

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 23 FEBRUARY
2006 AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Cr B Mott (in the Chair)
Crs Crowley, Henderson, Johnston, Nutt, D Standen, J Standen, Wilson,
Wyatt
Three members of the public (for part)

18/06 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cr Wren.

19/06 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cr Crowley declared a personal but non-prejudicial interest as set out in the Standards Board for England lobby group, dual-hatted members and the Code of Conduct, top paragraph, page 7 in relation to matters relating to Radley Lakes.

Cr Johnston left the meeting for matters relating to Radley Lakes.

**20/06 MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, 26
JANUARY 2006**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 26 January 2006 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments:

- (a) Minute 12/06(a):
 - (i) The minute should read:
“The Clerk reported:
 - (a) She had been to the Berkshire Archives, but there were no records to show the background to the designation of Footpath 9 as a BOAT. Only the Definitive Map and the explanatory list were available.
 - (b) She had been in touch with Mr Mark Sumner”
 - (ii) Penultimate sentence of paragraph (b) should read: “The Oxfordshire County Council would allow”
 - (iii) Second paragraph of (b) should read: “.... The possibility of a Permanent Traffic Restriction”
- (b) Minute 8/06(d) (ii) should read: “... 2.5 to 3.5 hours a week”

21/06 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

- (a) **ADDITIONAL STREET LIGHTING, LOWER RADLEY:** It was noted that arrangements were being made for the old light from the site of Lamp 18 to be removed.
- (b) **SPORTS PAVILION/GOOSEACRE:**
- (i) **OUTSTANDING WORK – SPORTS PAVILION/GOOSEACRE:** The Clerk reported that Mr Herring had commenced work and had undertaken the following:
1. Repairs to the fencing and gate at the entrance by the side of the village hall;
 2. Repairs to roof, including replacing ceiling in the toilet;
 3. Repairs to ceiling in the shower room, the Insurance Company having accepted his estimate for this work.
 4. Installation of metal covers to the airflow vents.
- The following work would be done when the weather was suitable:
1. Putting vandal proof paint on the roof. A warning notice would be put on the sports pavilion, and the position checked with the insurance company.
 2. Repairs to fencing at the Norfolk Close end of the recreational field.
 3. Painting the sports pavilion. The Parish Council **AGREED** that this should be done in a darker colour; although it was appreciated that magnolia paint could be obtained at a cheaper price.
- (ii) **APPOINTMENT OF CARETAKER/CLEANER:** The Chairman reported that he, Cr Nutt and the Clerk had met Mrs Karen Sharp and had agreed her appointment as Caretaker/Cleaner. The job description would be amended to include cleaning the veranda.
- (iii) **ELECTRICITY:** The additional electrical work would be undertaken shortly. The Clerk reported that the fans in the shower rooms were now not working.
- (v) **PROVISION OF GATE BETWEEN GOOSEACRE AND THRUPP LANE PLAYING FIELDS:** No reply had been received from the Bursar at Radley College to clarify the responsibility for the hedge on this side of Gooseacre.
- (c) **VILLAGE SEATS:** The seat at Pebble Hill had been installed. **IT WAS AGREED** that a photograph should be taken with a resident using the seat so

that this could be forwarded to Radley College and the work undertaken by one of their students publicised.

The two new seats for Spinneys Close gardens had been ordered.

- (d) **LITTER BIN, FOXBOROUGH ROAD:** The Clerk had met an officer from the DC to discuss the provision of an additional litter bin, and it had been agreed that one would be placed by the bus stop opposite No 50 Foxborough Road.
- (e) **FLY TIPPING – SHAW’S COPSE:** The rubble had not been removed, but had been pushed to one side to allow access to the railway yard. The Clerk would press Network Rail for action to remove it.
- (f) **STREET CLEANING:**
 - (i) **EQUIPMENT – VILLAGE CLEANER:** The Clerk was asked to approach the District Council regarding a suitable trolley.
 - (ii) **PROVISION OF DOG BINS:** The Clerk reported that the District Council would be installing a dog litter bin on the triangle of land at the Lower Radley turn, although the DC Environmental Officer had indicated that the ordinary litter bins could be used for this purpose. Councillors were concerned about this and the Clerk was asked to confirm the position.
- (g) **STREET NAMES – NEW DEVELOPMENT, CHURCH ROAD:** This matter was being followed up with the District Council.
- (h) **DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT – GREATER WESTERN FRANCHISE:**
 - (i) **ACCESS TO LOWER RADLEY SIDE OF PLATFORM:** This was being followed up with the OCC.
 - (ii) **DRAFT TIMETABLE:** The draft timetable indicated that there were one or two less trains for Radley. Main problem related to the 9.43 train from Oxford.
 - (iii) **CONDITION OF RAILWAY STATION:** It was noted that Network Rail had been told of concerns about the condition of the railway station during current work.
- (i) **LEASE WITH RADLEY COLLEGE – CAR PARK/VILLAGE POND:** The Bursar at Radley College had indicated that the College was not permitted to use its own charitable funds to pay the legal fees of a third party. The College would not seek an additional premium or rental for the copse.

