

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE CHURCH ROAD, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 26 JANUARY  
2006 AT 7.30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr B Mott (in the Chair)  
Crs Crowley, Nutt, Rogers, D Standen, J Standen, Wilson, Wren, Wyatt  
Thames Valley Police Community Support Officers Nicky Beltran and  
Mark Miller (for part)  
Sgt D Price, Thames Valley Police  
One member of the public

**1/06 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Crs Henderson and Johnston.

**2/06 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.

There were no other declarations of interest.

**3/06 MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, 15  
DECEMBER 2005**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 15 December 2005 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments:

Minute 187/05 (f) should read: “... on footpaths and cycle tracks .....”

Minute 190/05 (v) 2 should read: “... consideration to Personnel Procedures ...”

Minute 190/05 (v) 4 should read: “ ..a request had been received for a litter bin next to the bus stop in Foxborough Road (opposite Gooseacre). The Clerk was asked to ascertain the DC’s policy for providing litter bins and for emptying them”.

Minute 194/05 (g) should read: “VILLAGE GATEWAYS”

**4/06 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

- (a) **ADDITIONAL STREET LIGHTING, LOWER RADLEY:** The new light opposite Neat Home Farm had been installed. It was noted that the old light had not been removed from the site of Lamp 18.

- (b) SPORTS PAVILION/GOOSEACRE:
- (i) OUTSTANDING WORK – SPORTS PAVILION/GOOSEACRE: The Clerk reported that Mr Herring would be starting the work on the 20 February 2006.
  - (ii) APPOINTMENT OF CARETAKER AND CLEANER: It was reported that the Chairman, Cr Nutt and the Clerk had met Mr Stuart Sharp to discuss the posts of Caretaker and Cleaner. Since the meeting, Mr Sharp had spoken to the Clerk to indicate that he had decided not to take up the post of Caretaker, but his wife, Mrs Karen Sharp was willing to take up both posts. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Chairman, Cr Nutt and Clerk should meet Mrs Sharp and, subject to a satisfactory interview, Mrs Sharp should be appointed as Caretaker/Cleaner.
  - (iii) ELECTRICITY: The additional electrical work would be undertaken shortly.
  - (iv) DISABILITY ACCESS – ESTIMATE: It was noted that Mr Herring would like to discuss the work required with Councillors. This would be arranged when he was on site.
  - (v) ESTIMATES FOR THE PROVISION OF CCTV SECURITY SYSTEM: The Clerk was meeting the Thames Valley Crime Prevention Officer next week.
  - (vi) PROVISION OF GATE BETWEEN GOOSEACRE AND THRUPP LANE PLAYING FIELDS: No reply had been received from the Bursar at Radley College regarding who was responsible for the hedge on this side of Gooseacre. It was suggested that the gate the Parish Council provided along Thrupp Lane could be transferred to fill this gap, and the Parish Council **AGREED** to discuss this further.
- (c) VILLAGE SEATS: The seat at Pebble Hill would be installed when Mr Herring was undertaking work in the village.
- (d) ACCOUNTS 2004/2005 – FIDELITY GUARANTEE INSURANCE: The Clerk was preparing the necessary paperwork to obtain an estimate from the insurance company.
- (e) LITTER BIN, FOXBOROUGH ROAD (OPPOSITE GOOSEACRE): The Clerk was meeting an officer from the DC to discuss this.
- (f) DONATIONS: It was noted that a request for a donation had been received from the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind.

- (g) **FLY TIPPING – SHAW’S COPSE:** The Clerk reported that the DC considered that the clearance of this rubbish was a matter for the residents of Shaw’s Copse, as this was a private road. The Clerk had also raised it with the railway authorities – First Group and Network Rail, and Network Rail had indicated that the matter had been passed to its maintenance team.

## **5/06 POLICE MATTERS**

PC Nicky Beltran and PC Mark Miller, Thames Valley Police Community Support Officers, introduced themselves to the Parish Council. They indicated that a detailed report had been prepared on matters relating to Radley, and that copies of the report would be supplied to give to the Councillors. In addition, the officers indicated that they were happy for their mobile telephone number to be circulated to the Councillors.

The Community Support Officers indicated that they were supporting the regular Area Beat Officer, and would be seen regularly in the Parish, as part of the change to Neighbourhood Policing. Sgt Price, whose attendance was delayed, was part of the team covering the area.

Changes had been introduced to the way non-emergency calls were handled, and Councillors had received details of the single number for Thames Valley Police – 0845 8 505 505. This was the only non-emergency contact number for Thames Valley Police. In an emergency, 999 should be called. Councillors were asked to note that it was an emergency if a crime was being committed, or was about to be committed, or if there was a risk of serious injury.

The problems raised by the Parish Council were included in the report:

- Disturbance following event at Village Hall
- Parking on Pavement, 17 Church Road
- Vandalism to Sports Pavilion
- Motorcyclists on Public Footpaths

Sgt Price joined the meeting after the Community Support Officers had left and stayed until the end of the meeting. Councillors indicated that there was a problem when reporting crimes at the Sports Pavilion, Gooseacre, as the operators could not ascertain the site of this building. Sgt Price agreed to look into this.

**IT WAS AGREED** that it was useful for Councillors to act as the eyes and ears of the police, but they were asked to call for help rather than get involved in incidents.

## **6/06 PLANNING MATTERS**

(i) New Applications:

NIL

(ii) Permission Given:

(a) RAD/11540/3 – Proposed conversion of building to a dwelling, The Old Forge, Lower Radley: The Clerk was asked to clarify what had been agreed.

(b) RAD/15714/9-LB – Alterations to fireplaces (work already executed), Spinneys, 51 Lower Radley: No objections

(iii) Permission Refused:

(a) RAD/17587/2 – Erection of building ancillary to the house, 91 Foxborough Road

(iv) Application Withdrawn:

(a) RAD/8252/1 – Proposed first floor rear extension and new roof to garage, 26 Ferny Close

## **7/06 FUTURE OF VILLAGE SHOP**

There had been no further interest in running the village shop, and it was thought that this was due to the small amount of space available. It was noted that the floor space was less than that of the previous shop. There was discussion on the possibility of a self run shop, and the Clerk was asked to obtain details of the self-run shop at Sulgrave.

## **8/06 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(a) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

(i)	J V Strong & Co Ltd – Grass cutting/gardening 2005:	£3,703.60
(ii)	Copycat Services – Photocopying:	£57.31
(iii)	Inland Revenue – Income Tax/Ni:	£336.37
(iv)	Miss S E Raven:	£1,301.50
	1. Salary, January 2006:	£368.32
	2. Allowance for use of Computer:	£250.00
	3. Refund on Protax charges since 2001:	£420.67
	4. Expenses, quarter ended 31 December 2005:	£208.18

Expenses:	£25.00
Telephone:	£21.74
Mileage:	£102.01
Postage:	£54.63
Bags for Cleaner:	£4.80

5.	Payment to Village Cleaner, February 2006:	£55.00
(v)	Mr J Huddleston – Web Site:	£14.98
(vi)	Southern Electric – Sports Pavilion:	£37.71
(vii)	British Gas – Sports Pavilion:	£3.52
(viii)	Abingdon and District CAB – Donation:	£200.00
(ix)	South and Vale Carers Centre – Donation:	£400.00
(x)	Radley PCC – Donation to Radley News:	£50.00
(xi)	Childline Midlands and East Anglia – Donation:	£100.00
(xii)	Oxfordshire Association for the Blind:	£60.00
(xiii)	Association of Small Historic Towns and Villages – Subscription:	£25.00

(b) APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

The letter from Mr Roger Symes was received. It was noted that there was a change in the fee structure, i.e. the cost would be £25 per hour and car mileage at the NALC rate instead of a fee of £140. As it took approximately seven hours to audit the Parish Council accounts, there would be a small increase. The Parish Council **AGREED** that Mr Symes should continue to act as the Parish Council's Internal Auditor.

(c) CLERK'S SALARY 2006/2007

The 2006/2007 National Salary Award for Local Council Clerks, payable from 1 April 2006 was **AGREED** by the Parish Council. This was a 2.95% increase.

(d) STREET CLEANING:

(i) APPLICATION FOR GRANT 2006/2007 TO VALE OF WHITE HORSE DC: The DC had indicated that grants of up to 50% of the cost would be available for 2006/2007, and the Parish Council was preparing the necessary paperwork.

(ii) REVIEW – HOURS OF VILLAGE CLEANER: It was proposed by Cr Wyatt, seconded by Cr D Standen and **AGREED** that the hours of the village cleaner should be increased from 2.5 to 3.5 hours a week.

(iii) EQUIPMENT – VILLAGE CLEANER: The Parish Council **AGREED** that a trolley should be purchased and that the cost of this should form part of the bid for a grant. The Clerk was investigating the best type of trolley.

- (iv) **PROVISION OF DOG BINS:** The Clerk was asked to raise with the District Council the possibility of dog litter bins being provided in the village – the outside verge by the lower burial ground, Lower Radley turn and the station yard were mentioned as possible sites.

## **9/06 CORRESPONDENCE**

### **(i) ACTION REQUIRED:**

- (a) Mr V Gackowski – Street Names relating to the development in Church Road: The Parish Council **AGREED** that the queries raised should be forwarded to the District Council.
- (b) Department for Transport – Greater Western Franchise: It was noted that this had been given to the First Great Western Limited from 1 April 2006. The Clerk reported that:
  - (i) She had been in touch with the OCC regarding the timetable, and had ascertained that the existing timetable would continue unchanged until 10 December, when the new franchise timetable would be introduced. The OCC had been campaigning against any cutbacks in rail service in Oxfordshire, but it is understood that there would be about seven less trains each weekday in each direction from Radley, although the detail was still some way off being finalised by FGW link.
  - (ii) She had raised the question of access from the Lower Radley side of the platform with Mr Crane, First Great Western, who had met some Councillors about a year ago. He was doubtful that this would be given a high priority but was working with the Oxfordshire County Council on enhancing the facilities at many Oxfordshire stations. The Clerk was asked to raise with the OCC the continuing concerns of the Parish Council in relation to access.

### **(ii) FOR INFORMATION:**

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council:
  - (i) News, January 2006
  - (ii) Mobile Library Service
  - (iii) Funding Youth Services
  - (iv) Your guide to road safety in Oxfordshire
- (b) Vale of White Horse DC:
  - (i) Standard Committee, 25 January 2006
  - (ii) Local Government and Rating Act 1997 – Parish Review
  - (iii) Initial Budget Proposals 2006/2007 ([www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk))
  - (iv) Monitoring Officer and Solicitor – Resignation

- (v) Part III Local Government Act 2000 – The Standards Board for England Training DVD “Going Local: Investigations and Hearings”
- (vi) Water Industry Act 1991 – Thames Water Utilities Proposed Reservoir South West of Abingdon
- (c) Office of the Deputy Prime Minister – Standards of Conduct in English Local Government: The Future
- (d) Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association Newsletter “The Playing Field”, Winter 2005
- (e) Clerks & Council Direct, January 2006
- (f) Local Council Review, January 2006
- (g) South East and South West Oxfordshire Primary Care Trusts: Public Board Meeting, 26 January 2006
- (h) Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils, December 2005: noted
- (i) Westmill Wind Farm Co-operative Ltd – Opportunity to own a direct stake in the first wind farm co-op in the South of England
- (j) Glasdon – Local Council News Sheet, Winter 2005/2006
- (k) Orchard Street Furniture
- (l) White Horse Harriers Athletics Club – half-marathon, 2 April 2006
- (m) Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service – Integrated Risk Management Action Plan 2006/2007 Consultation
- (n) Abingdon and District Twin Towns Society, Newsletter, December 2005

**10/06 DATES OF MEETINGS 2006/2007**

- (a) DATES OF MEETINGS 2006/2007: The dates of meetings for 2006/2007 were noted.
- (b) RWE NPOWER LIAISON COMMITTEE/SITE MEETING: The Clerk was asked to arrange a Liaison Committee meeting.

**11/06 LEASE WITH RADLEY COLLEGE – CAR PARK/VILLAGE POND**

The letter from Radley College solicitors setting out the terms of extending the lease for the car park/pond, Church Road, to include the copse, was given to the Councillors. It

was noted that the legal fees of approximately £500 were expected to be met by the Parish Council. The terms were accepted by the Parish Council, although the Clerk would ask Radley College if they would be willing to contribute towards the costs incurred.

## **12/06 CONSERVATION**

- (a) **FOOTPATH 9 – CHANGE OF DESIGNATION:** The Clerk reported:
- (i) 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.
  - (ii) She had been in touch with Mark Sumner, the OCC Rights of Way Field Officer, and he had indicated that he did not think the Parish Council needed to do anything regarding the footpath at the present. He would be contacting Mr Curtis to see if he could install a bund of soil or some other obstruction at the point where the byway and cycleway met at the old railway line. The Oxfordshire County Council would allow the large blocks to be kept in situ for the time being, and the amount of further illegal use of the area by motorised vehicles could then be assessed. If this resolved the problem, the OCC would seek removal of all the obstructions and, if not, it would be necessary to reassess what to do next.

The Parish Council decided that it should still pursue the possibility of a Permanent Traffic Restriction along Footpath 9.

- (b) **FOOTPATHS 2 AND 10:** The Clerk reported that the OCC Rights of Way Field Officer would be investigating the condition of these Footpaths.
- (c) **TREE PLANTING – COPSE, CHURCH ROAD AND GOOSEACRE RECREATION FIELD:** Cr Wilson reported that he, Cr D Standen and the Clerk had met representatives of Berinsfield Community Business regarding the work required on the copse, and clearance of the area would begin next week. The possibility of an additional street light on an existing pole to light the car park area had been raised with the OCC Street Lighting Department.
- (d) **GARDEN COMPETITION 2006:** The Clerk was asked to arrange some meetings of the Working Party to discuss the arrangements for the Garden Competition. The Clerk reported that the dates of the competition and the presentations had been arranged, the Church Room and Village Hall had been booked, and Mr Paddy Dockar-Drysdale had been contacted to see if he and his wife would be willing to provide the tea. She would be contacting the people who had acted as judges last year. In relation to sponsorship, the Parish Council decided that it would not approach RWEnPower this year.

### **13/06 HIGHWAY MATTERS**

- (a) **ROAD/FOOTWAY REPAIRS:** It was noted that the work on the Church Road/Foxborough Road footways was being undertaken.
- (b) **CHURCH ROAD – TREE MANAGEMENT:** The work had been undertaken and the residue of trees would remain on site to form habitat for wild life.
- (c) **HEDGE/TREE, 15A CHURCH ROAD:** The hedge/tree had been pruned.
- (d) **CONDITION OF THRUPP LANE:** The OCC Highways Department was following this up. A lorry had recently turned over after coming off the side of the road, and this had been reported to the OCC. There was a lot of fly tipping in Thrupp Lane, and the Clerk was asked to draw this to the attention of the DC Environmental Health and invite them to a future Parish Council meeting to discuss the continuing worries about fly tipping.
- (e) **LOWER RADLEY – CONDITION OF ROAD:** The OCC Highways Department had inspected the road, but did not feel that the condition of the road warranted very much repair work.
- (f) **VILLAGE GATEWAYS:** This work had been undertaken.
- (g) **TREES – SANDFORD LANE:** Kennington Parish Council was concerned about the condition of the trees in the copse at the corner of Sandford Lane in relation to the highway. This matter had been reported to the OCC

### **14/06 PARISH WEBSITE**

Cr Wilson reported that:

- (a) **COPYRIGHT ENFRINGEMENT:** The owners of the photographs had reached an agreement with the Roman Group.
- (b) **BUDGET:** The budget set by the Parish Council was acceptable to the Working Group, with the proviso that earnings from the commercial pages would be added to the budget. The Working Group would like the Parish Council to purchase a copy of the Dreamweaver software which was used to create the site.
- (c) **WEBSITE AWARENESS:** The WebSite would be at the Bowyer Arms on the night of the 10 February 2006.
- (d) **RUBBISH MAIL:** Cr Wilson reported a growth of rubbish mail through the website email. Other Councillors had not experienced this.

**15/06 REPORT OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

The following report had been received from Cr Johnston:

Vale Report: There was little to report except that the Vale budget for 2006/2007 was now almost complete. The increase in Council Tax would be about £5 per annum for a Band D property. The Vale's Council Tax was about the ninth lowest of any of the District Councils in England.

Oxfordshire County Council: The work to the footways in Foxborough and Church Road continued. Cr Johnston appreciated that there had been some disruption, but he believed that the end result would be worth it. The bad news was that in the Council budget agreed by the ruling Group's Cabinet, £986,000 had been taken out of the budget for road and pavement maintenance. There was a further £4,000,000 which had been taken out of the budget for services for elderly people (so-called reprioritisations).

Cr Johnston also indicated that the OCC Officers had told him that it might be worth asking whether some work could be done by way of traffic calming on the stretch of road between Sandford Lane and Sugworth Lane. In addition, it would be worth asking if any of the other Premium Bus Route goods such as real time bus timetable displays could be extended into Radley at the same time. The Parish Council agreed that this should be put on the agenda of the next meeting, following some investigation into the views of the residents of the Mobile Home Parks.

**16/06 NOTIFIED BUSINESS**

NIL

Date: .....  
Chairman

**CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE, 15 DECEMBER 2005**

The Chairman formally moved that the Parish Council moved into confidential session and that the public and press be excluded for this item to avoid the release of exempt information.

**17/06 RWENPOWER PLANNING APPLICATION**

The Confidential Minute of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 15 December 2005 was **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman. It was noted that the Parish Council resolution would be put in the OCC file so it was available when the report was prepared. The report in the Abingdon Herald was noted.

Date: .....  
Chairman