

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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373

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY MARCH 20th 2006 in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

PRESENT: Mora Abell, Steve Cook (Chairman), Cllr Susan Findlay George Hawes, Fiona Kimber, Chris Morgan, Alan Plenderleith, Geoffrey Rissone, Geoffrey Treherne, Cllr Twigger, Sue Arnold (Clerk), Adrian Hampton, (works Manager KDC) and 2 members of the public.

- 1 **Apologies for absence for approval:** Diann Barnett, Sheila Glass, Debbie Marshall, Paul Court – approved. Apologies were also received from Cllr Chris Humphries,
- 2 **Disclosure of interest:** Item 7a K/53883/F - G. Treherne.
- 3 **The minutes of the meeting held on February 20th** were approved with the following amendment: Page 369, Item 8b. Replace *S. glass to provide a cheaper quote* with *Ben Tottenham to contact C. Glass for a quotation.*
- 4 **Matters arising: Seats on Manor Lane footpath.** It was decided not to turn the seats on the Manor Lane footpath around by 180°, as interest in doing so was outweighed by the cost.
- 5 **PRESENTATION ON RECYCLING & INTRODUCTION OF BLACK WHEELIE BIN SERVICE IN KENNET BY CLLR BRIAN TWIGGER & KDC WORKS MANAGER ADRIAN HAMPTON**
Kennet produces 2000 double-decker bus loads of waste per annum for landfill and this is growing at 3% p.a. despite a significant increase in recycling.
Councils that exceed their allocated landfill space incur heavy fines which inevitably get passed to the public in terms of higher council tax bills. Against this background, reducing landfill is important. Waste can be reduced by the following methods in decreasing order of importance:
 - Prevention
 - Minimisation
 - Re-use
 - Recycling
 - Energy recovery (incineration)
 - Disposal i.e. landfill - the last resort.

In 18 months recycling in Kennet has increased from 9% to 25% in December 05. Technically it is possible to recycle 75% of waste, with the top councils in the UK now achieving just over 50%.

KDC's waste collection costs are low compared to other councils.

To reduce costs and increase recycling Alternative Weekly Collections (AWC) will start in July. There will be a two-week cycle with all recyclable waste, including garden waste collected one week and refuse (non-recyclable) collected on the same day the following week. Bank Holiday working has been adopted which will avoid changes to collection dates.

Delivery of black wheelie bins will start on 1st April. Additionally, green hessian sacks for garden waste will be offered as an alternative to green wheelie bins. The cost of green hessian sacks will be £30 for 3 re-usable sacks. Black recycling boxes will continue to be available and smaller recycling baskets are also to be introduced. Communal recycling facilities will be introduced for flats. Black plastic sacks will be discontinued.

Cllr Twigger described the new system as 'firm but fair'. Every household will get the same landfill space. A special vehicle is available for hard to get to locations. A 'waste doctor' will visit anyone with issues with the new system to assess the problem and offer flexible solutions. Black wheelie bins have to have their lids fully closed and no side waste will be permitted. The assisted collection service will continue for those eligible to receive help getting the bin out.

In conclusion Cllr Twigger said the AWC would bring huge improvements in recycling services, the costs have been kept low and grant opportunities had been won.

The Parish Council thanked Cllr Twigger for his presentation and agreed waste had to be reduced and recycled. They queried the fairness of allocating the same refuse facility to large and small households. In answer to a query about the possibility of an increase in fly tipping, Cllr Twigger and Mr Hampton said they had the resources to trace and deal with offenders.

All agreed with the Parish Council's view that supermarkets need to reduce packaging, but it was also pointed out that the rise in internet shopping will increase it. Cardboard can be recycled.

Facilities for recycling plastic were queried. It was explained that there are many sorts of plastics, not all of which can be recycled. (See www.kennet.gov.uk/env-amenity/index.htm for details.) Plastics are comparatively light but uncrushed take up a lot of space. The current plastic recycling service at The Surgery will be continued.

In answer to a query on whether food would be put directly into the black bins, Mr. Hampton said that it should be wrapped /placed in bags inside the bin.

A summary of changes to the waste collection service will be in the April edition of the Village Diary.

Finally the Parish Council thanked Mr. Hampton for the high quality of service given, and Mr. Hampton congratulated Ramsbury on being a top recycling Area within Kennet.

6 NEW CORRESPONDENCE for discussion:

1791	13/03/06	Andy McMillan, Environmental Health Manager, Kennet	Phone call re 14 Burdett St. Update on enforcement notice issued May 05. Clutton property management company are to apply to demolish house and build 2 semi-detached cottages on site. Additionally 81 High street is to be refurbished. Cllr Findlay reported that Kennet Housing have been talking to the owners of empty dwellings in the District in light of new legislation. From April empty dwelling management orders can be used to ensure owners of empty properties take appropriate action.
1800	13/03/06	KDC Planning	Copy of planning application for bowling green and pavilion at Rec. Centre. See item 7A.
1814	13/03/06	Ramsbury Methodist Church	Request for assistance regarding proposed toilet facilities for the less able at the church. Given to S. Cook. The Parish Council takes over responsibility for the Public Conveniences by the Memorial Hall in April. In the light of this financial commitment, they feel unable to help with this application. Action: Clerk to respond suggesting the Church approach Ramsbury Parish Charities.
1818	13/03/06	R.J. Talmage	Quote for cutting hedge on footpath between Ashley Piece & Whittonditch Road.
1821	13/03/06	D & S Ballard	Copy of letter to landowner regarding disturbances from underage motorcycle riders at Swan's Bottom
1828	20/03/06	Wilts highways	Lengthsmen's programme 2006. Changes to scheme. Day for 1 st visit of year – 31 st July & 1 st August. For S. Glass
1831	20/03/06	Vince Kimber, KDC	Phone call in response to letter from PC. He considers that recycling facilities in Ramsbury will be adequate to avoid fly-tipping.

7 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A Planning

Chairman: G. Hawes

Applications returned to KDC since 20/02/06

K/53654/F	Timber Stable Block Old Smithy Cottage, Whittonditch Road, Ramsbury. Mr. T. Derrick. No objection
K/53660/F	Rebuild existing farm building to be used in connection with the cress farm. South Block, The Old Dairy, Beeches Farm, Whittonditch, Ramsbury Mr. J. Pollard No objection
K/53769/F	Two loose boxes and associated tack room and hard standing Aldbrook House, Whittonditch Rd, Ramsbury. Mrs C. Rutland No objection
K/53780/TR2	Remove willow tree at the rear of the garden of the property bordering the Mill Stream. Kennet Cottage, 5A High St, Ramsbury. Mr P. Mills No objection

375

K/53792/TR2	Fell one birch tree located by the side of the driveway and removal of roots. Old Farm House, 13 Oxford St., Ramsbury. Ms K. Staples No objection
K/53796/TR2	Fell 2 conifer trees adjacent to the boundary wall in the rear drive of the property The Old Creamery, 4 Back Lane, Ramsbury Mr A. G. Pusey No objection
K/53836/TR2	Fell one Norway Maple tree and pollard 12 limes in total. Grounds of Holy Cross Church, Ramsbury No objection
Applications approved by KDC since 16/01/06	
K/53580/F	Two storey side extension Overtown, Crowood Lane, Ramsbury
K/53638/TR1	Works to a large ash tree in the garden of the property, protected under TPO 87-T1. Work to consist of crown thinning by approx. 15%, thinning of new growth by approx. 25%, the crown lifting of lower branches by up to 4 metres above ground level and reduction of 3 small diameter limbs overhanging adjacent bungalow. Brushfield, Crowood Lane
K/53660/F	Rebuild existing farm building to be used in connection with cress farm. South Block, The Old Dairy, Beeches Farm, Whittonditch, Ramsbury
Applications in circulation/just received	
K/53830/F	First floor extension over existing garage and single storey rear extension. 22 Ashley Piece, Ramsbury. Mr & Mrs Smith
K/53831	First floor extension over existing garage and single storey rear extension. New boundary wall. 30 Ashley Piece, Ramsbury. Mr & Mrs Jeffery
K/53883/F	Solar Panels on rear (South facing) roof. Whiteway House, Axford. G & B Treherne
K/53913/F	Garage Old Smithy Cottage, Ramsbury. Mr T. Derrick
K/53922/F	Ground floor and first floor extensions to dwelling. Riverview House, I the Paddocks, Ramsbury. Mr C. Lines & Dr. A. Fuller
K/53903/TR2	Removal of one Fraxinus Excelsior (ash), a 20% reduction and re-shaping of one Taxus baccata (yew) and a 30% reduction and re-shaping of one Gleditsia Triacanthus (honey locust) Mardle House, Back Lane, Ramsbury. Mr & Mrs D. Mair
K/53924/TR2	Re-pollarding of 3 small hedgerow horse chestnuts in the rear garden of the property. 42 Oxford Street, Ramsbury. Mr. New
K/53951/TR2	Removal of Robinia Frisia tree from the rear garden of the property. The Mead, 78 High Street, Ramsbury. Lady Meinertzhagen
Appeal decision notified by KDC	
K/52540/F	Conversion of outbuilding to form 2 cottages including 1 for staff use. Westfield Yard house, Mill Lane, Ramsbury. Appeal dismissed
Application to be discussed by full council on 20/03/06	
K/53862/F	Construct bowling green and pavilion with car park and associated store shed, earthworks, regrading, water tanks and landscaping. Ramsbury Recreation Centre, Hilldrop Lane, Ramsbury The Trustees of Ramsbury Recreation Centre. The Parish Council and certain members of the council have to declare an interest in that they were, and still are, involved in the decision to relocate the Bowls Club to the RRC site. Therefore the Parish Council raises no objection to the application but may comment on detail. No objections or comments were made.

B Finance**Chairman: Steve Cook**

- a. Precept.** The increase in the precept this year is to cover some of the cost of taking over the responsibility for the Public Conveniences.

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

- a.** An application has been submitted to the Landfill Trust for a grant for re-tarmacing the path.
b. Boundary Walk. Organisation is progressing. Sponsorship forms will be available.
c. The stiles giving access to the Open Access land behind the village are wobbly. **Action: Clerk to report to footpath Esther Daly.**

D Play Areas and Seats.**Chairman: Fiona Kimber**

- a.** The Inspection report from Zurich has been received. It recommends additional safety surfaces. (NB The RoSPA report does not consider his necessary).
b. A quote of £4030 for a toddler swing has been received. This includes an expensive safety surface. **Actions: 1. F. Kimber to ask for a quote that includes a tiled safety surface. 2. Clerk to put Playground Services on approved supplier list. Action 3. Clerk to write to requestor suggesting the cost is split via fundraising.**

E Emergency Committee**Chairman: Chris Morgan**

- a.** Chris Morgan reported on the county emergency planning seminar, which was of an excellent standard and useful.

F School Governor

Nothing to report

Chairman: Paul Court**G Recreation Centre**

Nothing to report

Chairman: Alan Plenderleith**H Policy Committee****Chairman: S Glass**

Councillors were reminded that copies of both incoming and outgoing mail need to be logged.

8 Public Forum - Standing orders suspended for this item

B. Tottenham reported that the interpretative panel for the Square has been ordered. He will submit the draft artwork to the Parish Council and liaise with G. Rissone regarding the location of the panel in The Square.

9 Axford

A letter has been sent to Andrew Wyatt of Wiltshire Highways regarding traffic calming in Axford. Response awaited. **Action: Clerk to write to County Councillor Humphries requesting action.**

10 Nature Reserve

- a.** The Church has agreed to store the brush cutter with their equipment. **Action: C. Morgan to liaise with Sylvia Judge to organise the move.**
b. The first cut of the nature reserve will be done in the near future.

11 The Ramsbury Roxy.

There have been 2 screenings since the last PC meeting. Girl with a Pearl Earring attracted an audience of 68. Unfortunately the film broke down during the performance. It will be shown again (free of charge to those who attended the 1st showing) on May 12th. The audience for Fargo was 40+. There will be no performances during April but 2 in May.

12 Square refurbishment.

- a.** KDC have indicated that planning permission may be necessary for the proposed work and sent papers to various interested parties such as Wiltshire Highways – awaiting a response.

13 Oral History.

1 further interview has been received, 13 outstanding. Typing and classifying the information are progressing. Quotes for Art work are being sought. The Ramsbury Group were represented at a meeting of

the Aldbourne Group, who have recently started their project following some initial help from members of the Ramsbury project.

14 Police Surgery.

Action: Clerk to arrange a police surgery for April 10th, prior to Parish Council meeting.

15 Public Conveniences

- a. Legal Progress.** The covenants are still under negotiation.
- b. Insurance.** Insurance has been arranged to commence on April 1st (see correspondence item 1822).
- c. Cleaning.** Quotes have been received. The cost will depend on the number of villages included in the cleaning schedule.

16 Youth Club

Action: Clerk to put on April agenda.

17 Junk Swap

Action: Clerk to put on April agenda

18 Parish Council vacancies.

No requests for an election were made in response to the legal notices. The Parish Council may therefore co-opt. **Action: Chairman/Clerk to send details to the Parish Magazine and village diary, and to organise posters.**

19 Approval for Credit Card Spending

Norton Systemworks software licence renewal	21.00	Sue Arnold. Approved
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20 Accounts for Payment

1827	Midway Stores. Newspapers w/e 25/02 and 4/03/06	2.30		0	No
1828	Sue Arnold – Salary Jan – March 2006	550.00		0	No
1829	Sue Arnold – stationery for office (100 envelopes)	3.70		0	No
1830	Ramsbury Scouts – S137 grant	190.00		0	Yes
1831	Splash - donation	50.00		0	Yes
1832	Cora Jackson – typing 10 Oral History scripts	100.00		0	No
1833	R. J. Talmage – Cutting hedge on footpath between Ashley Piece and Whittonditch Road	82.25		12.25	No
1834	KDC – Grounds Maintenance Contract	308.43		45.93	No

Total for Payment: £1,286.68

21 Payments received - none

22 BANK BALANCE ON 01/02/06 CURRENT ACCOUNT = £3573.61
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT = £23,100.94

23 OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

1777	27/02/06	KDC	Transfer of Public conveniences (with S. Glass)
1778	27/02/06	KDC	Notice of vacancies on Ramsbury & Axford PC. Posters for display
1779	27/02/06	Sylvia Judge	Copy of letter to KDC regarding tree planting near Harbrook and response form Will Harley
1780	27/02/06	KDC	Acknowledgement of response to their quote, and confirmation of cutting schedule for path from Whittonditch Road to Ashley Piece play area
1781	27/02/06	WCC	Revising the strategy for Wiltshire. Given to S. Glass
1782	27/02/06	West Berks Council	West Berks. Planning Strategy – preferred options
1783	27/02/06	Wilts Highways Partnership	Possibility that licence may be required for work on The Square. PC's letter forwarded to Development Control Dept.
1784	27/02/06	Guide Dogs	Request that PC holds fund-raising event

1785	27/02/06	Kennet Community Safety Officer	Anti-social behaviour toolkit. On shelf in PC office
1786	27/02/06	Voluntary Action Kennet	Membership form and inserts. Given to S. Glass
1787	05/03/06	KDC	Letter to occupier of 26 High Street Ramsbury re planning app K/53836/TR2 – application for work to trees in Conservation area. Given to S. Glass
1788	05/03/06	Wilts Corporate & Library service.	Re deposit of records – accession no 3526 – copy of agreement to be signed. Given to S. Glass
1789	05/03/06	WALC	Invitation to conference on rural affordable housing in sustainable communities. Friday 24 th March 9.00 – 3.00, Devizes. Given to S. Glass
1790	05/03/06	CPRE Wilts Branch	Newsletter and invitation to fund-raising lunch. Given to C. Morgan
1792	13/03/06	Tracey Bailey	Phone call - giving permission for Boundary walk to cross her land. (Info passed to G, Treherne).
1793	13/03/06	LDC – Planning	Confirmation that planning permission is needed for work on Square, application form and guidance notes. Copy of letter given to G. Rissone. Application form etc in office.
1794	13/03/06	Community First	Landfill Tax Credit Scheme application form and info. Application for grant for work to footpath 45. Submitted
1795	13/03/06	KDC	Response to request for costs of legal fees and cleaning Now received – in public convenience folder
1796	13/03/06	Carla Payne, Newbury Weekly News	Introducing herself as journalist for this area.
1797	13/03/06	RoSPA	Invitation to international Play Safety Conference. Given to F. Kimber
1798	13/03/06	T Eliot-Cohen	E-mail giving permission for Boundary Walk to cross his land
1799	13/03/06	Aster Group	Copy of Zurich inspection report. Given to F. Kimber
1801	13/03/06	WCC	Confirmation of intention to adopt Wiltshire and Swindon Structure Plan 2016
1802	13/03/06	Alliance & Leicester Bank	Changes to procedures for depositing cash at post office.
1803	13/03/06	Berks Joint Strategic Planning Unit	Minerals & Waste local development Framework Core Strategy Issues and Options. Form to remove PC from distribution list completed and returned.
1804	13/03/06	NCT	Poster for nearly new sale, Marlborough Leisure Centre April 2 nd 10 – 12
1805	13/03/06	CPRE	Countryside Voice Magazine. Given to S. Glass
1806	13/03/06	A.C.H Distribution Ltd	Access control systems catalogue. In office
1807	13/03/06	Councils and Clerks Direct	March edition. In office
1808	13/03/06	North Wessex Downs	Invitation to AGM and forum ‘Our villages – vibrant, Valuable and Vulnerable’. 15 th May 9.30 – 4.00. Given to S. Glass
1809	13/03/06	CPRE	Fieldwork – March edition. Given to C. Morgan
1810	13/03/06	WCC	Wiltshire & Swindon Waste development Forum. Sites meeting outcomes report on www.adamshendry.co.uk/13_wf_outcomes.html
1811	13/03/06	KDC	Kennet Times – in office
1812	13/03/06	KDC	Information re Grounds Maintenance Service. Given to S. Glass
1813	13/03/06	KDC	Amendments to Electoral Register. Action – Clerk to update – done.
1815	13/03/06	WPC Emma Brown Wilts Police	Details of Police Information Box Scheme Given to S. Glass. Action: Clerk to put on April Agenda.
1816	13/03/06	KDC Legal dept	Copy of letter to Wood Awdry & Ford re covenants
1817	13/03/06	Wood Awdry & Ford	Public Conveniences – regarding Terms and conditions & covenants, (in response to 1816) with copy of letter send by them to KDC. Put in public conveniences file
1819	13/03/06	Alliance & Leicester Bank	Current Account Statement. Balance = £3573.61

379

1820	13/03/06	Alliance & Leicester Bank	Deposit Account Statement. Balance = £23100.94
1822	13/03/06	J. Lane. Community First	Confirmation that toilet block has been added to Parish Council's insurance from 1/04/06. (No additional charge for current year's insurance as premium is < £25.)
1823	20/03/06	Wood, Awdry & Ford	Regarding response from Kennet to queries on Covenants. Still negotiating on final two. Filed in Public Convenience file.
1824	20/03/06	Alison Smith	E-mail-asking if plans can be viewed locally. Response sent
1825	20/03/06	The Local Channel	Website services for Parish Councils
1826	20/03/06	WALC	1. Newsletter. 2. Offer of CD-ROM from Land Management information service of Parish of Ramsbury, including aerial photography, Ordnance Survey mapping & govt environmental data. For S. Glass
1827	20/03/06	KDC	Consultation on possible new and existing conservation areas. Response by 2 nd May. For S. Glass
1828	20/03/06	Eastridge estate Office	Permission to use estate land for boundary walk with provisos. For G. Treherne.
1829	20/03/06	Marlborough Community Area Strategic Partnership	Summary of points arising from consultation with Parish & Town Councils and public event of 23/02/06. For S. Glass
1830	20/03/06	The Membury Estate	Permission to cross estate land on Boundary Walk as in previous years. For G. Treherne
1831	20/03/06	KDC	1. AWC collections – text for Parish Mags. 2. No change to waste collection/recycling days over Easter. 3. Garden waste collection to be changes to coincide with general recycling collection. For S. Glass
1832	20/03/06	Election Officer KDC	Phone call regarding PC vacancies notices. He will write to confirm that no requests from residents for an election were received, therefore the Parish Council may co-opt two councillors.

**DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY APRIL 10th 2006
7.45 pm**

Ramsbury Memorial Hall

ALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

YOU WILL BE VERY WELCOME - PLEASE COME