

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY, ON THURSDAY, 27  
SEPTEMBER 2007 AT 7.30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr j Standen (in the Chair)  
Crs Crowley, Henderson, Johnston, Nutt, Rogers, D Standen, Wilson  
Assistant Chief Constable David Murray, Chief Inspector Dennis  
Evernden, PC Delaney, trainee PC, and two Police Community Support  
Officers (Minute 139/07 and 140/07 (iv) (a) 4)  
Seven members of the public (for part)

**135/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cr Wren.

**136/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cr Crowley declared a personal but non-prejudicial interest in relation to matters relating to the Radley Lakes.

Cr Johnston declared a personal interest in matters relating to the Village Hall

**137/07 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL, 23  
AUGUST 2007**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 23 August 2007 were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments:

**Minute 124 (j)** – should read: “ ... had been pinned on the inside of the front double doors of the sports pavilion so that it was visible ....”

**Minute 127 (g)** – should read: “ .... And the Councillors chose first and second choices ....”

**Minute 128/07 (a) (i)** – second sentence should read: “A survey will first be made of villagers who remember using this road. If a sufficiently strong case could be made, an application would be made to the Oxfordshire County Council.”

**138/07 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

The Clerk reported:

- (a) **PLAY AREA:** The two small pieces of equipment had been repaired, but no work had taken place on the safety surface. Deterioration of another area had been found, and Playdale would be contacted about this.

- (b) VILLAGE POND: Mr Paul Gamble had spread the barley straw on part of the pond, and was investigating the possibility of further barley straw being available from the Radley College “Beagles” Kennels.
- (c) SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL PERSON: A further approach had been made to the Head Teacher.
- (d) CO-OPTION OF TWO PARISH COUNCILLORS: Before the meeting of the Parish Council, the Parish Councillors had met the four people who had expressed an interest in becoming Parish Councillors. A secret ballot was held, and Dr Eric Davies and Mr Ian Yorston were selected to fill the vacant posts.
- (e) CONSERVATION AREA: No further information had been received from the DC.
- (f) VALE OF WHITE HORSE – OFFER BY CHAIRMAN OF DC TO MEET PARISH COUNCIL: The DC Chairman had offered to come to the PC Meeting on the 22 November 2007 at 7.15 pm so that the Parish Council meeting would not be unduly delayed. The Parish Council **AGREED** that this was acceptable.
- (g) REPORT ON BANKING ARRANGEMENTS: An outline of the banking system used by a number of Parish Councils was given to the Council and **IT WAS AGREED** that this matter should be discussed by the Finance and Administration Committee so that the Parish Council could be advised how to proceed.
- (h) PROVISION OF CCTV AT SPORTS PAVILION: A site meeting had been held with a representative from Feel Secure to discuss a scheme to cover the sports pavilion and part of the playing field. The additions to the previous scheme were:
  - (i) A second camera under the veranda so that it was not possible to block out one camera without being recorded on the other.
  - (ii) The camera on the roof of the village hall would be lowered and focused on the entrance from the car park and the entrance to the Thrupp Lane field.
  - (iii) Infra-red lights would be provided to get good visibility at night.
  - (iv) The monitor would be kept in the Sports Pavilion (in a corner of the kitchen), and a strong cabinet would be required to house it.

The Finance and Administration Committee were asked to review the funding for this scheme when looking at the revised estimates.

- (i) CAR PARK – NOTICE: The Parish Council **AGREED** the wording for the notice.
- (e) BUS SHELTERS: No further information had been received from the OCC. Mr Harpwood had complained about the “mess” around the bus shelter and along his front wall, and this had been referred to the DC to see if they could help.

The “No Smoking” notice had not yet been purchased for the Pebble Hill bus shelter.

The Parish Council was concerned that the work on the bus stops meant that no bus time tables were available, and this should be drawn to the attention of the OCC.

- (k) **STATION ADOPTION:** It was noted that about 30 people attended the Public Meeting on the 14 September 2007, and following a lot of discussion on the condition of the station and improving access for the disabled by allowing entry from the Lower Radley side of the platform, nine people indicated that they would be willing to attend a Working Party to see if a Committee could be formed to “look after” the station after the improvements planned had taken place. The Parish Council **AGREED** that a meeting should be arranged to meet the people who had expressed an interest in helping.

