

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 24 MAY 2007
AT 7.30 PM**

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

72/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Crs Wilson and Wren.

73/07 DECLARATIONS 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 the Radley Lakes.

Cr Johnston declared a non-prejudicial interest in matters relating to the Village Hall.

**74/07 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 26
APRIL 2007**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 26 April 2007 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman.

**75/07 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL,
10 MAY 2007**

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, 10 May 2007 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments:

Minute 67/07: Cr Wren should be omitted from the membership of the Finance and Administration Committee as he did not wish to be on this Committee.

Add: **71/07 CO-OPTION OF TWO PEOPLE: IT WAS AGREED** that the two vacancies should be advertised in line with DC advice.

76/07 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

The Clerk reported:

- (a) **PLAY AREA:** Playdale were being pressed for a site meeting to discuss the two outstanding items – condition of safety surface under the swings and the fixing of the two small play items.
- (b) **SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS – REVISION TO MODEL CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT:** The paperwork was being prepared.
- (c) **VILLAGE HALL – BOOKINGS:** PC Sean Delaney had agreed to contact Cr Johnston and Mrs Collett regarding the remaining books for 16, 18 and 21 year olds.
- (d) **PLANNING APPLICATION RAD/15745/1 – Retrospective application for temporary use of a dwelling to house security and supervisory staff connected with infilling of Lake E with Pulverised Fuel Ash, Sandlers, Thrupp Lane:** Only one application relating to a water ski club house in Thrupp Lane could be traced, and that was in June 1975. It related to a water ski club house with manager's dwelling and associated car parking, Water Ski Centre, Thrupp Lane. There was no record of the DC decision.
- (e) **RWEnPOWER – FILLING OF GRAVEL PITS:** The OCC did not re-consult on any changes to the plans.
- (f) **VILLAGE POND:** It had been suggested by Paul Gamble that Rod d' Ayala should be asked for advice on the algae, and he confirmed that barley or oats straw should help. Mr Nick Frearson had been asked if he could supply the appropriate straw or recommend a supplier.
- (g) **NOTICE BOARD – BY VILLAGE SHOP:** The notice board had been put up on the wall at the side of the shop. It needed something to indicate that it was the Parish Council notice board and this was being investigated.
- (h) **CENTENARY GARDEN, SPINNEYS BUNGALOWS:** The Vale Housing Association was happy with additional planting, such a clematis or honeysuckle, along the back fence. This would be put on the agenda of the next Finance and Administration Committee.
- (i) **SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL PERSON:** Miss Frances Lockwood, the new head teacher, had indicated that she was following this up.
- (j) **CATHARINE CLOSE:** OCC Highways had indicated that this was on the list for slurry sealing for 2008. The Clerk had indicated to the officers that the top end of the road joining with Church Road needed more than this as it is in such bad condition, and she was asked to press on this.

- (k) POTHoles – FOXBOROUGH ROAD: Some work had been undertaken today, although one of the repairs by St James' Terrace needed more attention.
- (l) INCREASED TRAFFIC ALONG THRUPP LANE/CONDITION OF THRUPP LANE/NOISE FROM CLEANAWAY VEHICLES: No reply had been received from the OCC Forward Planning/Transport Planning Team regarding an access through to Barton Lane, but the Council was informed of the details sent to Mr Mike Wilson by Mr John Duncalfe. Mr Natton, Environmental Protection, had not yet received the information requested from Mr Wilson on traffic movements so was not yet in a position to follow up.
- (m) LOWER RADLEY – TRAFFIC FLOW: The detailed response from the Traffic Monitoring Officer was noted. The Parish Council **AGREED** that it would like another survey undertaken late June.
- (n) ROAD SIGNS ON WHITES LANE INDICATING WAY TO VILLAGE SHOP/PO: The OCC would not consider local direction signs to a village shop or Post Office unless its location was remote from the main highway network. This was not the case with the Radley Community Shop or Post Office which were located on the main route through Radley Village. The Clerk was asked to clarify if the PO/Shop could put up its own notices at the junctions.
- (o) PARKING BY ENTRANCE TO RADLEY COLLEGE FIELD – ST JAMES ROAD: This had been followed up with Radley College, but the vans were still parked on the grass by the entrance to Radley College field. The Parish Council decided that this was not causing a nuisance so it would not follow up any further.
- (p) Village Hall Management Committee: It was reported that the Radley VHMC had indicated that it would not be inviting Cr Wren to its meetings because of his personal interest. Cr Johnston indicated that the Parish Council could have a substitute should Cr Henderson not be able to attend, and **IT WAS AGREED** that Cr Nutt should be the substitute.
- (q) CO-OPTION OF TWO PARISH COUNCILLORS: The vacancies had been advertised and interested people had been asked to let the Clerk know by the 4 June 2007.

77/07 POLICE MATTERS

- (a) STATEMENT BY CHIEF INSPECTOR DENNIS EVERNDEN TO THE HIGH COURT: The Parish Council were concerned that the statement by Chief Inspector Evernden to the High Court did not fully represent the facts, and **IT WAS AGREED** that a letter should be sent to the Chief Constable at Thames Valley Police asking them to compare the statement with the report given by Sgt Price.

- (b) REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR LIGHTING AND YOUTH SHELTER, BMX TRACK OFF AUDLETT DRIVE: The Parish Council **AGREED** in principle to support this project, but the detailed project with costings would need to be considered by the Finance and Administration Committee.
- (c) THAMES VALLEY POLICE AUTHORITY – STAKEHOLDER FORUM, 5 JUNE 2007: It was not possible to send anyone to the Forum, and it was hoped that a written report would be made available to the Parish Council.

78/07 PLANNING MATTERS

(i) New Applications

NIL

(ii) Permission Given

- (a) RAD/9651/1 – Erection of a single storey extension, 35 Foxborough Road
- (b) RAD/18109/1 – Erection of a rear conservatory, 5 Catharine Close
- (c) RAD/17446/1 – Erection of a single storey rear extension, 26 Stonhouse Crescent
- (d) RAD/15745/1 – Retrospective application for temporary use of a dwelling to house security and supervisory staff connected with infilling of Lake E with Pulverised Fuel Ash

(iii) Misc:

- (a) RWEnPOWER – FILLING OF GRAVEL PITS
 1. UPDATE: The letter from Mr John Rainford updating the Parish Council on some issues was noted. It was **AGREED** that the Special Meeting of the Parish Council to meet representatives from RWEnPower should go ahead, and the Clerk was asked to arrange this in July.
 2. OCC PLANNING AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE: The Chairman and Vice-Chairman reported back on the proceedings of this Committee which considered the conditions of RWE nPower’s planning application for Lake E, and the Sutton Courtenay Landfill Site application. There was concern about the decision in relation to the Sutton Courtenay application as it contradicted the policy in relation to the A34.

79/07 FUTURE OF VILLAGE SHOP

The village shop opened on the 22 May 2007. The formal opening would be arranged later, and the Parish Council hoped that Mr Brian Mott would receive a personal invitation and that his efforts to get the project off the ground would be recognised at the opening.

80/07 FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS:

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

(i)	Miss S E Raven:	£456.28
	Salary, May 2007:	£379.28
	Village Cleaner, June 2007:	£77.00
(ii)	Mrs K Sharp, Cleaner/Caretaker, Sports Pavilion – Salary May 2007:	£139.33
(iii)	Thames Water – Sports Pavilion:	£81.12
(iv)	Protax – Payroll Service:	£98.70
(v)	Allianz Cornhill - Insurance:	£1,667.12
(vi)	1 st Radley Guide Company - Donation:	£150.00
(vii)	Copycat Services – Photocopying:	£71.96

(b) **PROVISION OF CCTV AT SPORTS PAVILION:** The two quotations received were not comparable, and the Clerk was asked to obtain further information, arranging a site meeting to assess the details.

(c) **PROVISION OF FENCING AROUND PLAY AREA/VILLAGE HALL:**
ACCOUNTS 2006/2007: The Clerk had approached a further nine companies, and two of these companies had agreed to give estimates. Cr Johnston indicated that the Radley VHMC would not have funds available to provide the fencing from the play area to the entrance to the village hall.

