

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH
COUNCIL HELD AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 22
MAY 2008 AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Cr J Standen (in the Chair)
Crs Crowley, Davies, Henderson, Johnston, Nutt, Rogers, D Standen,
Yorston

74/08 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Cr D Standen, seconded by Cr Crowley and **AGREED** that Cr J Standen should be elected as Chairman for 2008/2009.

It was proposed by Cr Nutt, seconded by Cr D Standen and **AGREED** that Cr Rogers be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for the year 2008/2009. Crs Crowley and Henderson abstained from voting.

Declarations of Office were signed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

75/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

There were no other Declarations of Interest.

76/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cr Wilson.

77/08 ELECTION OF COMMITTEES AND ADVISORY WORKING GROUPS

It was **AGREED** that the membership for the Committees and Advisory Working Groups should be as follows:

Finance and Administration Committee:	Cr B Crowley Cr R T Johnston Cr D Nutt (Playing Field Coordinator) Cr D Standen
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Liaison Committee – RWEnPower:	Cr B Crowley Cr C Henderson Cr D Nutt Cr M Wilson
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Garden Competition Advisory Working Group:	Cr B Crowley Cr D Standen
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Annual Tree Planting Programme/Maintenance of Footpaths Advisory Working Group:	Cr C Henderson Cr R T Johnston Cr D Nutt Cr M Wilson
Conservation Working Party (Nature):	Cr B Crowley Cr C Henderson Cr D Standen Abingdon Naturalists Society: Mrs Jo Cartmell Mrs Gunilla Harbour Dr Robert Eeles Radley College: Mrs Annabel Eyres
Judicial Review Working Party:	Cr J Standen Cr B Crowley Cr G Rogers Mr Roger Thomas
Village Hall Management Committee:	Cr J Standen Cr B Crowley Cr B Johnston Mr G Collett Mrs V Hicks
Village Pond Management Committee:	Mrs Inga Doherty, Radley Primary School Mr Paul Gamble, Radley College Cr Denis Standen Cr Guy Rogers
Website Working Group:	Cr M Wilson Cr B Crowley Mr John Huddleston Mrs Joyce Huddleston

Designation of Lower Radley as a Conservation Area: Deferred

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman were ex-officio members of all committees and advisory working groups.

The Working Arrangements of the Parish Council and the Terms of Reference of the Committees and Advisory Groups were noted.

78/08 REPRESENTATIVES FOR:

Village Hall Management Committee:	Cr C Henderson Cr D Nutt (substitute)
Parish Transport Representatives:	Cr D Standen (Buses) Cr I Yorston /Trains) Cr B Crowley (Roads)
Link with Southern Electricity:	Cr J Standen
Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association:	Cr D Nutt
Thames Valley Police:	
• Country Watch:	Cr D Nutt
• Neighbourhood Action Group:	Cr E Davies Cr J Standen

79/08 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Council reviewed the current method of dealing with planning applications and **AGREED** that this should continue. Plans would be circulated as received to the following Councillors:

Cr J Standen
Cr D Standen
Cr M Wilson
Cr G Rogers
Cr D Nutt
Cr B Crowley

80/08 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 24 APRIL 2008

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 24 April 2008 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman.

81/08 CLERK'S REPORT ON BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

- (a) SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL PERSON:
- (b) REVIEW OF PRIMARY SCHOOL PROVISION:
- (c) BUILDING WORK AT RADLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

It was reported that the Chairman and Clerk had met Frances Lockwood, Head Teacher of Radley Primary School. In relation to (a), the Head Teacher appreciated that money was available via the OCC and the Clerk agreed to ascertain whether the person who had expressed an interest in being school crossing patrol person was still available. Unfortunately this was not the case, and it was **AGREED** that a plea should be made through Radley News and notices on the board to see if anyone was interested in taking on this work.

Regarding (b), the Head Teacher confirmed that the Primary School was not in any danger, and was full at the moment.

Regarding (c), the Head Teacher indicated that the building work was about one month behind the time table. The question of the pond fencing was mentioned, and she was willing to discuss the replacement fence alongside the Parish Council's plans for this area. Another meeting would be held once further information was available.

There was discussion relating to the responsibility for the pond. It was accepted that as the lease was held by the Parish Council, the pond was the legal responsibility of the Parish Council. However, it was appreciated that the primary school should be making more use of the pond for educational purposes, and discussions on its future use needed to be held. The Clerk had approached Paul Gamble, the Radley College representative on the Village Pond Management Committee, to sort out a date for the next meeting.

- (d) **ADOPTION OF RADLEY STATION:** The OCC had reported that the platform improvement work at the station had been completed, and that it was expected that the work on the entrance area to the station would be completed within the next two weeks, when the new lighting was fitted. The surfacing of the car park and approach road was due to take place on the weekend of Saturday, 31 May/Sunday 1 June, and the car park would need to be closed to vehicles to allow the surfacing to take place unhindered. It will be possible for people to walk to the station. Councillors expressed concern about the width of the approach road, and the Clerk was asked to inform the OCC.
- (e) **APPLICATION FROM H TUCKWELL & SONS LTD:** It was noted that the application would now be considered by the OCC Planning and Regulations Committee on the 21 July 2008. Mr Mike Wilson had made a further representation to the OCC regarding traffic levels and the breakdown in relation to Tuckwell transport. The Parish Council were concerned about the continual delay in the OCC giving consideration to this application especially as the previous permission expired at the end of December, and the Clerk was asked to write to the OCC strongly objecting to the delay.
- (f) **LAND REGISTRY:** No further information was available to date.
- (g) **RADLEY SWIMMING CLUB:** No further information was available to date.
- (h) **COPSE – CHURCH ROAD:** It was noted that the solicitor was finding out the time scale for the work.
- (i) **AWARDS TO LOCAL PEOPLE:** The Clerk and Chairman would be following this up after their return from holiday.
- (j) **LEADBITTER HOARDINGS – RECENT DEVELOPMENT IN STONHOUSE CRESCENT:** This was being followed up.
- (k) **INFLUENZA PANDEMIC** **PLANNING:** Report requested.

- (l) VALE OF WHITE HORSE DC – Your Vale: Your Future: Cr Rogers reported that he had attended this meeting, but had nothing useful to report.
- (m) PLAY AREA: The point made by MRH Services had been followed up with Playdale.
- (n) NETWORK RAIL: The Clerk reported that Network Rail had reported that the correct location had been found and repair work was being undertaken on the bridge. The Clerk was requested to ask Mr Faulkner if he could keep an eye on the position.

82/08 POLICE MATTERS

- (a) REPRESENTATIVE ON NAG: It had not been possible for Cr Yorston to attend the NAG meeting on 7 May 2008. It was noted that the next two meetings were on the 11 June 2008 and 16 July 2008.
- (b) MOTORCYCLISTS BEHIND STONHOUSE CRESCENT: PC Delaney was keeping an eye on the problem of the motorcyclists.
- (c) SPEEDING: PC Delaney had been notified of the speeding vehicle from Lower Radley. In addition, the Head Teacher at Radley Primary School had reported the speed buses were driving in the village, and this was being followed up by the police.
- (d) WOLVERCOTE VIADUCT REPLACEMENT – A34: Details of this work were noted.
- (e) NEW AREA SUPERVISOR: It was noted that Sgt Charlie Pollard was now the area supervisor. She had been invited to attend a Parish Council meeting. **IT WAS AGREED** that it would be useful to have an update on the police staff covering Radley.

83/08 PLANNING MATTERS:

- (i) **New Applications:** NIL
- (ii) **Permission Given**
 - (a) RAD/9390/3 – Erection of a single storey front extension. Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension, 27 Selwyn Crescent.
- (iii) **Misc.**
 - (a) DC Planning Enforcement Policy: **IT WAS AGREED** that a copy of this document should be given to those Councillors who looked at planning and applications. Cr Davies also requested a copy.

- (b) Planning Application Consultation – County Council Planning Matters: noted

84/08 APPLICATION FOR TOWN GREEN STATUS – THRUPP AND BUILFIELD LAKES, RADLEY

- (a) PRESS RELEASE: It was confirmed that an agreed press release had been issued.
- (b) RWE NPOWER: The Councillors discussed the draft notes of the meeting with Didcot Power Station staff, and a number of amendments were made. It was generally agreed that the meeting had been useful and it was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Henderson and agreed that the Local Liaison Committee should be re-established subject to a review of the terms of reference. Cr Crowley voted against this. **IT WAS AGREED** that a copy of the Parish Council notes should be sent to Mr Rainford.

