

PARISH OF RADNAGE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8TH JUNE AT 8 PM IN RADNAGE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors: Chairman Mr R Fawell, Vice-Chairman Ms E Fynn, Mr M Blakstad, Mrs S Jones, Mr L Perring, Mr R Pitcher, Mr T Tordoff, and Clerk Mrs G MacKenzie.

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting including 6 members of the public. No apologies for absence had been received.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman invited 4 representatives of the War Memorial Fund to speak. Mr Guidery offered his congratulations to the new Council and went on to explain that a Fund started in 1990 by previous Chairman Mr Horace Hook for the upkeep of the names on the War Memorial and to the stone itself had raised £896.29. Mr Guidery proceeded to hand a cheque for this amount to Mr Bill Pilbeam who had been instrumental in initiating the repair work whilst a Councillor, to enable the work to begin. Mr Pilbeam then formally presented the cheque to the Chairman Cllr Fawell. Mr Pilbeam advised that the stonemason was due to complete the works in preparation for this year's Armistice Day and expressed the wish of the War Memorial Fund that any monies left over from this cheque, together with the £530 already donated from ex-District Councillor Mr C Watson, be used towards the upkeep of the War Memorial garden which is now being tended by Mr Chris Lowe.

Mr Mike Chadwick was invited to speak and gave an overview of the status of the Stokenchurch and Radnage Community Action Forum (SCRAF) which had begun in 2002 following an initiative from the District Council. He advised that at the next meeting scheduled for Monday 11th July at 1930 hours in Longburrow Hall, the constitution of the Forum was to be reviewed and that there was a suggestion that although liaison with neighbouring parishes would continue, the focus of the meetings would be on the Parish of Stokenchurch. Mike was thanked for his contribution to matters affecting Radnage in the past and for his continued interest.

MEETING REOPENED

2. Declarations of any personal or prejudicial interests.

All Councillors were asked to return their Register of Members Interests. No declarations of personal or prejudicial interests in the agenda items were made.

3. Acceptance and signing of minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held 11th May 2011.

Cllr Pitcher proposed, seconded by Cllr Blakstad and agreed by all who had been present that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council of 11th May 2011 be accepted as a true record. The Chairman signed and dated the minutes.

4. Acceptance and signing of minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held 11th May 2011.

Cllr Blakstad proposed, seconded by Cllr Jones and agreed by all who had been present that the minutes of the meeting on 11th May 2011 be accepted as a true record and the minutes were signed and dated by the Chairman.

5. Report on progress on items in the previous minutes

The Clerk advised that all actions from the last meeting had been completed with the exception of obtaining a copy of the playground inspection report or the hedge cutting opposite the school which were ongoing.

6. To consider planning applications received and to note decisions made.

- 53 Green Lane: Construction of a single storey rear extension. The Parish Council have no objection to this application.
- 14 Green Lane. Householder application for removal of existing rear conservatory & erection of single storey rear extension, pitched roof extension to existing garage. The Parish Council have no objection to this application.

- Linden, Radnage Common Road: Construction of a single storey front extension and loft conversion. The Parish Council would wish to see the building line maintained for this property and the adherence of the 50% ruling for properties within the Green Belt.
- Three Ways, Radnage Common Road: Replacement of flat roof dormers with new dormers on the south-west and north east elevations in lieu of removal of conservatory. The Parish Council object to the size and scale of this application.
- Home Farm City Road. Householder application for the demolition of the existing two storey garden room and erection of a replacement garden room with basement. Application permitted by WDC.
- 59 Green Lane. Householder application for construction of detached outbuilding in rear garden (retrospective). Application permitted by WDC
- Radnage House, Green End Road. Application for temporary mobile home. Application permitted by WDC.

7. Finance

a) The Clerk reported that as at 9th May the deposit account had a balance of £10,031.73 representing interest of 38p. As at 31 May the current account had a balance of £27,954.49 which represented the income of the first half of Precept (£11,000) and a deposit of £11,539.80 from Veolia Environmental Trust – money which was already allocated to pay for Village Hall improvements. The Clerk advised that the external auditors had questioned the Parish Council Governance procedures and that the positive response to the answers she provided were as a direct result of the Parish Council's robust risk schedule covering financial control.

b) Cheques presented for payment were approved and signed by Cllrs Blakstad and Fynn.

Green Lane Residents Association £344.00 – for road maintenance – (8 frontages – Village Hall and Allotments)
BALC – for new councillor trainings £62.50 for Cllrs Fawell and Jones.

Salaries and Expenses for May: £659.45

Kent Murray Building Services Ltd – work to enclose VH oil tank £310.00

Direct Debit Southern Electric – Village Hall monthly direct debit (May) £65.00

Direct Debit Sita UK Ltd – Village Hall Waste for month of May £114.06 + VAT

8. Correspondence.

The Clerk advised of the following items of correspondence:

- a) Notification of road closure Sprigs Holly Lane/Town End Road. From its junction with Horseshoe Road to County Boundary 21/06/11 to 23/06/11. Residents were currently unaware so the Clerk was tasked with placing this information on the village notice boards. **ACTION: Clerk**
- b) Theatre in the Villages Rural Touring Scheme. Information regarding this scheme had been received and would be included in Contact magazine should anyone wish to pursue the opportunity. **ACTION: Clerk**

9. Village Hall update.

Cllr Fynn provided a report on the Village Hall advising that the pitched roof over the entrance hall and toilets had been finished. The work had been paid for by a grant from Veolia Environmental Trust and it was hoped a representative from Veolia Environmental Trust will join villagers on Garden Sunday. Cllr Fynn reported that the replacement windows to the ladies and gents, and the electrics cupboard, were to be fitted Thursday 9 June. The glass in the cracked window in the large hall would be replaced at the same time. The central heating oil tank now has a brick surround and a roof with a padlocked hatch in it to enable filling. As part of the fundraising scheme, a successful second cookery workshop had been held in the new kitchen on 13 May and a further two dates had been booked for the third and fourth workshops and interest was high. It was intended to hold a Hall Action Group meeting before the end of June. The agenda would include the three-year action plan for work on the hall, a review of hall hire charges and plans for an Open Day to boost hall bookings.

10. Open Spaces .

a) It had been hoped to discuss and agree the purchase and siting arrangements for the Radenac tree but unfortunately Mr Blaylock had not received an amended quotation so it was agreed that the matter would be deferred to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

b) Cllr Pitcher advised that a half allotment plot which had become vacant at City Allotments was to be offered in the first instance to the adjacent plot holder who had expressed an interest. Sprigs Holly Lane Allotments were looking good in preparation for Garden Sunday. Allotments at Bennett End were in a disappointing state and Cllr Pitcher agreed to speak to the tenant. **ACTION: RP/Clerk**

c) Cllr Fynn enquired about the status of the Hedge and Verge Cutting arrangements as many hedges were overgrown. The Clerk advised that the contractor had not been able to carry out the November 2010 scheduled cut due to the extreme bad weather and had been very unwell during the early part of this year. She had recently spoken to him and arrangements were in hand to complete the work prior to Garden Sunday.

11. Risk Management.

A review of the June elements of the Risk Register was made and action recorded as appropriate.

12. Clerks Matters.

- a) An Invitation to the Wycombe Planning Forum on 30 June 2011 had been received. Cllrs Fawell and Tordoff volunteered to attend. The Clerk was to submit the response proforma. **ACTION: Clerk**
- b) An Open Letter to Residents of Buckinghamshire had been received from the leader of BCC, a full copy of which is available at http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/news/open_letter.page and a précis of its contents was to be included in Contact magazine. **ACTION: Clerk**
- c) The future of the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) had been under discussion. The PC have been assured that the NAG is not "fizzling out" but will be concentrating on helping the Youth Clubs in Lane End and Stokenchurch and that one of the best ways of getting Thames Valley Police to address any issues that arise in Radnage is to report them to 0845 8505 505. It is understood that these calls influence their priorities.

13. To receive Reports from Councillors on meetings that they have attended.

The SW Chilterns and Marlow Local Area Forum (LAF) had been attended by Cllr Jones on 23rd May and she reported that the following topics had been covered: New railway station in High Wycombe also provided a bus terminal; Speeding issues; Crime rates in the area and Health reforms. In addition, it was noted that the delegated budget schemes which relied on a figure of £56,400 from BCC had since been reduced by half with the decision to redirect TfB's budget to road maintenance (see para 12b above).

Discussion followed regarding the poor state of road signage around the village. The Clerk was asked to ascertain who was responsible for the condition of signage. **ACTION: Clerk**

14. To note Forthcoming Meetings and Attendees.

- a) It was decided to re-schedule the date of the next meeting of the Parish Council to Wednesday 27th July 2011
- b) Councillor Induction courses – Cllrs Jones and Fawell were booked onto the Haddenham course on 25 June 2011. **ACTION: SJ/RF**

15. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 27th July 2011 8pm. **ACTION: ALL**

Please note change of date to that originally advertised.

The meeting closed at 22:20 hours

PUBLIC SESSION Members of the public were given a further opportunity to raise any matters of concern. Mr Chadwick encouraged attendance at meetings of the LAF and advised that BCC website provided a lot of information regarding LAF business. Mr Blaylock advised that the WI had voluntarily cleaned road signs in the past as the CC policy was not to clean or conduct regular maintenance on road signs.

G MACKENZIE

Clerk to the Parish Council

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