

# PARISH OF RADNAGE

## A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2014 AT 8 PM IN RADNAGE VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** Councillors: Vice-Chairman Ms Elizabeth Fynn, Mrs Sue Jones, Mrs Helen Orchard, Mr Lew Perring, Mr Neil Raven (from item 4) and Clerk Mrs Gill MacKenzie. Cllr Fynn chaired the meeting.

### **1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr Fynn opened the meeting and welcomed councillors and one member of the public to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Etholen, Cllr Fawell (unwell) and Cllr Pitcher (ill health). Cllr Perring advised that Cllr Pitcher was unlikely to be able to attend meetings until early next year due to his ill health.

### **MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr Lee Turner attended briefly to advise the council that the annual Rugged Radnage 10K race was scheduled to take place on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November with a 10am start time. Councillors were content with arrangements for the event and had no comments.

### **MEETING REOPENED**

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

No declarations were received.

### **3. Acceptance and signing of minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2014.**

It was proposed by Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Orchard, with all in agreement that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2014 be accepted as a true and accurate record. As Chairman of the meeting, Cllr Fynn signed and dated the minutes.

### **4. Report on progress on items in the previous minutes not otherwise included in this agenda.**

The Clerk advised that an email had been received from Mr Ian Blaylock accepting a request by the council to continue to act as a point of contact for the work involved with the dismantling of the Black Barn. He had also requested that the Chiltern Society be given a key to access the building whenever they wanted. After a brief discussion, all agreed that a key to the padlock to the building could be given to Mr Blaylock who would be asked to keep charge of that key and accompany anyone connected with the work when visiting the site. He would also be asked to advise both Cllr Fynn and the Clerk (via email) when access to the building was gained. The Clerk undertook to let Peter Highton know of the formal decision of the council as a courtesy.

**ACTION: Clerk**

### **5. Planning.**

A record was made of decisions made regarding the following planning applications:

- Land Formerly Part Of Ponds Farm Bennett End Road: Demolish the existing buildings and erection of 1 x 2 bed dwelling with basement (amended scheme to pp 13/05257/FUL) No objection by PC.
- Ivy Cottage 5 Horseshoe Road: Householder application for erection of detached 2 bay carport. No objection by PC.
- The Old Blacksmiths Radnage Common Road: Householder application for conversion of existing attached garage together with rear dormer to provide additional living accommodation, construction of single storey rear extension and erection of 2 bay car port with storage. No objection by PC.
- Barley Hollow Bennett End Road: Householder application for construction of 3.58m wide by 2.5m single storey side glassroom. No objection by PC.

It was noted that the following planning applications were currently under consideration:

- Stocks: Householder application for demolition of existing first floor rear extension, construction of first floor front and two storey side extensions, alterations to roof to include rear dormer window and rooflights in connection with conversion of loft into habitable accommodation and alterations to garage roof to form storage above (alternative scheme to p/p 14/06071/FUL)
- Little Ashridge: Householder application for construction of detached outbuilding comprising of stables, log store, garage and workshop.
- Ashridge Farm Training Centre: Conversion of existing barn to form 1 x 3 bed residential dwelling and alterations to existing barn to form garage and associated external alterations.

## 6. Finance

a) The Clerk reported that as at end September the Treasurers Account had a balance of £9,461.19 and the Business Account had a balance of £29,960.12 representing interest of £1.19 for the month. The budget summary had been circulated and there were no questions arising from this.

b) The payments for September 2014 were approved as proposed by Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Perring with all in favour, and the cheques were signed by Cllrs Perring and Orchard.

## 7. Village Hall

a) There was no report on the Village Hall.

b) An update on the toilet refurbishment plans was given by Cllr Raven who had been exploring the merits of waterless urinals for the gent's toilets. Concern was expressed about the specialist cleaning requirements together with the task and cost of replacing the cartridges. There was a thought that the usage may not warrant the expenditure on these units and that there would need to be a good weight of evidence to convince councillors to pursue this idea. Cllr Raven agreed to continue to investigate the subject and hoped the company would provide him with identities of previous local customers who could be approached to seek testimonials and to find out if the items lived up to expectations. **ACTION: NR**  
Cllr Jones suggested that a further meeting of the Village Hall team would be arranged to discuss the rest of the toilet refurbishment plans. **ACTION: SJ**

c) Cllrs Jones and Fynn advised that they had visited another hall where acoustic carpeting had been installed from floor to dado rail height. Initial findings suggested that if this were to be installed into Radnage Village Hall the cost would be approximately £150 – or £500 if the whole walls were to be covered. They welcomed thoughts about this suggestion and agreed to continue to investigate the effectiveness of this work. This item would be deferred to the next meeting for further consideration.

**ACTION: SJ/EF/Clerk**

## 8. Camp Site at Bella Vista.

This item had been personally requested by Cllr Fawell and as he was unwell and unable to attend this meeting, this item was deferred to the next meeting. **ACTION: Clerk**

## 9. Open Spaces

a) The Clerk advised that the older burial ground compost bin was gradually being emptied and that the new bin was now in place with a sign placed on it asking that only compostable material be placed in the bin.

b) The Clerk advised that all plots at City Allotments were now tenanted. Cllr Fynn advised that Ched George had been clearing the vacant plot at Chapel Allotments as it had become overgrown with brambles and had offered to carry on tidying this plot with help from Elizabeth Fynn and Phil Channer. Cllr Fynn requested that an item be placed on the next agenda with a proposal to thin out some of the trees on Chapel Allotments – with no anticipated cost to the council. **ACTION: Clerk**

Cllr Perring offered to accept responsibility for the management of the allotment sites in the absence of Cllr Pitcher. This offer was accepted.

c) Cllr Raven gave a brief overview on the annual playground inspection report. He advised that the existing monkey bars were of concern as they represented a medium risk due to age and deterioration. It was proposed by Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Fynn with all in favour that the monkey bars be dismantled and disposed of. Cllr Perring offered to assist with carrying out this task. **ACTION: LP**

Cllr Raven also advised that additional signage was required in the playground area and that he would bring proposals and costs to the next meeting. **ACTION: NR**

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk would send Cllr Raven all internet links received from playground equipment providers, together with any brochures received and would also provide him with the telephone number of a local 'mum' who had previously shown an interest in being consulted on playground usage.

**ACTION: Clerk**

#### **10. Clerks Matters – including late received correspondence.**

Correspondence regarding the forthcoming M40 Chilterns Environmental Group AGM and the Polling District and Polling Places Review was shared with councillors.

The recent delays in hedgecutting were discussed. Following a request from Tony Eden to reduce the height of his hedge, the contractor had carried this out and subsequently the invoice (£45) for the additional work was expected. This was discussed and due to the exceptional delays in getting the hedges cut and as a gesture of goodwill to the Eden's, it was proposed by Cllr Orchard, seconded by Cllr Raven, with all in favour, that as a one-off, this cost would be met by the council.

#### **11. Forthcoming Meetings and Attendees.**

a) All were asked to note the date for the Action Plan working group meeting as Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 8pm at 2 Lydalls Cottages. (Apologies received in advance from Cllr Orchard) **ACTION: All**

b) All were reminded of the date for the Precept planning working group meeting as Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 8pm at Eton Lodge. **ACTION: All**

#### **12. Date of Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014** commencing at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. Cllr Orchard tendered her apologies for this meeting as she will be away on holiday.

The meeting was closed at 21:30 hours.

There was no further public session.

Chairman's Signature:

Date: