

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE CHURCH ROOM, RADLEY ON THURSDAY 23rd MARCH 2017 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Crs J Standen (in the chair), Betts, Dudding, Henderson, Johnston (for part), Kallie, Pasquire Crowley, D Standen, Walker, Wittneben and Yorston.

IN ATTENDANCE: Geoff Gardner (Gardner Planning) (for part), District Councillor Ed Blagrove and the clerk.

29/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None

30/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

DISPENSATIONS: None were requested.

31/17 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

32/17 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 23rd FEBRUARY 2017:

The minutes were **RESOLVED** to be a true record of the proceedings. There were no matters arising not appearing elsewhere on the agenda.

33/17 POLICE MATTERS:

Vandalism to residents' cars parked in St James' Road had been brought to the police's attention. It was agreed that it should be publicised and residents asked to take note of any future incidents.

The Council would investigate cars parked on the verge outside 92 and 94 Foxborough Road which evidently hadn't been moved for some time.

34/17 PLANNING MATTERS:

(a) **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:**

i Geoff Gardner of Gardner planning represented people with an interest in Gooseacre Farm. He urged the Council to consider its responsibility to the community as a whole to help to provide the housing needed in the Vale, saying that Radley is one of the most sustainable villages in Oxfordshire.

The developers thought that Radley would benefit from developing the site and were happy to offer funding to support Neighbourhood Plan priorities. Mr Gardner urged the Council to consider his clients' proposals.

Cr Dudding had drawn to the Council's attention responses to the Neighbourhood Plan consultation from the owners of the site known as South Radley and their representatives, which sought the Council's support for the release of the South Radley site from the Green Belt and its development for housing.

She said that both representations contain carefully considered arguments as to why the site should be developed for housing, and offer substantial benefits to the village. The Council's policy to date had been to resist the removal of the South Radley site from the Green Belt and no change was proposed.

Radley residents did not want any further major development in Radley over and above that already scheduled through the Local Plan. The recently published Part 2 consultation draft did not propose that this site be removed from the Green Belt and

there was no appetite in the village to quarrel with that decision.

The Council **RESOLVED** that it would write to Mr Dockar-Drysdale and Mrs Cotton to thank them for their representations and for the careful consideration they have clearly given to the needs of the village, but to inform them that the PC welcomes the VOWH decision not to seek the removal of their site from the green belt under Part 2 of the Local Plan and will not be supporting any proposals for its development.

- ii Cr Dudding reported that meeting had been held with Radley College and the primary and school. A proposal by David Anderson to convene a group to consider how expansion of the school will be managed had been welcomed by the steering group.

Radley College was still pressing for the village hall to move. David Anderson was happy to participate in a village hall working group, but would not give a clear view on the hall remaining in its current location until Part 2 of the Local Plan is published.

The Steering Group had recommended that the Council should pursue preparing a SEA with Localities' support.

It was proposed by Cr Johnston, seconded by Cr Walker and **RESOLVED** that the Council should, with Localities' support, proceed with preparing a SEA.

- (b) **STRATEGIC SITES:**

A workshop had been held on taking forward the North West Radley site.

Cr Henderson was reminding Redrow that the Council would welcome a development forum on the South Kennington development.

A meeting had been arranged between the Council, Kennington Parish Council and the Church housing group to review where all parties stand on the South Kennington site.

- (c) **LOCAL PLAN PART 2:** Cr Dudding pointed out that the consultation also concerns development management for the next 15 years which the Council should consider. Cr Blagrove undertook to send a list of the questions which he planned to raise for the Council to add to.
- (d) **ALLOTMENT SITE:** West Waddy had reviewed the levels survey and highways report which both said that development would be feasible. Next steps were to explore other allotment sites, seek an expression of interest from the Village Shop and to hold an exhibition on proposals.
- (e) **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:** It was **RESOLVED** that the meeting should focus on the Neighbourhood Plan, and would include written reports from village groups.

35/17 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- (a) **GOOSEACRE:** An inspection had found that repairs were required to the lean-to roof. It was **RESOLVED** that the clerk should seek quotes for replacing the roof covering.
- (b) The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the football club's offer of £1,500 for rental for the 17-18 football season, conditional on the club accepting the approved terms and conditions in writing.
It was referred to the Finance and Administration committee to verify the draft lease with the Council's solicitors.
- (c) **PLAY AREA:** The Council **APPROVED** a quote of £100 to break up and remove

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the existing path and re-lay in concrete.

- (d) Actions arising from allotments training were noted.
- (e) The Council received a request that a boot scraper should be provided on the Lower Radley green. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would ask Radley College through Cr Yorston if a boy might make a scraper as a project.
- (f) The Council **APPROVED** Jon Sherwood's projected expenses of £35 per cut for the verges at Lower Radley junction, Shaws Copse junction, corner of New Road and Stonhouse Crescent, St James Road, outside the Lower Churchyard, every two weeks during the cutting season.
- (g) Weed clearing was being carried out along Footpath 8 on 23 March. White lining would follow.
- (h) **PAYMENTS** were authorised, with the exception of cheque 1237. The Council agreed that it would not continue its subscription to Historic Towns Forum.

Income		None			
Expenditure					
Chq	Supplier	Item	Gross	Ref	Power to act
16 03 17					
1229	Radley Village Hall	Room hire (Neighbourhood Plan meeting)	26.00		LG Act 1972 s111
23 03 17					
1230	Post Office Limited	Refused by Post Office			
1231	Playdale Limited	Play Area spare part	70.39		Public Health Act 1894
1232	OALC	Annual subscription	420.30		LG Act 1972 s111
1233	Community First Oxfordshire	Annual subscription	70.00		LG Act 1972 s111
1234	HMRC	Employee PAYE, NI, Employer NI	201.16		LG Act 1972 s112
1235	OCC Pension Fund	Employee, Employer pension payments	386.65		
1236	Mrs J E Dymock	Neighbourhood Plan admin, Live Drive subscription, Phone calls, postage, mileage	288.19		LG Act 1972 s111, s112
1237	Historic Towns Forum	Cancelled - Council			
1238	OPFA	Annual subscription	50.00		LG Act 1972 s111
1239	Oxford Green Belt Network	Annual subscription	15.00		LG Act 1972 s111
DD					
SO	Mrs J E Dymock	Clerk net Salary (March)	1,074.05		LGAct 1972 s112 Litter Act
		Village cleaner net salary (April)			
	Refunds:	Telephone line rental (March)			LGAct 1972 s111

- (i) The reconciliation was noted.
- (j) The monthly finance report was noted.

36/17 REPORTS FROM THE DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

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- (a) CR BLAGROVE reported the Better Oxfordshire devolution proposal had been delivered to DCLG but there were unlikely to be any comments until after the County Council elections in May, after which it would move to consultations and public consultation. If agreed, the District Councils were expected to be dissolved around the current term of office in March 2019.
The Conservative group had spoken at length about the proposals and there were some reservations about proposed Area Groups as it was unclear at present what powers local groups will have.
The first meeting of the five council scrutiny group was cancelled and rearranged for May. At that meeting, Cr Blagrove would raise what will happen to the contract if South and Vale councils no longer exist
Cr Johnston had left the meeting because he was unwell and it was **RESOLVED** that a written report could be entered into the minutes.
- (b) CR JOHNSTON:
“1. The three Councils (Oxfordshire, Vale, SODC) are to submit their latest draft of the "a new Council for a Better Oxfordshire" to DCLG within the next very few days (it might have already been sent).
2. The rival bid by the other three Councils for a combined authority are unlikely to be considered because such proposals as with the successful Greater Manchester bid have to demonstrate unanimity, in the case of Oxfordshire that is manifestly not the case.
3. It has emerged that a very high proportion of the sitting County Councillors are standing down, at least a third. Therefore whatever the electorate does on the 4th of May the new Council is going to look very different. I (and the Officers) are most concerned about the loss of experience and continuity. This applies particularly in the case of the Pensions Committee where the work is most complex and experience is at a premium. It looks as though only 1 or 2 of the present 9 will be back and even that cannot be guaranteed. The Officers are preparing a most detailed induction programme to address this. I am standing again and trust that providence and the electorate will spare me.

I have nothing to add in respect of the District which was not covered by the discussions on the Local Plan part 2 or in respect of Thrupp Lane.”

37/17 HIGHWAY MATTERS:

- (a) Thames Water had been called to sewerage flooding on Kennington Road on March 17. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council should pursue the question of what work was carried out and bring to Thames Water’s attention the Parish Council’s interest in the matter.
- (b) The poor quality of repairs recently carried out in Sugworth Lane was discussed.
- (c) Complaints had been received from a number of Lower Radley residents, concerned at the condition of the road. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would pass on concerns to Oxfordshire Highways and ask what action was planned.
- (d) Highways’ comments on possible speed limit change on Kennington Road were awaited.
- (e) VANDALISM to residents’ cars parked in St James Road was discussed earlier under Police Matters.

38/17 CONSERVATION:

- (a) The date for the village litter pick was set as Sunday 23rd April.

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- (b) The date of the Garden competition had been agreed to be **SATURDAY 1ST JULY**. The Church Room was booked for the day
- (c) The pond group was due to meet at the school on 24th March and would bring recommendations on next steps and possible future use of the pond by the school to the April meeting.

39/17 THRUPP LANE ISSUES: None

40/17 CORRESPONDENCE: None

41/17 MATTERS FOR REPORT: There were none.

42/17 CONFIRMATION OF THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING as
Thursday 27th April at 7.30pm in the Church Room.

Signed.....Date.....
(Chairman)