

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 27th JANUARY
2011**

PRESENT: Cr J Standen (in the chair)
Crs Crowley, Davies, D Standen, Pasquire, Henderson, Nutt,
Rogers and Yorston
In Attendance: County Councillor Fatemian, 3 members of the public and the
clerk

1/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received from Councillors Johnston and Nutt

2/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cr Pasquire declared a personal interest in matters relating to the Friends of Radley Lakes and a personal and prejudicial interest in items relating to Radley Village Shop.

Crs J Standen and D Standen declared personal interests in matters relating to Friends of Radley Station.

Cr Henderson declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 12: Threatened closure of Kennington library.

3/11 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

- (a) Mr Mike Wilson reported that the Thrupp Lane residents had made a submission on the CLEUD application submitted by J Curtis.
- (b) Tuckwell CLEUD: The Council had received a letter from Rob Dance of Oxfordshire County Council and this was read out to the meeting.

Councillors had understood that they had asked Mr Dance to proceed with enforcement action at the October meeting and it was **AGREED** that the Council should write to insist that OCC proceed with issuing a formal notice of enforcement without further delay.

**4/11 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH
COUNCIL, 16th DECEMBER 2010:**

Corrections to the minutes:

177/10: Item should read “bus **shelter**”

179/10: Item should refer to “Cr **J** Standen”, as should item 181/10.

With those corrections, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 16th December 2010 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman.

5/11 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- (a) **PLAY AREA MAINTENANCE:** A quote had been received from the manufacturer and another was awaited.
- (b) **APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF LAWFULNESS BY J CURTIS AND SONS, THRUPP LANE:** The points made at the last meeting had been submitted.
- (c) **POTHoles IN FOXBOROUGH ROAD:** Repairs are being carried out but some of the longstanding ones are still outstanding and the clerk would keep pursuing them with Highways.
- (d) **MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENTS WORKING PARTY:** Date to be arranged.
- (e) **DATE OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:** The Church Room was unavailable on the preferred date and the Clerk had booked the room for Wednesday 4th May.

6/11 POLICE MATTERS:

- (a) **NAG MEETING:** Cr Davies reported that the main preoccupation of the last meeting had been thefts of copper, lead and street furniture.

Oxfordshire County Council's Trading Standards team is warning people about conmen who are cold calling residents and claiming that their computers are infected with viruses which they can fix.

Trading Standards are making enquiries about a company driveway and landscaping called Homepride Landscapes.

The next meeting will have cold calling as an agenda item.

- (b) Cr Nutt had reported that a quad bike has regularly been seen riding at speed along the pavement in Kennington Road.
- (c) A number of people had recorded their concern that vehicles belonging builders working at 1, Foxborough Road are regularly parked too close to the bend and on the pavement. The police had been asked to attend.

7/11 PLANNING MATTERS:

- (a) **NEW APPLICATIONS:**

- (i) RAD/237/116 (10/02309/FUL): Demolition of existing gymnasium building. Erection of new building to include teaching, social and display spaces. Radley College: **NO OBJECTION**, but the planners would be asked to consider whether the north façade could be improved to provide a better setting for the racquet courts entrance.
 - (ii) RAD/21455 (10/02400/FUL): Proposed two storey rear extension and internal alterations, 6 Spinneys Close, Radley: **NO OBJECTION**.
- (b) **APPLICATIONS APPROVED:**
- (i) RAD/5040/10-LB (10/02244/LBC): Proposed repair works and structural strengthening to listed barn, Peachcroft Farm, Twelve Acre Drive.
 - (ii) RAD/237/115: Refurbishment and minor extensions to existing storage buildings to provide additional facilities for grounds department, Radley College
 - (iii) RAD/237/114 (10/01879/FUL) Park Cottage, Kennington Road, Radley: Erection of two detached houses and associated hard and soft landscaping
- (c) 1, FOXBOROUGH ROAD: The Monitoring Officer had confirmed that she was satisfied that the works are Permitted Development.
- (d) 72, FOXBOROUGH ROAD: It was noted that the property had been sold by Radley College and the development was being undertaken by a new developer.
- (e) APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF LAWFULNESS BY J CURTIS AND SONS, THRUPP LANE: Discussed above.

8/11 HIGHWAY MATTERS:

- (a) **MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS:**
- (i) PARKING AT 1, FOXBOROUGH ROAD: The chairman had reported problems to Highways but had been advised that it is a police matter and PCSO Adi Wright had attended. Councillors were concerned that parking on the pavement posed a danger to pedestrians and had asked him to keep an eye on the problem.
 - (ii) STREET LIGHT, LOWER RADLEY: The Council will write to the Lower Radley Caravan Park site manager to cut back the trees that obscure the street light.
 - (iii) STREET LIGHTING, SUGWORTH LANE: Cr Johnston had reported a fault and this has been passed on to OCC.
 - (iv) WASTE COLLECTIONS: The Council will report that refuse is being left on the road and ask that bins are returned to the property they have come from.

- (v) **LITTER AT BUS STOPS:** The Council will request a litter bin at the bus stop in Foxborough Road.
- (vi) **VILLAGE CLEANER:** Councillors commented that the Village Cleaner does a very good job in keeping the village litter free. The Clerk will pass on their thanks.
- (vii) **SUNKEN DRAIN COVERS FOXBOROUGH ROAD:** The clerk will log positions and report to Highways.

9/11 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

(a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

- (i) It was proposed by Cr Henderson, seconded by Cr Pasquire and **AGREED** that the following accounts should be confirmed:

Cheque no.			
350	HM Revenue and Customs	PAYE & National Insurance	£548.40
351	British Gas	Pavilion Gas supply	£158.78

- (ii) It was proposed by Cr Rogers, seconded by Cr Pasquire and **AGREED** that the following accounts should be paid:

Cheque no.				
352	Mrs J E Dymock	Salary December 2010	£678.85	£765.43
	Expenses:	Village Cleaner Feb 2011	£86.58	
353	Miss S Raven	Parish Plan admin fee		£80.00
354	Mrs Karen Sharp	Salary December 2010		£148.15
355	Cr B Crowley	Garden Competition expenses		£30.00
356	Open Spaces Society	Membership Renewal		£40.00
357	Radley College	Grass cutting Playing Field, pond and car park		£1,064.66
358	SLCC	Conference fee		£40.00

Cr Crowley did not vote as one of the cheques was for him.

- (b) **PLAYING FIELD EXPENSES:** The clerk tabled details of expenditure. The Council expressed concern at the cost of regular outgoings.

It was **AGREED** that the Finance Committee should meet the Boys' Football Club regarding their contributing to running costs.

- (c) **LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME:** It was proposed by Cr D Standen, seconded by Cr Henderson and **AGREED** that the Council would offer membership of the scheme to Council employees.

- (d) **RADLEY VILLAGE SHOP APPLICATION FOR A GRANT:**
Cr Pasquire explained that the purchase is ready to proceed and it is hoped that it will be complete by 31st January. The shop has taken out a loan for £60,000 and was requesting a donation of £900 which would pay the arrangement fees.
- (e) **VILLAGE HALL APPLICATION FOR A GRANT:** Cr Johnston had written on behalf of Radley Village Hall to explain that the kitchen project would cost more than anticipated, and the Village Hall management committee requested that the Parish Council consider donating a further £1,500.

There was discussion of other funding options including the possibility of an application to SEEDA.

Having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item (d), Cr Pasquire left the meeting at this point and did not participate in the discussion or vote.

After discussion:

- (i) It was proposed by Cr J Standen and seconded by Cr Davies and **AGREED** that the Council would decline the Village Hall's request for a grant. It would be suggested that they make every effort to access funds in the suspense account and investigate avenues of grant funding.
- (ii) It was proposed by Cr Henderson, seconded by Cr Rogers and **AGREED** that the parish Council would make a donation of £900 to Radley Village Shop towards its loan arrangement fees.
- (f) **GOODS AND SERVICES OVER £500:** The clerk noted that it had become a requirement in January that councils publish details of items of expenditure on goods and services over £500. The minutes as published on the website include details of all expenditure.
- (g) **PAYROLL:** The Council had been advised that Richard Cavill intends to retire on 31st March. It was agreed that the clerk should in the first instance investigate whether the Vale offers such a service.

10/11 CLERK TRAINING: The clerk asked that the Council authorise her attendance at the SLCC regional conference and Working With Your Council two day course. This was **AGREED**.

11/11 CONSERVATION:

TREES IN GOOSEACRE: The Village Hall Management Committee requested that the Parish Council attend to the willows which overhang the pavement and self-set saplings on the boundary with 12, Gooseacre.

It was **AGREED** that the Council would do so on this occasion as a one-off and the clerk would obtain quotes for the work.

12/11 THREATENED CLOSURE OF KENNINGTON LIBRARY:

It was noted that the mobile library no longer stops at Pebble Hill.

County Councillor Fatemian explained OCC's policy with relation to library closures.

It was **AGREED** that the Council would write to OCC to say that the Parish Council regrets the proposal to close Kennington Library. It is aware that it is a very well- used amenity and as a large proportion of the Parish lives closer to Kennington than to Abingdon, it is something the Council would wish to support.

13/11 RADLEY PARISH PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE:

Minutes of the Radley Plan Steering Committee meeting held on 15th December 2010 had been circulated.

Cr Davies reported that progress had not been as fast as hoped and had been delayed by modifications required so that SODC is able to analyse the data.

Anton Nath (ORCC) advises that the best way to get a good response is to deliver and collect questionnaires from each house.

The questionnaire has been simplified and should now take no more than 15 minutes to complete.

Cr J Standen acknowledged the work done by Cr Davies, Kayla Tomlinson, Sally Hensworth and Bob Earle in getting the project to this stage.

14/11 VILLAGE WEBSITE:

- (a) There has been no change in usage.
- (b) Cr Davies reported that the Parish Plan blog has been updated.

15/11 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

- (a) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR:
 - (i) Cr Johnston had supplied a written report:

“Most of the time since my last report has been taken up by helping to put the 2011/2012 Vale budget together.

I can now confirm that the main features will be a freeze in the level of Council Tax, and a reinstatement of the community grants budget, with funds being available from the 1st of April.

I can also report that the Vale has now signed an agreement with Scottish Widows to refurbish the Abbey Centre (formerly Bury Street). Not only will it spruce the place up hugely, but it will create some larger units for which we have some potential national names lined up, which will further reduce the voids rate and greatly increase the attractiveness of the offer. We are hopeful that with further discussion we should in time also be able to go on and refurbish The Charter as well”.

- (ii) Cr D Standen noted that the fly-tipping at the allotments had still not been cleared. The Parish Council will write to Verdant and also request the assistance of Cr Johnston to get it cleared away.

(b) COUNTY COUNCILLOR:

Cr Fatemian reported that:

- (i) The County Council has also spent much of its time on the 2011/12 budget. This would go to Cabinet the following week, then to the full council on 16th February. The savings to be made will be about 25% of the council’s total budget. Those items that are safe are children’s safeguarding, carers for adult services and the Fire Service. There will be cutbacks in the Highways budget but Cr Fatemian was pleased to note that the 35 priority route was gritted throughout the icy weather.
- (ii) The February cabinet meeting will also determine the Oxfordshire Minerals and waste development framework: Preferred Minerals strategy and he would inform the Parish Council of its recommendations.
- (iii) PCSO Adi Wright will have an office in Kennington Youth Club. It is hoped that he this will help him to interact in a positive way with the young people. He will also have the facility to store his bike so should be more accessible to Radley.
- (iv) OCC takes over concessionary bus passes in April. Concessionary travel will start at 9am and be able to be used on Dial-A-Ride.
- (v) Cr Pasquire requested his attention to potholes in Lower Radley.

16/11 CORRESPONDENCE:

a) FOR ACTION:

- (i) OALC January Update: GrantScape Community Greenspace Challenge. It was noted that grants are available for tidying up “unloved open spaces”
- (ii) Laurent Lecullier: French Twinning: For next month

- (iii) Threatened closure of Kennington Library: Noted above.
- (iv) The Friends of Abingdon Civic Society: Proposal for a new footbridge: The Friends of Abingdon Civic Society are interested in helping to create a possible foot/cycle bridge across the river Thames. It would cross the river near the railway bridge and would link Radley Lakes and Culham, Sutton Courtenay and Long Wittenham.
In principle the Council thought that it is a good idea, if it is possible to address conservation and access issues.
- (v) OCC Emergency Planning Unit: Invitation to the Watermark Community Emergency Planning event: Noted
- (vi) OCC Partnership Working Unit: Invitation to councils in the Abingdon Area: Crs Pasquire and Crowley will attend.

b) FOR INFORMATION:

- (i) Oxfordshire Association for the Blind: Acknowledgement of grant
- (ii) Abingdon and District Citizens Advice Bureau: Acknowledgement of grant
- (iii) South and Vale Carers Centre: Acknowledgement of grant

17/11 NOTIFIED BUSINESS:

ROYAL WEDDING 29TH APRIL: After discussion it was agreed that the Council might make a small donation to a village celebration if one were arranged.

Date:
Chairman