22/06 POLICE MATTERS

The report prepared by Sgt Darren Price following his attendance at the last meeting had been circulated to Councillors. The Clerk reported that she had had a long meeting with PC Nigel Broomfield when the following matters had been raised:

- (a) Neighbourhood Policing – Community Action Groups: The police were finding out the names of local organisations to approach in relation to participation in the Community Action Group.
- (b) Motocross: PC Broomfield was willing to talk to the organisers of the Culham Motocross about nuisance riders in Radley. There was a private track at Blewbury, and PC Broomfield was directing youngsters there.
- (c) Motor Cycle Nuisance, Towpath: PC Broomfield had put in a bid for the horse section of the police to patrol the towpath at weekends.
- (d) Police Surgery: This would continue when the new shift pattern was known. PC Broomfield wondered whether the police surgery should be held at the Bowyer Arms rather than the Village Hall as the public house was more central for the village.
- (e) Whites Lane/Foxborough Road: PC Broomfield felt the right of way should be changed, and he would be discussing this with OCC Officers.
- (f) Gooseacre: PC Broomfield was in touch with the booking secretary for the Village Hall to obtain list of users of the Village Hall. In addition, he had spoken to the residents who had complained, and he would go around Gooseacre to leave contact cards.

One of the Radley residents attended and outlined concerns about problems she had experienced. **IT WAS AGREED** that a meeting should be held with representatives of the Parish Council, the police and the Radley Village Hall Management Committee to discuss the problems.

The letter from Thames Valley Police setting out the opening hours of the sixteen Police Stations within Oxfordshire was received. It was noted that there would be no change to the opening hours of the Abingdon Police Station.

23/06 PLANNING MATTERS

- (i) New Applications:
 - (a) RAD/15714/10-LB – Alterations to east and west bedroom ceilings, Spinneys, 51 Lower Radley: No objections subject to listed building consent.

- (b) RAD/1470/4 – Replacement roof over the kitchen and garden room, 4 St James Road: No objections 8252/1 – Proposed first floor rear extension and new roof to garage, 26 Ferny Close: No objections, subject to neighbours’ comments.
- (c) RWE Npower – new bunded ash lagoon in existing “Lake E” gravel pit, including: construction of new ash lagoon, including working clay from the bottom of the existing lake to form an impermeable lining to the sides of the new lagoon; filling the new lagoon with pulverised fuel ash, restoration to nature conservation, deposit of silt and slurry from Lake E to Lake G and pipe and drainage work: Cr Johnston left the meeting for the discussion on this plan. The Clerk was asked to:
- (i) Request the OCC to extend the deadline for comments for both the Parish Council and the public in line with that given to the Save Radley Lakes Group, i.e. to 13 April 2006.
 - (ii) Request additional copies of the submission.
 - (iii) Circulate the submission to Crs Henderson, Mott, D Standen, J Standen, and Wilson.
 - (iv) Arrange a special meeting of the Parish Council to consider the plan in line with any extended deadline.

The Clerk reported that in view of the receipt of the planning application she had not arranged a Liaison Committee.

24/06 FUTURE OF VILLAGE SHOP

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the Clerk of Sulgrave Parish Council. She had indicated that the shop closed in August 2002. A public meeting was held to ascertain the feeling in the Parish, and the Parish Council then purchased a small reading room, which it converted into a shop with Post Office. The new shop had been open since September 2004, and was a great success. Grants had been obtained from the Countryside Agency, the District Council, Plunkett Foundation, and the Parish Council raised a loan. It cost a total of £100,000. Someone was employed to run the shop; the scheme was now run by a small Committee and rent was paid to the Parish Council to meet part of the cost. The Parish Council was now in discussion with the auditors as there was no specific power to allow the Parish Council to open a shop, and Section 137 money was not sufficient to cover the cost of spending.

The Clerk had also been in touch with Jane Barker at the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council. There were fourteen community shops in Oxfordshire, very often set up as community companies with shareholders (non-profit making company). Appleton Village Shop was probably the nearest to Radley. A Handbook on How To Create a Community Shop and Post Office had been

received from Jane Barker, and **IT WAS AGREED** that she should be invited to attend the next meeting.

25/06 FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Nutt and **AGREED** that the following accounts should be paid:

(i)	Copycat Services – Photocopying:	£32.43
(ii)	Thames Water – Sports Pavilion:	£49.31
(iii)	Thames Water – Allotments:	£6.44
(iv)	Midas Mechanical Services – Gas Service/Repair:	£210.68
(v)	Radley College:	£314.66
	1. Radley Village Pond and Car Park:	£64.66
	2. Gooseacre Playing Field:	£250.00
(vi)	Miss S E Raven:	£445.32
	1. Salary, February 2006:	£368.32
	2. Cleaner – March 2006:	£77.00
(vii)	Mrs K Sharp, Cleaner/Caretaker – Salary February 2006:	£139.33
(viii)	MRH Services:	£516.93
	1. Installation of Seat, Pebble Hill:	£217.00
	2. Repair of Fence/Gate, Play Area:	£299.93

(b) **ESTIMATES:** It was proposed by Cr Mott, seconded by Cr Johnston and **AGREED** that the following estimates from MRH Services should be accepted:

- (i) Repairs to fencing and gate, corner of village hall to and including the double gates: £523.66
- (ii) Change ramp/step at the Sports Pavilion: £418.80

26/06 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) **ACTION REQUIRED:**

(a) Oxfordshire County Council: Reception, 15 March 2006: Cr D and Cr J Standen **AGREED** to attend the reception.

(b) Vale of White Horse DC:

- (i) PPG 17 Assessment and Greenspace Strategy: Noted
- (ii) Search for the Vale Volunteer of the Year: To be put in Radley News.

(ii) FOR INFORMATION

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council: – News December 2005
 - (i) News, February 2006
 - (ii) Oxfordshire Magazine, Winter 2005/2006
 - (iii) Oxfordshire Structure Plan 2016
 - (iv) Affordable Housing – renting and buying in Oxfordshire
 - (v) CAG Oxfordshire (Recycling), February 2006
- (b) Vale of White Horse DC: Local Plan 2011 – Inspectors Report: Cr Johnston reported that there had been thirteen applications to remove various parts of the Green Belt and make them available for development, and the Inspector had refused them all. The Green Belt was therefore safe until 2015.
- (c) Local Council Review, March 2006

27/06 CONSERVATION MATTERS

- (a) FOOTPATH 9: The Clerk had been in touch with the OCC Headquarters staff regarding the possibility of having a Permanent Traffic Restriction along this footpath, but had been referred back to the OCC Rights of Way Field Officer. The Clerk would be pursuing this.
- (b) FOOTPATHS 2 AND 10: The Clerk had not had any feedback from the OCC Footpath Officer about the condition of these footpaths
- (c) TREE PLANTING:
 - (i) COPSE, CHURCH ROAD: The copse had been cleared, but a number of problems had been revealed – the ground was very uneven, there were many stumps and there were so many roots and raking and sowing was not possible. The Parish Council **AGREED** that in the first instance the shrubs should be allowed to grow with area being cut regularly. This would allow the trees to be planted.

The Clerk had ascertained that it was not possible to obtain bare root trees, and she was in touch with the Tree Council to obtain permission to plant container trees.

The cost of providing an additional street light over the car park would be £500. This would be considered at the next Finance and Administration Committee.

- (ii) GOOSEACRE RECREATION FIELD: Cr Wilson and the Clerk had met the head gardener from Radley College to agree sites for tree planting.
- (d) GARDEN COMPETITION: The Clerk indicated she was pursuing the question of judges and guides for the Garden Competition, and would be arranging a meeting of the Garden Competition Working Party when she had more information.
- (e) BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2006: The Parish Council **AGREED** to enter the competition.

28/06 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- (a) ROAD/FOOTWAY REPAIRS: Work was progressing, although it was noted that it had not been possible for the footpath in front of the new development to be repaired.
- (b) CONDITION OF THRUPP LANE: The Clerk was pressing for a reply on this.
- (c) TRAFFIC CALMING – KENNINGTON ROAD BETWEEN SANDFORD LANE AND SUGWORTH LANE: **IT WAS AGREED** that the Parish Council should ask for an extension to the Kennington traffic calming being undertaken in relation to the Premium Bus Route Scheme. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Parish Council would consider at its next meeting the possibility of a pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of Sandford Lane.
- (d) JUNCTION AT WHITES LANE/FOXBOROUGH ROAD: The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with representatives of the OCC Highways Department.

29/06 PARISH WEBSITE

Cr Wilson reported:

- (i) that the evening at the Bowyer Arms had been successful.
- (ii) Mr John Huddleston had put the money he had received from the Copyright Infringement towards some new software for the website. The Parish Council thought this was a nice gesture.

30/06 REPORT OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cr Johnston reported:

- (i) The Vale of White Horse DC would be giving free bus passes to the over 60s from 1 April 2006 from 9.30 am. This would allow travel for any journey starting in the Vale and would include Oxford, Newbury, Swindon and Reading.
- (ii) The Oxfordshire County Council had decided its Council Tax level for 2006/2007. There had been large reductions in the budgets for services for the elderly and for road/pavement maintenance.

Date: