

PARISH OF RADNAGE

A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th JANUARY 2016 AT 8 PM IN RADNAGE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors: Chairman Ms Elizabeth Fynn, Vice-Chairman Mrs Sue Jones, Ms Tamsin Addison, Mr Robert Nikiel, Mrs Helen Orchard, Mr Lew Perring and Clerk Mrs Gill MacKenzie.

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from County Councillor Carl Etholen, District Councillor Shade Adoh and Councillor Frank Coggrave.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC SESSION

No public were present so the meeting was not closed for a public session.

MEETING REOPENED

2. To receive any disclosure of pecuniary interests by Members relating to items on the agenda.

Nil declarations were received.

3. Acceptance and signing of minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 9th December 2015.

It was proposed by Cllr Nikiel, seconded by Cllr Addison with all in favour that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th December 2015 be accepted as a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed and dated the minutes.

4. Report on progress on items in the previous minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council not otherwise included in this agenda.

Cllr Addison reported that she had studied the water bills from the past 2 years and was confident that the fluctuations were due to the estimations and billing processes and that there were no leaks. It was suggested that Thames Water be asked to advise when meter readings were required to save estimates being made in the future. **ACTION: Clerk**

5. Planning Applications.

- 34 Green Lane - Householder application for insertion of 2 x dormer windows (1 in each side elevation). Councillors had no objection to this planning application. **ACTION: Clerk**

6. Finance

a) The monthly budget sheet had been distributed and no questions arose from this. The Clerk reported that at the end of December the Treasurers Account had a balance of £20,167.44 and the Business Account a balance of £37,980.91 which included interest of £1.56.

b) After a short discussion it was proposed by Cllr Fynn, seconded by Cllr Orchard with all in favour to continue annual support to Community Impact Bucks (currently £50). **ACTION: Clerk**

c) A discussion about providing annual financial support to Chilterns Conservation Board was followed by a proposal by Cllr Fynn, seconded by Cllr Addison with all in favour to send £25 per annum. **ACTION: Clerk**

d) Following successful and timely dredging of Wards Pond, the contractor had requested that his fee of £100 be donated to a charity of choice. It was unanimously agreed to send this donation to Cancer Research UK. Cllr Fynn undertook to write a letter of thanks to the contractor. **ACTION: Clerk/EF**

e) Payments for December 2015 were approved as proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Nikiel with all in favour. Payments included the annual subscription as members of WDALC. In addition the preferred

method of payment by BACS was agreed for Climate Building Services village hall refurbishment project. Cllrs Addison and Nikiel undertook the signing of cheques.

The following agenda items were discussed in a Closed Meeting following this Parish Council Meeting.

f) To review the Clerks hours and salary.

g) To consider the annual payment of working from home allowances to the Clerk.

7. Village Hall

a) Cllr Orchard reported that the main focus of village hall activity in the last month had been the toilet refurbishment work. A request to reduce a hire charge from one regular hirer would be politely refused in line with the current policy that had recently been reviewed. The boiler had been serviced and a repair recommended. There was concern that as the contractor had previously serviced the boiler that the cause of the problem should have been avoided and may even have contributed to it. Cllr Nikiel undertook to share the concerns of councillors with Cllr Coggrave and discuss the options for ensuring that the repair is completed with him. The sum of up to £650 to complete the repair was proposed by Cllr Fynn and seconded by Cllr Addison with all in favour.

ACTION: RN

b) It was reported that the village hall toilet refurbishment had begun on time and that Ladies and Gents fittings had been stripped out and routes for plumbing were finalized. Two leaks had been discovered and various other plumbing issues were rectified. The hot water cylinder in bar was found to be leaking. This was to be removed and replaced by new water heater in loft. The water tanks in loft were to be drained down and replaced with mains direct supplies to new toilets removing the risk of future leaks in the ceiling. The village hall team had identified that it would be more cost effective to include the installation of new foyer flooring at the same time as the rest of the project and that the redecoration of the disabled toilet and the foyer would also save money if done all at the same time. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Orchard, seconded by Cllr Jones with all in favour that an additional £955 to the £16,000 be authorised out of the capital budget for the work and that the sum of up to £1,500 from the current in year village hall budget for the redecoration.

ACTION: VH Team

c) It was advised that over the Christmas period, a large garden ornament had been appeared on the roof of the hall and that there had been resultant damage to the roof which had caused £100 in repairs. The neighbour to whom the ornament belonged had reported the incident to the police. All agreed that the hall had not been the target of the misbehaviour.

8. Open Spaces

a) Cllr Fynn provided a written report outlining quotations received regarding the demolition of the Black Barn. Discussions followed and the most expensive quotation discarded. The remaining two quotations were not too dissimilar and it was agreed that a local resident, although not the cheapest quote, but who had the support of neighbours and had a vested interest in seeing the job completed would be the preferred contractor although a few points of clarification were required. Cllr Fynn undertook to clarify the additional points and to advise neighbours of the council's intention. This proposal was made by Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Perring with all in favour.

ACTION: EF

b) Cllr Nikiel advised that work to install sleeving to climbing poles and removal of old benches in recreation ground was still outstanding but was on his list of tasks.

c) The report on overgrown hedges was deferred to the next meeting due to the absence of Cllr Coggrave.

d) The update on the investigation into winter road clearance initiatives was deferred to the next meeting due to the absence of Cllr Coggrave.

e) Cllr Addison asked for clarification on the intended landscaping project around the village hall. It was noted that loose flagstones needed to be repaired/replaced and that it was essential to consider the access required by caterers and delivery vehicles, and the erection of marquees for events. Cllr Addison undertook to get some ideas and suggestions together and present these to council for further discussion.

ACTION: TA

9. Clerks Matters – including late received correspondence.

- a) The Clerk advised that a new Radnage Correspondent for 'Contact - Church and Community Newsletter' had been found and that the February issue would be his first. Cllr Fynn asked to be advised of the new email address for the correspondent. **ACTION: Clerk**
- b) The recent death of retired ex Councillor Neil Raven was noted and a card signed by all for his widow and family.
- c) The clerk advised that there were suggestions that the Radnage Centenary Beacon (in the Childrens Playground) could be lit as part of the National celebrations for the Queen's 90th birthday. More information would be shared once available.

10. Forthcoming Meetings and Attendees.

- a) There were no forthcoming meetings which councillors were available to attend.
- b) It was agreed that a review of the Risk Schedule would take place on Monday 15th February 2016 at 65 Green Lane (the home of Cllr Orchard). **ACTION: All**

13. Date of Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Parish Council was scheduled to take place on **Wednesday 10th February 2016** commencing at 8pm in the Village Hall.

PUBLIC SESSION There was no public session.

Please Note:

This meeting was followed by a Closed Meeting of the Parish Council to consider Items 6(f) and 6(g).

Chairman's Signature:

Date: