

# RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 20<sup>th</sup> 2006 in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

PRESENT: Mora Abell, Diann Barnett, Steve Cook, Cllr Susan Findlay George Hawes, Sheila Glass (Chairman), Fiona Kimber, Debbie Marshall, Chris Morgan, Alan Plenderleith, Geoffrey Rissone, Geoffrey Treherne, Cllr Chris Humphries, Sue Arnold (Clerk), PC Lyndsey Smith, Hilary Marsh (Kennet Community, Safety Officer), Emma Brown (Police Community Initiatives Officer) and 2 members of the public.

A one minute silence was held at the start of the meeting in memory of Parish Councillor Roy Alexander who served on the Parish Council for 15 years and died in January.

1 **Apologies for absence for approval:** None

2 **Disclosure of interest:** None

3 **Police Community Initiatives Officer (Emma Brown) and Kennet Community Safety Officer (Hilary Marsh).** Following concerns expressed at the January PC meeting regarding assaults in the village on New Year's Eve, the **Police Community Initiatives Officer and Kennet Community Safety Officer** were invited to attend the PC meeting to explain what they could do to help prevent such incidents recurring. Hilary Marsh explained the process that can be used to analyse problems focussing on the victim, perpetrator and location and put in place measures to prevent a recurrence. The approach brings together various agencies such as the health visitors, the police, the drugs advisory service, and youth workers and other voluntary organisations who work together to formulate an appropriate response. This system has been used in other villages in Kennet.

Emma Brown is a police officer whose specialist role is providing ideas for crime prevention. She gave examples of these including secure information boxes in shops where information for the police can be posted securely and anonymously, and the teenage night-club run by the Police in Marlborough (Blues & Zuze) which Ramsbury teenagers are invited to attend. She stressed her willingness to work with the Parish Council and area police officers and she can be contacted by e-mail: [emma.brown@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:emma.brown@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)

In response to a question about the necessity of closing Holy Cross Church during school holidays, Emma Brown asked for information about the perpetrators, saying that logbooks were available as an anonymous way of recording and reporting antisocial behaviour. **(See also Police Surgery - item 14 and Public Forum - item 8)**

4 **The minutes of the meeting held on January 16th** were approved.

5 **Matters arising**

a. **Wind turbines: Outstanding Action: Clerk to provide G. Rissone, and G. Treherne with John Kirkman's summary of 'A study of Landscape Sensitivities and Restraints of Wind Turbine Development'.**

b. **Play areas. Action: S. Glass and Clerk to provide Karen Tambling of Sarsen with a list of equipment in the Knowledge Crescent Play area and a copy of lease.**

### 6 **New Correspondence for Discussion:**

1732	30/01/06	G. Cox	(By phone) Quotations for grass-cutting – Manor Lane footpath, Ramsbury Play area, Axford Play area
1736	30/01/06	J. Rogerson, Bella Voce	Request for grant towards cost of hiring Memorial Hall for concerts. Given to S. Glass
1741	30/01/06	Wood Awdry & Ford, solicitors	Confirmation of their arrangements for work relating to Parish Council taking over the Public Conveniences. Given to S. Glass

1742	30/01/06	Wood Awdry & Ford, solicitors	Copy of letter to KDC Legal Department regarding clause 12.2 of the form of transfer. Given to S. Glass
1755	13/02/06	R. Copp	Grass- cutting estimates. <b>The grass-cutting contract was awarded to R. Copp</b>
1756	13/02/06	KDC	Grass- cutting estimates
1757	13/02/06	Dr & RA Pittams	Grass- cutting estimates
1759	13/02/06	Matthew Tester	Letter of resignation from the Parish Council. The letter was read out to the Parish Council. <b>Action: S. Glass to write to M. Tester thanking him for his service on the PC.</b>
1762	13/02/06	P. Snook, Ramsbury Scout Group	Request for grant towards a dining shelter to be used at camps – Approximate cost £190. Given to S. Glass. <b>Approved: Action: Clerk to put payment of £190 on March agenda.</b>
1766	13/02/06	Splash	2006 Fundraising appeal. Given to S. Glass. <b>Approved: Action: Clerk to put payment of £50 on March agenda.</b>
1768	13/02/06	S. Judge	Concerns regarding planting along bridle path behind village and field near Harbrook. Also suggests earlier tree planting has reduced views from seats on Manor Lane footpath and suggests the seats are turned through 180 degrees. (Reported via visit to PC Office) S. Glass apologised that that the letter informing The PC of the Forestry Commission grant application (rather than specific work) had been misleading and therefore no comments had been made by the PC. However the Forestry Commission do not have to statutorily consult either KDV or the PC on schemes of under 10 hectares such as this. The chairman read out part of a letter sent by Will Harley to Mrs Judge that explained the process for forestry work. <b>Action: S. Glass to contact the Forestry Commission</b>
1769	19/02/06	A. Dallas	Expressing concern at tree planting on field near Harbrook (telephone call). See item 1768.
1770	19/02/06	Mrs Hall	Suggests a baby swing and ramp are installed at Ashley Piece playground. A ramp would also be useful to the disabled. <b>Action: F. Kimber to investigate cost of baby swing. Action: S. Glass to investigate disability access grants.</b>
1771	19/02/06	KDC	Invitation to meeting Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb to discuss toilet cleaning and contracts. <b>See item 15 – Public Conveniences</b>
1773	19/02/06	KDC	Announcement of introduction of wheeled bins and alternative weekly collections of general waste and recyclables from July. <b>Actions: Clerk to write to KDC expressing concerns that this will increase fly tipping and to Waitrose, Tesco and Sainsbury regarding reducing packaging.</b>
1774	19/02/06	WCC & Swindon BC	Invitation to meeting 10 of Swindon Waste Development Forum – Wiltshire waste sites allocation – feedback and discussion on issues and options. <b>NB Replacement needed for M Tester. There was no volunteer, but Cllr B. Twigger attends the meetings.</b>
1775	19/02/06	Marlborough Community Area Member's Forum	Proposal of work to prevent flooding in Marlborough. <b>Action: S. Glass to respond to ensure Ramsbury will be include in the consultation process</b>
1776	19/02/06	AONB	Application forms for grant will be available from the website on 27 <sup>th</sup> February

## 7 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### A Planning

Chairman: G. Hawes

G. Hawes & S. Glass apologised that a meeting to discuss application K/53651/F was not publicised, due to a lack of communication. S. Glass clarified that if a committee meeting is called, the chairman of the committee is responsible for organising a meeting.

### Applications returned to KDC since 16/01/06

K/53580/F	Two storey side extension Overtown, Crowood Lane, Ramsbury. Mr & Mrs Stronge No objection
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K/53559/TR2	Removal of 3 Himalayan birch trees and pollarding of a large crack willow tree. Moon Mill, Mill Lane, Ramsbury. Mr R McMahon No objection
K53638/TR2	Works to large ash tree protected under TB 87 –T1. Thinning of new growth by 25%, crown thinning by 15%, crown lifting up to 4m above ground, and reduction of 3 small limbs overhanging adjacent bungalow. Brushfield, Crowood Lane, Ramsbury. Mt A. Bord
K/K/53651/F	Engineering operations in the development of four greens on a private golf course (part retrospective) Howe Mill, Newtown Road, Ramsbury. Sir M. Arbib No objection to plans submitted together with on-going management plan. Comment: There appears to be some boundary planting using non-native species not shown above.
<b>Applications approved by KDC since 16/01/06</b>	
K/53427/LBC	Erection of single storey timber framed conservatory replacing existing. 5 Burdett St., Ramsbury
K/53457/F	Demolition of existing detached garage and erection of one two-storey four bedroom dwelling and separate double garage. Land adjacent to Penllyne, Whittonditch Road, Ramsbury
K53471/TR2	Pollarding of 4 limes on SW side of the court, and removal of 1 silver birch and 2 alders on the E side. Isles Court Ramsbury
K/53468/F	Erection of single storey timber framed conservatory replacing existing. 5 Burdett St., Ramsbury
K/53559/TR2	Removal of 3 Himalayan birch trees and pollarding if a large crack willow tree. Moon Mill, Mill Lane, Ramsbury.
<b>Applications in circulation/just received</b>	
K/53654/F	Timber stable block. Old Smithey Cottage, Whittonditch Road, Ramsbury. T. Derrick
K/53660/F	Rebuild existing farm building to be used in connection with cress farm South block, The Old Dairy, Beeches farm, Whittonditch Road, Ramsbury Mr J. Pollard
<b>Informatives received from KDC since 16/01/06</b>	
ENF/2005/000369	Breach of Condition concerning resurfacing of the byway at Swans Bottom – new house to rear of The Limes. Enforcement action in progress
ENF/2005/00370	Material change of appearance to outbuildings at The Old Forge, Ramsbury. Owner requested to submit retrospective planning application
K/53081/F	Erection of 3 dwellings on former surgery site. KDC have re-surveyed the works undertaken to reduce the ridge height and have found them to comply with condition 8.

**B Finance****Chairman: Steve Cook**

- a. Grants.** A grant to the village diary was agreed as proposed (See item 22 ref. I823). A grant to Bella Voce was agreed with the proviso that the grant should be put towards paying for the piano (See item 22 ref. I822). Grants to the Ramsbury Scouts and Splash will be made in March. **Action: Clerk to put on March's agenda.**
- b. Change to procedures re Internet purchases.** As Internet purchases require payment by credit card, guidance has been issued to Parish Councils that do not have their own credit card. Individuals may use their own credit card to make purchases and the Parish council may reclaim VAT on the purchase, as long as the spending is approved in advance by the Parish Council and minuted.

**C Rights of way****Chairman: Geoffrey Treherne**

- a. Boundary Walk.** G. Treherne will be away for the Boundary walk but has arranged for G. Hawes to deal with signs on the day. Ian Ritchie is to lead the walk. G. Treherne is to investigate a better start point now the pigs have been moved from the field. A better route up the hill from Alma farm is needed. Esther Daly is looking at getting the stiles above Combe farm repaired. Someone is needed to sign off the walkers at Littlecote. The exact location of the tea stop within airfield needs to be decided. Project 2005 will be approached to Sponsor Walkers. The Flyer is booked but drivers are needed. Publicity and finding a tail end Charlie are outstanding.
- b. Hoppers Lane.** R. Broadhurst has put in an application to The Landfill Trust for a grant to have the path re-tarmaced.

**D Play Areas and Seats.** Nothing to report**Chairman: Fiona Kimber****E Emergency Committee****Chairman: Chris Morgan**

- a.** Chris Morgan was elected to replace Matthew Tester as Chairman at a meeting of the committee on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- b.** The emergency exercise with WCC took place on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. The feedback has not yet been received but the committee felt that the scenario presented was not as appropriate as those in the past.
- c.** C. Morgan is to attend a seminar on civil contingencies.
- d.** It was reported that the Red Cross will no longer have the ambulance. Fire Brigade members are to be trained as first responders on the weekend of 25 – 26<sup>th</sup> February.
- e.** As the sandbags stored behind the fire station are biodegradable and have started to degrade, it was suggested that the sand should be store in a bin, and the bags stored separately. **Action: Clerk to write to Vince Kimber of KDC requesting a grit bin and empty bags.**

**F School Governor****Chairman: Paul Court**

Lisa Hyde has replaced Nick Davis as a parent governor.

**G Recreation Centre** Nothing to report**Chairman: Alan Plenderleith****H Policy Committee****Chairman: S Glass**

In a change to procedure, apologies for absence from full Council meetings must be approved. Should a councillor be absent for 6 months without approval he/she can be removed from the Parish Council. **Action: Clerk should list separately in future minutes those councillors who have apologised for absence and those who are absent without apologies.**

**8 Public Forum - Standing orders suspended for this item**

- a.** B. Tottenham reported that following publicity, the British Legion has attracted 5 new members between the ages of 14 and 18, and suggested that the legion could be a social focus for young people.
- b.** Marlborough Development Trust have offered a grant of £600 towards an information board to be sited near the tree and donated to the Parish Council. The Amenity group will cover the cost of artwork for the boards. **Actions: B. Tottenham to provide a specification for the board and include the Parish Council in the consultation process. S. Glass to investigate a cheaper quote.**
- c.** B. Tottenham thanked the Parish Council for the grant to the village diary and said that printing costs had been reduced by a third by using the church office.

**9 Axford Nothing to report****10 Nature Reserve**

- a.** Nesting boxes have been cleared.
- b.** An alternative location is needed for the brush cutter currently stored in R. Alexander's garage. **Action: G. Hawes to pursue with the PCC the possibility of storing it with the churchyard's mowing equipment.**

**11 The Ramsbury Roxy.**

91 people attended the screening of Casablanca with fish and chips.

**12 Square refurbishment.**

- a. KDC have indicated to G. Rissone that planning permission is not necessary for the proposed work to the Square. G. Rissone has requested written confirmation of this.
- b. Forms will be available for a grant from AONB from the website from 27<sup>th</sup> February.

**13 Oral History.**

- a. Interviews and typing are progressing.
- b. Costs of lamination of the typescripts and artwork for the archive are being obtained.

**14 Public Conveniences**

- a. No-one is able to attend meeting scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> February. S. Glass has confirmed that Ramsbury PC is interested in a 3 days per week cleaning regime, and is willing to work with Pewsey and/or Aldbourne in a cleaning schedule.
- b. A letter just received from KDC says that if a PC requires legal advice, which is recommended, the PC will bear the legal costs. It also indicates that the PC will have to cover Land Registration costs (£40). **The PC will need to cover any costs resulting from fixed wiring tests. The test itself will be funded by KDC this year. Action: S. Glass to write to KDC to clarify legal costs.**
- c. Lois Smith (solicitor) has not yet received a response to her letter to KDC on behalf of the Parish Council regarding the covenants attached to the sale, which are felt to be unreasonable.
- d. A formal proposal to take over the public conveniences, subject to resolution of the legal costs and covenants issues, was put to the Parish Council. **Agreed unanimously. Action: S. Glass to formally inform KDC by 28<sup>th</sup> February of the PC's intention to take over the public conveniences.**
- e. A formal proposal to accept Kennet's quotation for the cleaning contract was put to the Parish Council. **Agreed unanimously.**

**15 Police Surgery.**

- a. PC Lyndsey Smith reported that several people had attended the police surgery held earlier in the evening with concerns relating to the incidents at New Year, increase of crime and lack of resources. PC Smith said there was no increase of crime with only 10 crimes reported since 1<sup>st</sup> December 2005. **Action: PC Smith to provide PC with crime statistics for publication on web site, and in the magazine and diary.**
- b. PC Smith was unable to comment on the concerns regarding lack of policing resources, but has noted the comments and will forward them to her superiors.
- c. The new police contact number for non-emergency calls is 0845 408 7000.

**16 Best Kept Village Competition.** It was decided not to enter this year.

**17 Youth Club**

- a. A meeting will be held to gauge support and if this is positive the Youth Club will meet every Monday evening from 1<sup>st</sup> April.
- b. Helpers will need to be Police checked. Emma Brown offered to help with is.
- c. Hilary Marsh suggested that Voluntary Action Kennet could help set up the Youth Club.

**18 Junk Swap. Action: Clerk to put on March agenda**

**19 Parish Council Vacancies**

A notice of the vacancies has been received from Kennet and must be displayed publicly for 2 weeks. **Action: Clerk & chairman to process.**

**20 Police Representative**

No representative will be appointed. Councillors will share the duty of attending Police Liaison Committee meetings as and when necessary

**21 Memorial Hall Trustees Representative**

G. Hawes was thanked for volunteering. The Memorial Hall would like to involve a younger trustee, so the appointment will be delayed until the Parish Council vacancies have been filled.

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### 22 Accounts for Payment

I819	Sylvia Lane – typing Oral history scripts	20.00			No
I820	SEC Lighting Services – test, erect & dismantle Christmas lights	532.11		79.25	No
I821	Midway Store. Newspapers w/e 12/11/05 – 4/02/06 + extra for copies of Roy Alexander's obituary	18.10		0	No
I 822	Bella Voce Choir – S137 grant	100.00		0	Yes
I823	Amenity group (diary) S137 grant	100.00		0	Yes
I824	S. Glass – Wreath for the funeral of R. Alexander	30.00		0	No
I825	BT – Telephone Bill	64.13		9.55	No
I826	Memorial Hall – hire of hall for planning meeting 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2006.	13.00		0	No

**TOTAL FOR PAYMENT = £877.34.** Proposed – A. Plenderleith, G. Rissone, Seconded – S. Cook. **Agreed unanimously.**

### 23 Payments Received

R27	Ramsbury Post Office – from sale of walking maps	175.00	30/1/06	Cash
R27	Mrs S. Judge. Donation towards bench in memory of Roy Alexander	25.00	13/02/06	Cheque

Total Payments Received £200.00

**24 BANK BALANCE ON 01/02/06 CURRENT ACCOUNT = £4,697.95**  
**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT = £23,100.94**

### 25 OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

1730	30/01/06	WCC	For Chris Morgan. Confirmation of place for Local Emergency Response Seminar
1731	30/01/06	Linnet Alison	Reporting that the Crowood Lane sign opposite The Crown and Anchor is missing
1733	30/01/06	Planning Enforcement Officer, KDC	(By Phone) Confirming that enforcement action is to be taken relating to the breach of planning conditions at the track from Crowood Lane to Chapel, Lane.
1734	30/01/06	Planning Services Manager, KDC	Confirmation that there is no breach of planning condition in the surfacing of the access way to the new property at the rear of The Limes. Given to G. Hawes
1735	30/01/06	Planning Services Manager, KDC	Confirmation that the owner of the outbuildings at The Old Forge, Hilldrop, has been asked to submit details of any works undertaken to the outbuildings. Given to G. Hawes
1737	30/01/06	High Sheriff of Wiltshire	Invitation to clerk to attend Service to Celebrate the Rule of Law, Holy Cross, 19 <sup>th</sup> March. Responded
1738	30/01/06	Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	Composting Bins posters for notice board
1739	30/01/06	Marlborough Community Area Strategic Partnership	Invitation to seminar 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 7.15 - themes: economy, transport, crime & community safety, education, lifelong learning, recreation, culture & leisure. Given to S. Glass.
1740	30/01/06	Enforcement Officer KDC	By phone. Confirmation that owner of access to from Crowood Lane to Chapel Lane has 28 days to comply with planning condition
1743	30/01/06	North Wessex Downs AONB	Sustainable development fund. Request to put article in Parish Mag, Given to S. Glass
1744	06/02/06	Eleanor Christmas Pre-school	Acknowledgement of grant. Request to put signs for Ladies Night on grass verge. (Clerk has responded)
1745	06/02/06	PC Mark Kuklinski	Arrangements for Police Surgery and update on investigation into New Year's Eve assaults
1746	06/02/06	Alliance & Leicester	Deposit account statement. Balance on 01/02/06 = £23,100.94

1747	06/02/06	Alliance & Leicester	Current account statement. Balance on 01/02/06 = £4,697.95
1748	06/02/06	Mr K. Gunderson, The Otford Society	Requesting copies of obituaries of Roy Alexander (sae enclosed). <b>Action: Clerk to send.</b>
1749	06/02/06	CPRE	Invitation to enter Best Kept Village competition. Given to S. Glass
1750	06/02/06	KDC	Annual Monitoring Report (introduces as part of Planning 7 Compulsory Purchase Act 2004). Summary given to S, Glass. Full report on <a href="http://www.kennet.gov.uk/LDF/index.htm?OpenPage">www.kennet.gov.uk/LDF/index.htm?OpenPage</a> (sic). Given to S. Glass.
1751	06/02/06	KDC	Amendments to electoral register. <b>(Action: Clerk to update master – done)</b>
1752	06/02/06	The Jubilee Centre Marlborough	Acknowledgement of grant.
1753	06/02/06	WALC	Newsletter. (NB contains guidance on reclaiming VAT on internet purchases made on behalf of PC)
1754	06/02/06	Scofell Landscapes Ltd	Grounds Maintenance contractors - advertising
1758	13/02/06	Mr F A Harding, Axford	Copy of letter to CEO WCC re reduction of speed limit on C6, Ramsbury to Marlborough Road
1760	13/02/06	WCC	Joining instructions for Emergency planning seminar. (By e-mail. Forwarded to C. Morgan)
1761	13/02/06	M. McDonnell, Newbury Weekly News	Introducing Carla Payne, her replacement as district reporter covering Ramsbury
1763	13/02/06	West Berks Council	Invitation to Planning Strategy Workshop, 10/03/2006
1764	13/02/06	KDC	Acknowledgement of application for work to the Square. Given to G. Rissone
1765	13/02/06	M. Mackay	Acknowledgement of Luncheon Club Grant
1767	13/02/06	WCC	Wilts Waste contract service review 2004/5

**DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING –MONDAY MARCH 20<sup>th</sup> 2006  
7.45 pm**

**Ramsbury Memorial Hall**

**Emergency Committee February 9<sup>th</sup> 7.15pm in Council Office (Exercise)**

**ALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**YOU WILL BE VERY WELCOME - PLEASE COME**