85/08 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (a) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr D Standen, and **AGREED** that the following accounts should be paid.
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| (i) | Miss S E Raven: | £479.70 |
| | Salary, May 2008: | £398.55 |
| | Village Cleaner, June 2008: | £81.15 |
| (ii) | Mrs K Sharp – Salary, May 2008: | £142.76 |
| (iii) | Thames Water - Sports Pavilion: | £77.01 |
| (iv) | Thames Water – Allotments: | £7.98 |
| (v) | Berinsfield Community Business: | £337.83 |
| (vi) | Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils: | £481.10 |
| | 1. Subscription: | £434.10 |
| | 2. Course, 2 July 2008: | £47.00 |
| (vii) | Oxfordshire Rural Community Council – Subscription: | £20.00 |
| (viii) | Protax – Payroll Services: | £105.75 |
| (ix) | Allianz Insurance: | £1,847.41 |
| (x) | Village Hall Management Committee – Hire of Hall for Garden Competition Presentations: | £22.00 |
- (b) INTERNET BANKING: It was proposed by Cr Crowley, seconded by Cr D Standen and **AGREED** that the Clerk should be allowed to use internet banking.
- (c) PLAY AREA – ASH AND WILLOW TREES: It was proposed by Cr Johnston,

seconded by Cr D Standen and **AGREED** that the quotation of £240 plus VAT from Ringrose Tree Surgery to remove and coppice the two trees should be accepted.

- (d) GRANT APPLICATION – ADDITIONAL PARISH CLEANSING GRANT 2008/2009: It was noted that this would be considered by the North East Area Committee on the 9 June 2008.

86/08 PLAYING FIELD MATTERS

- (a) PLAY AND SPORTS SEMINARY, 14 MAY 2008: Cr D Standen reported on the matters discussed at the Seminar. There had been emphasis on unconventional/ informal sport activity and using the open spaces available, and involving young people.
- (b) PROVISION OF CCTV EQUIPMENT: It was proposed by Cr Rogers, seconded by Cr Henderson and **AGREED** that the Parish Council should not provide the CCTV equipment taking into account the recent statement on the use of such equipment. The Clerk was asked to let Feel Secure know that the Parish Council would not be pursuing this any further.

87/08 CONSERVATION

- (a) CONSERVATION WORKING PARTY (NATURE): The notes of the meeting held on the 24 April 2008 were noted.
- (b) PLACES FOR PEOPLE – FOOTPATH 8: Three estimates had been received, but one of these had not been in accordance with the specification. An amended estimate had been requested but, as this had not been received, an approach had been made to another firm for the third estimate. The project had been registered with ENTRUST, so could go ahead once the Parish Council had accepted an estimate. The paperwork had been obtained to allow an application to be made for a District Council grant.
- (c) DESIGNATION OF LOWER RADLEY AS A CONSERVATION AREA: It was noted that the Radley History Club had agreed to participate in a Working Group. Consideration of the membership of this group was deferred until the next meeting.
- (d) GARDEN COMPETITION, 5 JULY 2008: The quotation for lunch received from Mrs Sue Crabb was noted. **IT WAS AGREED** that in view of the low amount of sponsorship it would not be possible to have outside caterers this year and similar arrangements to the last few years would be put in place. The Clerk gave an update on the position in relation to the arrangements.
- (e) ACTION ON “ENVIROCRIMES” – POWERS FOR PARISH COUNCILS: No date had been arranged for this meeting.

- (f) VILLAGE POND: The Clerk had asked if the pupils at Radley College could help with the measurement of the water volume so that the liquid could be purchased to ease the algae problem.
- (g) COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD: The Clerk reported that she had asked Mr Paul Gamble for an update on this.

88/08 HIGHWAY MATTERS:

- (a) OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – ABINGDON ITS: The Councillors reported back on the meeting with County Councillor Ian Hudspeth, indicating that the one good thing that came out was that further consideration was being given to providing a second access on to the A34 for vehicles wishing to travel south.
- (b) THRUPP LANE: It was not yet known whether the OCC would provide a counter strip.
- (c) SPEED LIMIT – RADLEY/SUNNINGWELL TURNS, OLD A34:
- (d) CONDITION OF ROAD BY 35/36 STONHOUSE CRESCENT:
- (e) LOWER RADLEY – SPEED LIMIT:
- (f) UNEVEN KERB, 33 CHURCH ROAD:
No further information was available on these matters.
- (g) PROVISION OF BUS SHELTER: The Clerk reported that she had not yet prepared the application for additional bus shelters.
- (h) RADLEY COLLEGE – COLLAPSE OF BANK: It was noted that Mr John Beaumont, Oxfordshire Highways, had spoken to the Clerk about this. He did not feel that the real problem had been found and the possibility that some change had taken place was being investigated. Repair work had been undertaken. Cr Johnston reported that he had pursued this also, and a report had appeared in the Oxford Mail.
- (i) CATHARINE CLOSE: The advice from the Oxfordshire Highways was that this type of service was rough and would get smoother with usage. The Councillors considered that it was “rough” in the sense of a bad job, and the Clerk was asked to follow this up further with Oxfordshire Highways.
- (j) PEDESTRIAN SIGNS, LOWER RADLEY: The Clerk was asked to pursue this, making the points that the sign had been put too near the bridge and that the distance mentioned on the signs needed to be changed.

89/08 PARISH WEBSITE

There was no report this month

90/08 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 Annual Meeting had been held and the new Leader was Tony de Vere. Cr Johnston reported that he was no longer on the Executive.

Oxfordshire County Council: Cr Johnston reported on action he had taken in relation to the flooding outside Radley College and the Tuckwell Application, and that he was now the Shadow Cabinet Member for Change Management.

91/08 REPORT ON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, 9 MAY 2008

The Parish Council noted that the following matters had been raised at the Annual Parish Meeting:

- (a) **RAILWAY STATION:** There were complaints about irrelevant messages, and it was queried whether thought was being given to Real Time Display visual information? This matter would be raised with the OCC.
- (b) **LITTER BINS:** The provision of more litter bins would be put on a future agenda.
- (c) **DOG LITTER BIN:** It was noted that there were continual problems with emptying. The Clerk reported that she raised this with the DC regularly when it was overflowing, and she had asked that it be raised with the contractors as was happening so often.
- (d) **POTHOLE:** The problem had been drawn to the attention of Oxfordshire Highways a number of times...
- (e) **TUCKWELLS:** There were complaints about the noise of machinery/bleeping of reversing lorries. It was noted that the Parish Council had raised this through its objections to the extension of the use of the site.
- (f) **BUS PASSES:** The 9.30 am start causes problems with people who have early hospital appointments. The DC should be informed that this had been raised at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- (g) **CAR PARK:** There were complaints about people parking in the bus bay in front of the church despite the position of the car park.
- (h) **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:** The meeting felt that the content of the meeting should be extended to include reports from village organisations. **IT WAS AGREED** that a letter should be sent to all local groups outlining the new arrangement. So far primary school, swimming club,

History Club, and Pre-School Group have expressed an interest in participating. Amplification was required for a larger group, and Mr Eric Blanks had expressed an interest in providing this.

The Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Friday, 8 May 2009, and Parish Councillors were asked to note this date.

- (i) VILLAGE SHOP: The appeal for volunteers was noted.

92/08 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) FOR ACTION

(a) Oxfordshire County Council:

- (i) Consultation on Bus Strategy: No comments were made on this.

(b) Vale of White Horse DC:

- (i) Lopping tree branches off one Oak Tree at 28 Bigwood Park: It was **AGREED** that this was necessary.
- (ii) Thames Water's Draft Resources Plan – Meeting, 21 July 2008, at 6.30 pm in the Guildhall, Abingdon. Crs Crowley, J Standen and Davies **AGREED** to attend the meeting.
- (iii) Code of Conduct for Parish and Town Councils Guide for Members on Declaring Interests at Meeting – DC Officers Guide: noted

(ii) FOR INFORMATION

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council: Home2School Newsletter, Summer 2008
- (b) Vale of White Horse – Information Sheet No 3
- (c) Clerks and Councils Direct, May 2008
- (d) Local Council Review, May 2008
- (e) ASHTAV News
- (f) Thames and Chilterns in Bloom Association
- (g) Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action – Details on volunteer centres
- (h) Rail future Newsletter, May 2008

93/08 NOTIFIED BUSINESS

NIL

Date:

Chairman

CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE, 22 MAY 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.

94/07 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 24 APRIL 2008

The Confidential Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 24 April 2008 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman.

95/08 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 16 MAY 2008

The Confidential Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 16 May 2008 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman with the following amendment:

Minute 75/08 should read: Cr Crowley declared a personal and prejudicial interest in activities, finances and the legal position of Save Radley Lakes.”

96/08 RADLEY COLLEGE

A draft copy of the flyer for the public meeting on Friday, 11 July 2008, was amended. Parish Councillors agreed to discuss the proposals in detail at the next meeting.

97/07 APPLICATION FOR TOWN GREEN STATUS – THRUPP AND BULLFIELD LAKES, RADLEY

The Parish Council reviewed the decision made at the meeting on the 16 May 2008, and **AGREED** that this should be amended as follows, although concern was expressed about the changes to the earlier decision being changed.:

- (b) Mr Alastair Wallace should be asked if he and Mr Petchey could explore the possibility and desirability of engaging George Laurence QC to act for the Parish Council, for a fee of up to £2,500.
- (c) No letter should be sent to the OCC’s External Auditor.

98/08 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION FOR PRESS RELEASE

No press release should be issued.

Date:
Chairman