

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Sue Arnold c/o Parish Council office, Memorial Hall, High Street,
Ramsbury Tel no. 01672 520045 (answerphone)
E mail parishcouncil@ramsbury.org

289

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17th January 2005 in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

PRESENT: Mora Abell, Roy Alexander, Diann Barnett, Steve Cook, Paul Court, Debbie Marshall, Cllr Susan Findlay, Sheila Glass, George Hawes, Alan Plenderleith, Matthew Tester, Geoffrey Treherne, Cllr Brian Twigger, Cllr Chris Humphries and 9 members of the public, including David Miles to give a presentation on energy saving.

- 1 **Apologies for absence:**, Fiona Kimber, Chris Morgan, and PC Mark Kuklinski,
- 2 **Disclosure of interest:** George Hawes - Item 7B. Roy Alexander - Item 13.
- 3 The minutes of the meeting held on December 14th were approved.
- 4 **Matters arising:** a) **Planning application ref. K/51312/F for Project 2005 work at the Recreation Centre** – the installation of floodlights on the foosball pitch has been withdrawn from the application. The remainder of the application is unchanged.
b) **Flix in the Stix** – no date for a trial screening as yet.
- 5 **Energy Saving Campaign.** Now that the proposed wind turbines will not go ahead, NOWT the village group campaigning against the turbines has been disbanded, but some of those involved have launched a new group CARE (Conserving Axford & Ramsbury Environment). The group aims to promote energy saving with a target of saving the same amount of energy as would have been generated by the turbines. A presentation by David Miles of the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, parts of whose remit is sustainability, gave examples of some of the measures available and their potential savings. As part of the initiative, householders in the parish will receive an energy questionnaire in the next few weeks. Anyone returning a completed form to Hills, Midway Stores or The Post Office will be given a free energy saving light bulb.
Ben Tottenham offered the diary for CARE to promote their work. Ian Ritchie of CARE said he envisaged a series of promotions on topics such as recycling and composting. The Parish council agreed to underwrite the cost of hiring the Memorial Hall for an Energy Efficient meeting open to everybody. Ian Ritchie thanked the Parish Council for their support.
- 6 **New Correspondence for Discussion:**

1221	03/01/05	KDC	Housing Strategy 2004 – 2008. This can be downloaded from the Kennet website: www.kennet.gov.uk/housing
1222	03/01/05	WCC	Proposed Revised Guidance – Local Speed Limits. Discussed at policy committee meeting on 12 th January 2005. The new guidance does not change the situation in Ramsbury. Action: S. Glass to write to WCC suggesting a 20mph limit through villages would be preferable.
1230	07/01/05	A. Fitton	1 st Jan 2005 Broken Glass in Square. PC Kuklinski is aware of the problem which included 2 incidents of criminal damage as well as the breaking of glasses and bottles. He has suggested that a police car could visit the square between 1.30 and 2.00am next 1 st Jan to check the situation. Any suggestions for avoiding the same situation next year would be gratefully received. Action: S. Glass to put a message in the Parish Diary and Magazine now and a reminder in December.
1231	07/01/05	WCC & Swindon BC	Public Consultation 4/01/05– 18/02/05. Changes to planning system relating to Swindon and the surrounding area. Structure Plans are to be abolished. The broader planning authority now rests with the South West Regional Assembly. Comment forms are available from the library or can be downloaded from the www.wiltshire.gov.uk website – deadline 18 th February. NB See item 7 for further information.
1236	10/01/05	Wiltshire Police	Request for donation for Splash (work with young people age 10 – 16). Donation of £25 agreed. Action: Clerk put payment on February's agenda.

			290
1237	10/01/05	John Bish	1 st Jan 2005 Broken glass in square and damage to property in Back Lane. See correspondence no 1230 above.
1244	17/01/04	WCC	Request for views on proposed new mobiles library routes. See www.wiltshire.gov.uk for details. Comment by 14/3/05. Action: Clerk to put on February's Agenda.
1236	17/01.05	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister	Freedom of Information Act – Authorisation of Qualified Person. Action: Clerk to put on February's agenda.

7 Committee Reports

A Planning

Chairman: G. Hawes

Note: There will be a meeting of the Planning Committee on Wednesday 26th January 2005 to be addressed by Edgar White – Team Leader, Forward Planning and Transport, KDC – on the subject of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. All council members and members of the public are invited to attend. The presentation will start at 19.30 p.m. in the memorial Hall and will last approximately 20 minutes to be followed by questions for a further 20 minutes. The Council will then consider what actions it will take in relation to the changes to the planning rules and procedures. Action: Clerk to book Memorial Hall and e-mail confirmation to G. Hawes

Planning Applications returned to KDC since 15 November 2004

K/51309/F Full Planning	Pool-house and plant room, Harbrook, Ramsbury Mr and Mrs Evans No objection Comment: The Parish Council are still concerned at the height of the tower.
K/51347/LBC Listed Buildings Consent	Replacement of casement windows and double doors in south elevation and remodelling of gable features. Stone House, Stone Lane Axford. Mr R Paddick No objection
K/51339/CAC and K/51337/F	Demolition of existing surgery. Erection of three 3 bedroom houses (amended designs to those approved under K/54646). Ramsbury Surgery, High Street Ramsbury. Ms K Easton No objection Comment: The Parish Council strongly requests KDC to ensure that all of the conditions attached to the previous application (K/45646/F) are applied to this application.
K/51312/F NOTES:	Erection of new single storey pavilion building, provision of multi-use games court, tennis court, minor regarding/earthworks to facilitate sports pitches, incorporation of floodlighting, car parking and landscaping. Ramsbury Recreation Centre Hilldrop Lane, Ramsbury. The Trustees of Ramsbury Recreation Centre This application was the subject of a public viewing and meeting prior to the Parish Council Meeting on 14.12.04. Mrs S Glass to report Parish response to KDC .Comment: PC expressed concern that floodlighting should be curfewed and that hedges should be evergreen if possible. No objection. Applicants have withdrawn floodlighting scheme to upper pitch.
K/51360/F Full Planning & K/51408/LBC Listed Buildings Consent	Rear Conservatory 5 Burdett Street, Ramsbury Mr and Mrs Brockwell No objection
K/51372/LBC	Single storey extension to annex building together with minor alterations to

and K/51361/F	291 existing building. Whittonditch House, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs Boycott
	No objection
K/51410/LBC Listed Buildings Consent	Demolish existing rear conservatory. Construct single storey extension (Amendment to K/38716/LBC to allow slate roof tiles in place of clay tiles. 20 High Street, Ramsbury. J and K Bradley No objection
K/51395/TR2 Works to trees in conservation area	Fell Cherry tree in front garden of property. Bell Cottage 52 Oxford Street, Ramsbury. Mrs R Pauline No objection

Planning Applications Approved by KDC since 14.12.04

K/51182/RM Reserved matters	Erection of a detached house – detailed reserved matters re outline permission K/47123/0. Land to rear of The Limes, Oxford Street Ramsbury. Mr G Davies No objection
K/51228/LBC Listed Building Consent	Repairs and minor alterations to existing outbuildings 5 Back Lane, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs D Mullins No objection
K/51238/F Full Planning	Single storey and two storey extension at rear. Eastridge Farmhouse, Eastridge, Ramsbury. Sir Seton & Lady Wills No objection
K/51395/TR2 Works to trees in conservation area	Fell Cherry tree in front garden of property. Bell Cottage 52 Oxford Street, Ramsbury. Mrs R Pauline No objection

Planning Applications in circulation /just received

K/51440/TR2 Tree works in Conservation Area	Fell and remove 3 ash tree on boundary wall between 23 and 22 Oxford street Trees are growing on the 22 Oxford Street South side of the boundary. The Limes, 22 Oxford Street, Ramsbury. Mrs Wilson
K/51430/F Full Planning	Change of use from Retail to Financial and Professional services 7 The Square, Ramsbury. Mr Peter Rapson, FRICS
K/51449/LBC Listed Buildings Consent	Internal alterations and erection of replacement rear porch. Downside Cottage, High Street, Ramsbury Sir G Owen

B Finance

Chairman: Steve Cook

a) Ramsbury Parish Council wishes to support the building of a multi-sports court at the Recreation Centre. A report detailing the costs was submitted, showing a total cost of £81,757, of which £41,757 will come from other sources. The Parish Council has paid £10,000 towards funding the court and wishes to fund the remainder via a £30,000 loan from the Public Works Loans Board. The loan would be repayable at 4.6% p.a. fixed interest rate over 10 years. Repayments would be approximately £3800 per annum, payable in 2 half-yearly payments. The report was proposed by S. Cook and seconded by P. Court. All agreed.

Action: Clerk to forward Loan request form to WALC.

b) Signatories of the Parish Council's bank accounts were asked to sign bank forms to remove Ros Eyles as an authorised signature to the account and add Sue Arnold.

c) The Precept form for the financial year 2005-6 has been submitted.

C Rights of way

Chairman: Geoffrey Treherne

Quotes for grass cutting in 2005-6 are being requested at present.

D Play Areas and Seats – nothing to report

Chairman: Fiona Kimber

E Emergency Committee**Chairman: Matthew Tester**

a) Wardens have been identified for all areas except Saxon Forge, where the current warden has moved away. **Action: Paul Court to try to find a volunteer in Saxon Court, failing that, S. Glass to try. S. Glass to give full list of wardens to M. Tester**

b) There will be an emergency exercise on Tuesday 4th October 2005. **Action: Emergency committee to note date in diary.**

c) The generator at the Memorial Hall is starting well, and the padlock has been replaced .

d) Axford Generator – awaiting removal of switching gear from the Methodist hall, Ramsbury to the Axford Hall and fitting of generator in place.

F School Governor – nothing to report

Chairman: Paul Court

G Recreation Centre – nothing to report

Chairman: Alan Plenderleith

H Policy Committee

Chairman: S Glass

At the policy meeting on 12th January it was suggested that an area of mesh with grass growing through it is created around the tree. **Action: Geoffrey Rissone to investigate Public Conveniences- see later item.**

8 Public Forum - Standing orders suspended for this item

a) In response to a request from Ben Tottenham P. Court agreed to speak to the School's headmaster regarding parking at the end of Loves Lane.

b) B. Twigger said it would be a pity to lose the opportunity to improve the safety of the Square's junction with Oxford Street. S. Glass explained that this has been discussed with WCC, but they are not going to take action, as there is no budget available to undertake the work.

c) The Amenity Group is to write to KDC regarding the satellite dish that has been allowed to remain on the front side-facing wall of Saxon Forge, adjacent to the footpath.

9 Future of Public Conveniences

Kennet Council wishes to close all 13 of its public conveniences in Kennet District villages from April 2006, plus some of those in Marlborough and Devizes and build 1 new superloo in both Marlborough and Devizes. (All the village conveniences except Ramsbury's need refurbishment). The Parish Council could agree to take over the public toilet in Ramsbury and maintain it at their own expense, unless the cost can be defrayed by involving other organisations such as the Church or Memorial Hall, who have both been consulted by RPC. Figures from KDC show that the Ramsbury Public Convenience currently costs £9000 per annum to maintain. If the Parish Council were to take over responsibility for it, the cost would need to come out of the precept, necessitating a 50% increase in the annual precept. Susan Findlay said that the conveniences are used by an estimated 21 people per day, but that KDC regarded 1000 uses per day as necessary to deem the convenience viable. **Actions: S. Glass to write to KDC expressing concern at the closing of the village conveniences, requesting cost of the new superloos, and expressing interest in the Parish Council taking over the public convenience. Clerk to put subject on the agenda of the Annual Parish Meeting for public discussion.**

10 Condition of footpath between Ashley Piece and the Surgery.

The path is narrowed by the growth of a wide hedge in places, there is some grass growing over it, a portion of fence to the side is loose, and it stops a little short of the hardstanding at the surgery. An alternative, slightly longer path along the Whittonditch road, is an all weather alternative that is lit at night.

Action: S. Findlay to speak to Sarsen about the fence.

11 Allocation of Village of the Year Prize Money.

Suggestions of donations for the maintenance of the churchyard and to benefit younger people, for example with play equipment were made. The prize money has not yet been received, so the decision will be deferred until the next meeting when further ideas can be suggested.

12 Axford.

a) The 30 mph speed limit sign has been knocked down and reported to Clarence.

b) The Amber Project's Drug Bus is to visit Axford on Jan 20th at 7.30 – 9.30. Publicity posters have been put up in bus shelters, the surgery, post office and Parish Council noticeboards.

13 Nature Reserve.

a) No response yet received to the Annual report submitted to the Wiltshire Wild Life Trust. The report included a request for urgent attention to the pond and the alleged Right of Way over the Reserve, which was not disclosed during the negotiations. Action: R. Alexander to write to inform Lois Smith, the solicitor who represented the Parish Council in the negotiation.

b) All trees and shrubs have now been planted or heeled in. Volunteers to help with the remaining planting welcome.

14 The Square – dealt with under 7H.

15 Police Surgery.

a) 1 person attended the Police Surgery. PC Kuklinski is willing to continue with these. He will suggest a date for March by mid February so that the date can be publicised in the March Diary and Parish mag.

b) M. Tester reported on the police liaison committee he had attended. The Committee wants Parish Councils to work with the police to prioritise policing policy in their areas.

c) S. Findlay, G. Hawes, A. Plenderleith, F. Kimber, M. Tester and S Glass have volunteered to attend a police speed check in the parish.

16 Tsunami appeal.

A total of £673.44 has been raised for the Disaster Emergency Committee's appeal fund.

17 Oral History.

Susan Monson from the Marlborough Oral History group ran a useful session on interviewing. As a next step all the outstanding preparation work needed before the interviews can start will be identified and got under way.

18 Accounts for Payment – proposed by G. Hawes and seconded by S. Cook

I698	G.M. Cox – Manor Lane Footpath	45.00		0	No
I699	Midway Stores – Newspapers 13/11 – 4/12	4.48		0	No
I700	Ramsbury Memorial Hall – Rent for office, period Nov 04 – April 05	591.25		0	No
I701	Electricity Charges for 1 st floor Office -	18.68		0.75	No
I702	Midway Stores – Newspapers 11/12 – 01/05	4.48		0	No
I703	Memorial Hall – Hire of hall for Best Village Competition	26.00		0	No
I704	Mavis Manning – cleaning, Sept to Dec 2004	6.00		0	No
I705	Roy Alexander – Shrubs & Stakes for Nature Reserve	191.64		25.42	No
I706	A. Le Guilcher- Remove old notice board and fit new one	122.00		0	No
I707	S. Arnold – office supplies and Christmas meeting refreshments	32.46		0	No
I708	Tsunami appeal (to pay out donations made by cheque to Parish Council for the appeal)	125.00		0	No

Total £1166.99

19 Payments received

R12	Axford Memorial Fund	170.14	7/1/05	Cheque	
R13	Library – Maps	7.93	7/1/05	Cash	
R14 & R15	Cheques for Tsunami appeal	125.00	7/1/05	cheques	

Total Received = £178.07 + £125.00 for Tsunami appeal (£303.07)

**20 BANK BALANCE ON 4/1/04: CURRENT ACCOUNT £1696.33
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT £20699.34**

21 OTHER CORRESPONDENCE - as listed below:**21 OTHER CORRESPONDENCE - as listed below:**

1213	03/01/05	Ros Eyles	Formal letter of resignation and thanks for flowers
1214	03/01/05	KDC	Posters advertising Christmas Tree recycling Scheme – distributed to local shops and notice boards
1215	03/01/05	KDC	Notice of adoption of Kennet Landscape Conservation Strategy as Supplementary Planning Guidance to Kennet District Local Plan. Use final draft document whilst awaiting publication - due early 2005
1216	03/01/05	Yell	Free entry if Yellow Pages offer.
1217	03/01/05	BT	Telephone Bill reminder – already paid

1218	03/01/05	KDC	Reminder – Invoice no 135400 – already paid
1219	03/01/05	KDC	Christmas Card Recycling Scheme
1220	03/01/05	Community First	Invitation to Reaching Women in Rural Communities Social event & review – Declined
1223	03/01/05	WCC	Wiltshire Waste Newsletter. See also www.nrwf.org.uk for ways for local authorities to prevent waste
1224	03/01/05	WCC	Emergency planning newsletter and invitation to refresher course, plus emergency exercise. Given to Matthew Tester
1225	03/01/05	North Wessex Downs AONB	Review 2002 - 2004
1226	03/01/05	Alliance & Leicester	Forms to change Parish Council Bank Account Details. (2 sets) With Clerk.
1227	07/01/05	Alliance & Leicester	Business Deposit account statement - £20,699.34
1228	07/01/05	Alliance & Leicester	Current Account Statement - £1696.33
1229	07/01/05	WCC	Environmental Services Review 2004 – Given to Sheila Environmental Services Directory – in office
1232	07/01/05	Eden Speller KDC	Cost of existing grounds maintenance contract for 2005 (£1050 +VAT) (e-mail)
1233	07/01/05	Amber Bus Project	Dates for Bus Visit (Axford – Jan 20 th . Ramsbury Feb 3 rd . Both 7.30 – 9.30. (e-mail)
1234	07/01/05	Vince Kimber KDC	Recycling bins to be put in place ASAP (response to e-mail)
1235	07/01/05	Mark Smith KDC	Response to questions re costs of taking over public conveniences (by e-mail)
1238	10/01/05	KDC	Reminder re Wilts & Swindon consultation which includes northern half of Kennet District
1239	10/01/05	Clerks & Councils Direct	2005 year book, newsletter & enclosures
1240	10/01/05	P. Prentice	Car parking Hardstanding, Riverside Cottage
1241	17/01/01	Countryside Agency	Right to Roam- Conclusive map of registered Common Land and Open Country. Given to R. Price
1242	17/01/01	Louise Palmer	Telephone call in support of retaining current public conveniences in Ramsbury and Marlborough
1243	17/01/01	Tidworth Parish Council	Views on proposed changes to public conveniences in Kennet. Given to Sheila
1245	17/01/01	Millennium Volunteers	Opportunities for free work during the Summer. Given to Roy Alexander
1247	17/01/01	WCC	Request for update of Councillor's details for database. Given to Sheila. (www.wilshire.gov.uk/merlin)
1248	17/01/01	WCC	Planning for minerals. Given to Sheila. Further copies available if required
1249	17/01/01	Environment Agency	Flood Awareness Campaign. (Action. Clerk to give to M. Tester)

DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY FEBRUARY 21st 2005 at 7.45 pm Ramsbury Memorial Hall

COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC