 19 October 2004 were noted. It was queried whether it would be possible to retain one lake.

177/04 REPORT OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cr Johnston reported that the Vale of White Horse District Council was considering its budget for next year, and were making some savings through transferring its leisure activities to a Leisure Trust.

The Oxfordshire County Council work had been taken up with footpaths and traffic calming measures.

178/04 NOTIFIED BUSINESS

- (a) NOISE NUISANCE: **IT WAS AGREED** that a letter should be sent to South Oxfordshire District Council asking what action had been taken against the offenders in relation to the noise at a party at Chislehampton over the weekend of 9-10 October.
- (b) ACCESS TO RAILWAY STATION: **IT WAS AGREED** that this should be put on the agenda of the next meeting.

Date:

Chairman