(d) **PROVISION OF BUS SHELTERS:**

(i) **APPLICATION FOR REAL TIME DISPLAYS IN RADLEY:** The Parish Council was delighted that the OCC would provide four pole-mounted displays at Radley Rail Station stops, Sugworth Crescent and Pebble Hill.

- (ii) **PROVISION OF BUS SHELTERS IN THE PARISH:** It was noted that the OCC was very close to awarding a contract for bus shelters, specifically to support the RTI system on Premium Bus Routes. The OCC proposed procuring the shelters for these purposes via its own ‘county-wide’ contract if agreement could be reached with Parish and Town Councils on ongoing ownership and maintenance.
- (iii) **LETTER FROM MR HARPWOOD:** The letter from Mr Harpwood strongly opposing a bus shelter in the lay-by by his house was circulated to and noted by the Councillors.

(e) **ITT FLYGT PUMP, SPORTS PAVILION**

It was noted that the cost of the Gold Service for 2007/2008 would be £623.86 plus VAT.

81/07 CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

- (a) **LETTER FROM STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND:** The Parish Council noted the letter.

(b) **TO CONSIDER ADOPTING THE MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Parish Council noted the NALC Legal Document and the suggested resolution. It discussed the Model Code of Conduct for Town and Parish Councils, and it was proposed by Cr Crowley, seconded by Cr Johnston and **AGREED** that:

- (i) the mandatory provisions in the Model Code of Conduct set out in Statutory Instrument 2007/1159 be adopted as the Radley Parish Council Code of Conduct, to be effective from 1 June 2007, subject to:

1. The inclusion of the “general principles” as an Annex to the Code, with a footnote to explain that it is not a part of the Code but is included as an Annex because of the requirement in paragraph 1(2) of the Code for members to have regard to the principles;
2. the addition of paragraph 12(2) of the Model Code, but excluding the words in brackets.
3. the following change to Part 2, Paragraph 8(b):

Omit “the majority of” so that the paragraph reads: “a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting your well-being or financial position or the well-being or financial position of a relevant person to a greater extent than -“

4. The following change to Part 2, Paragraph 8 (b) (ii):

Add “affected by the decision” at the end of the paragraph, so that it is in line with Paragraph 8 (b) (i).

- (ii) The Clerk was requested to notify the Standards Board for England and the Monitoring Officer of the Vale of White Horse District Council of the passing of the above resolution.

82/07 RADLEY RAILWAY STATION

The Parish Council considered the documents from the OCC on Station Adoption. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Parish Council should hold a meeting in September inviting interested people to set up a Radley Railway Station Management Committee. The meeting should be advertised in the Town Crier, Abingdon, the Kennington Chronicle and Radley News, and the local television station should be informed.

83/07 CONSERVATION

- (a) **ALLOTMENTS:** The Parish Council considered the rules for the allotments following the request for storage facilities. It was proposed by Cr Crowley, seconded by Cr Rogers, and agreed six votes to one. The Clerk was asked to inform the allotment holders that the Parish Council did not propose to change the rules.
- (b) **OXFORDSHIRE VILLAGES OF THE YEAR COMPETITION 2007: IT WAS AGREED** that the Parish Council should enter the Competition. The Clerk would liaise with the Chairman regarding the completion of the questionnaire.

84/07 PLAYING FIELD – MAINTENANCE/GRASS CUTTING ARRANGEMENTS

It was reported that Cr Nutt and the Clerk had had a meeting with Mr Adam King, Head Groundsman at Radley College, following the inability of Berinsfield Community Services to carry out grass cutting because of broken machinery. The points discussed were:

- (a) The Bursar was willing for Radley College to undertake the grass cutting at £30 plus VAT per cut (£780 per year), and this work could begin immediately. Mr King recommended up to 26 cuts per year. Berinsfield Community Services charged £45 per cut, and had instructions to do up to 15 cuts a year (£675 per year). It had been appreciated that this was insufficient at times, but Berinsfield Community Services could not increase the amount of cuts. It was noted that Berinsfield Community Services were happy to stop the contract with the Parish

Council for the grass cutting and there would be no penalties. The Clerk was asked to write to Berinsfield Community Service to confirm this.

- (b) This would not include cutting the surround of the field, although the machinery the College used would be able to clear a lot of the undergrowth. Some of the College staff might be willing to do additional work on the surround and overhanging trees under a private arrangement with the Parish Council, and the staff would be asked.
- (c) The College would not be able to do weed killing as it used a contractor for this work. Mr King would give the Parish Council the name of the contractor.
- (d) Maintenance/Repair Work: The College were really only interested in grass cutting, but there was some indication that they could help with some of the maintenance (repairs to goal area; slit tine spiking, but this took up to four hours and would cost £30 an hour).
- (e) Size of trees and overhang on to the field was discussed. The Clerk reported that she had asked Simon Ringrose's advice on the action required.

It was proposed by Cr Nutt, seconded by Cr Johnston and **AGREED** that Radley College should undertake the work at the Gooseacre Playing Field. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Parish Council should be billed quarterly, with the last bill of the financial year being received before the fourth Thursday of March.

85/07 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- (a) **VILLAGE SHOP – PARKING:** Despite the short time the shop had been open it was clear that parking was going to be a problem. There was no easy solution as limited spaces were available in front of the shop and the bend of the road made parking on the roadside very dangerous. It was understood that parking was going to be decriminalised on the 7 April 2008, and the Clerk was asked to obtain details from OCC Highways.
- (b) **DROPPED KERB – CATHARINE CLOSE:** The Clerk was requested to ask OCC Highways if a dropped kerb could be provided for people coming from the Foxborough Road end of the village.
- (c) **MANHOLE COVER – ON PAVEMENT BY VILLAGE SHOP:** The tarmac put in the top of the manhole cover to level it out was disappearing, and the Clerk was requested to ascertain the long term plans for the repair of this manhole.
- (d) **NEW ROAD – SPLAY:** The Clerk was requested to ask OCC Highways if they could repair the splay of New Road, which was in a very bad state.

86/07 PARISH WEBSITE

It was reported that the Web Site Working Group was recommending different rates for advertising:

- (a) Setting up page (including first year's charge): £25
- (b) Annual charge for a page if no changes requested: £10
- (c) New Item - a single line entry on the top level page at £5 year.

A revised mail shot offering these rates is being prepared by Joyce Huddleston

This was **AGREED** by the Parish Council.

87/07 REPORT OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cr Johnston was congratulated on his re-election to the Vale of White Horse DC.

Cr Johnston reported:

- (a) It had been very quiet on the Oxfordshire County Council, with no financial reporting.
- (b) On the Vale of White Horse DC, Cr Johnston reported that:
 - (i) He had been re-elected to the Vale Executive and was now responsible for Commercial Services and Legal and Democratic Services.
 - (ii) The Old Gaol would be a completely commercial development. There had been over 100 expressions of interest, and 50 would be looking at the premises.
 - (iii) An informal meeting of ABITS would be held on the 25 May 2007 to discuss the traffic problems in Abingdon.

88/07 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) FOR ACTION

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council: Minerals Site Proposals and Policies Document – Issues and Options Consultation, April 2007: The Parish Council considered the document, and objected strongly to the inclusion of a site north of Radley being included as a possible gravel site as:
 - (i) The access to the proposed site was terrible, and would cause extreme disturbance to residents in Lower Radley, which is an area being considered as a Conservation Area.

- (ii) The site was far too close to the river and railway line.
- (iii) Part of the potential area was the garden of a private house, 75 Lower Radley
- (iv) Pulverised Fuel Ash should be used as an alternative to gravel to avoid areas like this being considered for mineral development.

As the response on the Waste Sites was received too late for consideration, **IT WAS AGREED** that, in line with advice received from the OCC, the Parish Council's comments should be repeated in the current consultation.

(ii) FOR INFORMATION:

- (a) Oxfordshire County Council – News April and May 2007
- (b) Clerks and Councils Direct, May 2007
- (c) Local Council Review, May 2007
- (d) ASHTAV – Summer Party, Tuesday, 26 June

89/07 NOTIFIED BUSINESS

NIL

Date:
Chairman