### **139/07 POLICE MATTERS**

- (a) **REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR LIGHTING AND YOUTH SHELTER, BMX TRACK OFF AUDLETT DRIVE:** PC Sean Delaney reported that he was in early stages of the costing for this project, and would get the information to the Parish Council as soon as possible. Councillors queried why this track was needed in view of the nearness of the new one at the Leisure Centre in Audlett Drive, but PC Sean Delaney indicated that something was needed much nearer to Radley to entice them to use it.
- (b) **MOTOCROSS BIKE CLUB:** The Parish Council reported that a letter had been sent supporting the opening of a Motocross Bike Club at Dalton Barracks. PC Delaney thought this would help the persistent problem in Radley.
- (c) **VILLAGE HALL:** The car had been removed.
- (d) **CYCLE – OUTSIDE CHURCH:** The cycle had been removed.
- (e) **REPORT ON CRIMES IN THE PARISH:** PC Delaney outlined that 17 crimes had occurred in the Parish, 5 of which had been detected.
- (f) **Neighbourhood Action Group:** The police hoped that Radley would be able to attend NAG meetings as this group needed participation of all partners to undertake the work required.

### **140/07 PLANNING MATTERS**

#### **(i) New Applications**

- (a) RAD/20138/1 – Installation of new additional roof lights, 4 Turners Close: No objections.

#### **(ii) Permission Given**

- (a) RAD/7808/2 – Erection of a conservatory, 53 Foxborough Road
- (b) RAD/13253/1 – Erection of a first floor extension, 47 Stonhouse Crescent

**(iii) Permission Refused**

- (a) RAD/79/3 – Outline application for erection of a dwelling with integral garage accessed via Lyric Wood, 6 Lower Radley
- (b) RAD/7515/5 – Proposed extension and alterations to existing dwelling. Erection of two detached dwellings and double garage, Lyric Wood, 6 Lower Radley
- (c) RAD/9909/3 – Extension to garage to provide ancillary living accommodation, Thrupp House, Barton Lane.

**(iv) Misc:**

(a) RWEnPOWER – FILLING OF GRAVEL PITS:

1. PLANNING APPLICATION RAD/5948/24-cm – Details Pursuant to Conditions 5, 10, 11, 16, 17, 19, 26, 27, 29, 30 and 36: Details of the planning approval were received.
2. SPECIAL MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL: The letter from Mr Rainford was noted. The Parish Council were still not happy about the position, but **IT WAS AGREED** that it should be suggested to Mr Rainford that a meeting of the Liaison Group – RWE Npower should be held in Radley when an agenda would be discussed for a special meeting of the Parish Council. As with all other Committee meetings, this meeting would be open to the public.
3. UPDATE: The Parish Council noted the letter from Mr Rainford.
4. POLICE STATEMENT MADE AT HIGH COURT: Assistant Chief Constable David Murray and Chief Inspector Dennis Evernden attended for this item. ACC Murray indicated that they were not at the meeting to justify the statement made by CI Evernden as this was based on information available to the police at the time the Injunction was considered by the High Court, but they were willing to listen to the views of the Parish Council to ensure that they took account of all aspects of the situation.

Parish Councillors spoke in detail about their concerns, particularly about the way the security staff at Sandles had handled the position when there were peaceful demonstrators in the area, the perception that the police were supporting RWE Npower more than the local people, the number of police on site for the peaceful protest compared with the difficulty of getting police attendance to incidents in the Parish

The police outlined the arrangements for improving the communication between the police and local people, and the Parish Council confirmed that they would be represented at the meeting being arranged by Inspector Phil Littlechild on the 2 October.

ACC Murray and CI Evernden were thanked for attending and for the frank exchange of views, and Parish Council welcomed the details given for improved liaison between the police and the local people.

5. LETTER TO RWE NPOWER: It was noted that no reply had been received to the letter sent to RWE Npower.
6. LIAISON WITH POLICE: The Chairman reported that she and the Clerk had met Inspector Phil Littlechild at his request to discuss the position should RWE Npower recommence work on Radley Lakes. Following this he had arranged a meeting with all interested parties for Tuesday, 2 October 2007. Cr Wilson agreed to represent the Parish Council at this meeting. Cr Crowley noted that there was also an invitation for Save Radley Lakes to send one representative to this meeting.
6. THRUPP AND BUILFIELD LAKES, RADLEY: It was understood that the Inspector's report would be sent to the OCC solicitor next week.

#### **141/07 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:
 

(i)	Miss S E Raven:	£475.53
	Salary, September 2007:	£379.28
	Village Cleaner, October 2007:	£96.25
(ii)	Mrs K Sharp – Salary, September 2007:	£139.33
(iii)	Berinsfield Community Business – Grass Cutting/Gardening:	£430.49
(iv)	PlaySafety Ltd – Inspection, Play Area:	£74.03
(v)	Tony Stoye – Forum on Web Site:	£175.00
(vi)	Copycat Services – Photocopying:	£55.94
(vii)	Vale of White Horse – Uncontested Election Costs:	£76.07
(viii)	Southern Electric - Sports Pavilion:	£51.30
(ix)	BDO Stoy Hayward – Annual Audit:	£334.88
- (b) AUDIT 2006/2007 – REPORT FROM EXTERNAL AUDITORS: **IT WAS AGREED** that this should be discussed by the Finance and Administration Committee.

## **142/07 VILLAGE HALL**

- (a) UPDATE ON GRANTS FOR SOUND PROOFING IMPROVEMENTS: Cr Johnston reported that the DC had increased its grant to £4,000 to match the grant given by the Parish Council. The decision of WREN would be known next week.
- (b) VILLAGE HALL WORKING GROUP – TERMS OF REFERENCE AND MEMBERSHIP: The Clerk tabled the draft Terms of Reference and Membership, indicating that this had been discussed and agreed by the ORCC officers who dealt with village hall matters. **IT WAS AGREED** that this should be on the agenda for the next meeting.

## **143/07 CONSERVATION**

- (a) ORCC – VILLAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION: It was noted that Radley had received a Highly Commended award. Cr D Standen agreed to attend the AGM of the ORCC to accept this award.
- (b) RIGHTS OF WAY SURVEY: The Clerk had asked the OCC for the necessary application form.
- (c) PLACES FOR PEOPLE: It was noted that Mr Bill Homewood had agreed in principle to Footpath 8 being widened, and a letter had been sent to Radley College to ask if they were in agreement with the suggestion. An estimate of £15,500 had been received to widen the current path by 0.5 m.
- (d) BULB PLANTING, LOWER RADLEY: This would be taking place on Wednesday, 17 October 2007 commencing at 2.15 to 3.45 pm when Radley College boys will be available. I hope this date is convenient for members of the Annual Tree Planting/Maintenance of Footpaths Advisory Working Group/
- (e) CENTENARY GARDEN: The type of plants to be put in this area would need to be given further consideration because of the shady nature of the area.
- (f) TREE PLANTING – WHITES LANE: It was noted that ISS Waterers Landscape would be planting the trees November time. Sites had been agreed with the foreman.
- (g) CONSERVATION STRATEGY: This would be put on the agenda of the November meeting if all the background papers were available.
- (h) VILLAGE POND: No reply had been received from the Primary School regarding a replacement representative on the Village Pond Management Committee.

## **144/07 HIGHWAY MATTERS**

- (a) **INCREASED TRAFFIC ALONG THRUPP LANE/CONDITION OF THRUPP LANE/NOISE FROM RECYCLING VEHICLES:** It had not yet been possible to arrange a site meeting with OCC Councillor Roger Belson. Cr Johnston suggested that an approach should be made to OCC Councillor Ian Hudspeth. It was stressed that urgent action was necessary.
- (b) **TREE – FOXBOROUGH ROAD:** It was noted that OCC Highways had very little recorded on the queries raised by the Parish Council, but the Clerk had spoken to Judith Osborn, OCC Landscape/Environment Officer, and she had indicated that she would get someone to look at the tree as a matter of urgency.
- (c) **RAILWAY BRIDGE, LOWER RADLEY:** It was queried whether pedestrian signs could be put both sides of the bridge, and the Clerk reported that these were being arranged through OCC Highways.
- (d) **CONDITION OF ROADS:** There was concern about the sunken manhole cover in Foxborough Road (by the St James' Road junction) and outside the Bowyer Arms. In addition, the splay in New Road, the splay in Catharine Close and the condition of Catharine Close were still causing concern.
- (e) **KENNINGTON ROAD – BY RADLEY COLLEGE:** The Parish Council pressed for urgent work to improve the drainage in this area to avoid future flooding.

## **145/07 PARISH WEBSITE**

It was reported that the Forum was now working again following the work undertaken by Tony Stoye.

## **146/07 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, 27 APRIL 2007**

The following matters had arisen at the Annual Parish Meeting:

- (a) **NOISE FROM STATION:** This was also raised at the Station Adoption Meeting. This had already been followed up, but the reply indicated that little could be done about reducing the noise from the tangy system. However, a letter will be sent raising concerns about the noise of the repair work and the lack of notification of this work.
- (b) **LAND BY BOWYER ARMS:** It was thought that the maintenance of this land could be improved, and a letter would be sent to Greene King.
- (c) **PARISH PLAN:** It was thought that the Village Plan should be updated and should include the need for a new Village Hall. The Parish Council had agreed the need for a Working Group to look into the feasibility of a new Village Hall. **IT WAS AGREED** that an agenda item should be included on the January/February agenda for consideration of updating the Parish Plan.

- (d) LOST FOOTPATHS: The Parish Council was following this up.
- (e) VILLAGE GATEWAYS: There was a complaint about the village gateways being dirty. This is an ongoing problem, although it is drawn to the attention of the OCC officer at various times.

#### **147/07 REPORT OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cr Johnston reported:

- (i) Vale of White Horse DC: The flooding policies were being reviewed and inspection of flood prevention systems was almost complete. The DC is reviewing its contractual arrangements with landscaping companies because of the help they give during times of flood.
- (ii) Oxfordshire County Council: It looked as though the OCC County Cabinet was minded to reinstate a budget for weeding roads/pavements because of the level of damage being caused.

#### **148/07 CORRESPONDENCE**

##### **(i) FOR ACTION**

- (a) Vale of White Horse DC:
  - (i) Planning Evening, 9 October 2007, at Wantage Civic Hall: Cr Rogers **AGREED** to attend.
  - (ii) Vacancy for a member on the Independent Remuneration Panel: Cr Rogers **AGREED** to put his name forward.
  - (iii) Licensing Act 2003 – Draft Statement of Licensing Policies: The Parish Council decided not to put forward any comments.
- (b) Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association – AGM, 1 October 2007: The Clerk was asked to ascertain if Cr Nutt could attend.
- (c) Oxfordshire Rural Community Council – AGM, 3 October 2007: Cr D Standen **AGREED** to attend this meeting.
- (d) Oxfordshire NHS Primary Care Trust – Public Discussion Groups about draft strategy, 1 October 2007: The Parish Council would not be represented at this meeting.
- (e) Oxfordshire Association for Local Councils – Courses: It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Henderson and **AGREED** that the Clerk should attend the two courses being held on 13 November 2007, at a cost of £40 plus VAT.

- (f) Play Area Safety Inspection Report: Copies had been given to Cr Nutt, and these would be discussed at the Finance and Administration Committee.
- (g) ASHTAV – AGM, 27 October 2007: The Parish Council did not wish to send a representative.
- (ii) **FOR INFORMATION:**
  - (a) Oxfordshire County Council:
    - (i) Home2School Newsletter: Autumn 2007
    - (ii) News, September 2007
    - (iii) Your guide to road safety in Oxfordshire 2007/2008
    - (iv) Road Accidents in Oxfordshire, 2007 Issue
    - (v) Casualty Report 2006 and Road Safety Strategy and Plan 2007/2008
  - (b) Vale of White Horse:
    - (i) Standards Committee, 6 September 2007
    - (ii) Advertising Signs – Acting being taken by DC
  - (c) Government Office for the South East: Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East The South East Plan) – Publication of the Panel Report
  - (d) 1<sup>st</sup> Radley Guides: Letter of Thanks from Eleanore Henderson
  - (e) Clerks & Councils Direct, September 2007
  - (f) Local Council Review, September 2007
  - (g) Rail Future – Thames Valley Branch: Newsletter August 2007
  - (h) Oxfordshire Green Belt Network, Newsletter September 2007

**149/07 NOTIFIED BUSINESS**

NIL

Date: .....  
 .....  
 Chairman