

# RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY MARCH 19<sup>th</sup> 2007 in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

PRESENT: Mora Abell, Diann Barnett, Paul Court, Graeme Fearon, Cllr. Susan Findlay, Sheila Glass (Chairman), George Hawes, Geoffrey Rissone, Sue Arnold (Parish Clerk), Tim McQue (School governor), Cllr. Brian Twigger and 2 members of the public.

The meeting began by the Chairman welcoming Ian Ritchie, the newly co-opted member of the Parish Council.

- 1 Apologies for absence for approval:** Steve Cook, Geoffrey Treherne. **Approved.** Apologies also from Cllr. Humphries and Katie Fielding of Community First.  
**Also absent:** Anne Dixon, Fiona Kimber.
- 2 Disclosure of interest:** None
- 3 The minutes of the meeting held on February 19<sup>th</sup>** were approved with the following amendment: Page 450, item 10, Square refurbishment – Change *one quote is within budget* to *one quote is near the budget*.
- 4 Presentation on Parish Plans by Katie Fielding, Community First.** Postponed until next month, as Ms. Fielding was unable to attend.
- 5 Matters arising:**  
**Best Kept Village Competition.** As the Youth Club has offered to do a village clean-up, Ramsbury will enter the Best Village Competition. **Actions: 1. S. Glass to submit 100-word entry by 1<sup>st</sup> April. 2. S. Glass to agree clean-up date with Youth Club. 3. Area to be judged to exclude area around development work at Rec. Centre.**

### 6 NEW CORRESPONDENCE for discussion:

2369	26/02/07	British Gas	Confirmation Direct Debit set up to pay electricity bill for public conveniences.
2371	26/02/07	KDC	Local elections – nomination packs, declaration of acceptance forms, Declaration of interest forms
2377	05/03/07	KDC	Application for small business rates relief. Submitted. <b>Rate bill now received – payment down to £66 per month from May.</b>
2378	05/03/07	KDC	Kennet – future development of area – ‘Making places for the future’. Meeting Marlborough Town Hall 13 <sup>th</sup> March 6.30 – 7.30. See <a href="http://www.kennet.gov.uk">www.kennet.gov.uk</a> . S. Glass attended the workshop. <b>Action: S. Glass to circulate questionnaire to policy Committee – Deadline for comments 16<sup>th</sup> April.</b>
2395	09/03/07	Chief Exec, WCC	Offer to speak at PC meeting on Unitary Authority Status bid. Given to S. Glass. <b>Action: Clerk to arrange for Mr. Robinson or his representative to speak to the Parish Council.</b>
2406	19/03/07	WCC	One Council for Wilts information pack. Given to S. Glass
2409	19/03/07	British Gas	Electricity Bill for public conveniences 31/01/07/ - 28/02/07 - £572.70. <b>Action: Clerk to query.</b>

### 7 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### A Planning

Chairman: G. Hawes

#### Planning Applications Processed since February Report

K/55926/TR2	The felling to ground level of a fir tree in the rear garden of the property The Hop House, Tankard Lane, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs Cockwell
PC Comment	No objection
KDC Decision	Granted
K/55888/F	Change of use from light industrial to light industrial and vehicle repairs Unit 6, Whittonditch, Ramsbury. Mr. A. J. May
PC Comment	No objection
KDC Decision	Awaited

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K/55885/TR2	The removal of four trees within the garden of the property comprising;1 apple tree, 1 unspecified fruit tree, 1 cherry tree and 1 holly tree 79 High Street, Ramsbury. Mrs C. Strover
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/55312/TR2	Works to trees in the rear garden of the property to consist of; the felling of one willow tree, the removal of one stem, [of 2], crown thinning by approximately 30% and dead wooding of another willow tree, the crown thinning by 30% and dead wooding of a third willow tree and the crown raising by 8ft. to good growth points of a yew tree. 69 High Street, Ramsbury. Mrs. Fox
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/55483/LBC	Internal alterations, refurbishment & re-servicing. Window enlargement to rear. 81, High Street, Ramsbury. H. J. Hyams
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/55792/F	Single storey side and rear extensions, demolition of garage and loft conversion. Hilldrop Cottage, Hilldrop Lane, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs S Scupham
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection. Important that access gates are set back far enough for vehicles intending to enter to be off the carriageway as this is a blind corner. Awaited
K/55995/TR2	The removal of three unspecified trees on an area of land adjacent to the roadside. 10 Union Street, Ramsbury. Mrs Whiting
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/55808/F	Extension to form utility room and WC Autumnmist House, Whittonditch Road, Ramsbury. Dr. and Mrs. N. J. Milne
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/55783/F	Change of use of buildings to single dwelling and office. Demolition of existing rear addition and erection of two storey rear extension and detached garage building. Changes to fenestration 1, The Square, Ramsbury. Mr. A. Fitton
PC Comments  NOTE: This application has been resubmitted to remove the entire area protected by policy TR17 and the Parish Council has therefore removed its objection but has asked KDC to advise us as to the applicants remaining responsibilities regarding the protected area and facilities/access	The Parish Council strongly objects on the following grounds; [1]The area now covered by the application excludes the playing surface of the bowling green in an attempt to avoid conflict with the protection afforded by policy TR17. The actual area covered by the above policy as defined in the village plan [which has been adopted by KDC] includes the area above the green housing the pavilion building, toilets and storage facility up to the car park area. [2] The applicant's agents say in the letter accompanying the revised plans that the applicant intends to take the area of the bowling green into private use after Sept.2007. We consider this a material breach of the protection provided by policy TR17, in that, unless there is a viable replacement facility available this would contravene the policy. It is unlikely that the planned replacement facility to be constructed at the Recreation Centre will be available by then. [3]For the above reasons we consider the application to be premature. The Parish Council has no objection to the proposed changes to the proposed building
KDC Decision	Awaited
K/55483/LBC	Internal alterations, refurbishment and re-servicing. Window enlargement to rear. 81 High Street, Ramsbury. H. J. Hyams
PC Comments KDC Decision	No objection Awaited

K/55946/TR2	Works to trees on the southern border of the property and adjacent to it consisting of; the thinning of two ash trees and one western red cedar by 20%, thinning and reduction by approx. 30% of a cobnut tree, and the crown reduction by approx. 30 of two ash trees. Smug Onion, Union Street, Ramsbury. Mr. D. G. Lewis.
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/56014/LBC And K/56013/F	Construct first floor extension on existing ground floor flat roof to form bedroom. Alter location of kitchen to where sitting room is and vice versa. 89 High Street, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs T. Haigh.
PC Comments KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/56086/TR2	Works to trees at the property to consist of; the felling of a pussy willow tree by the front door and the cutting back of the lowest limb on the mock acacia on the front lawn. The old Coach House, Scholards Lane, Ramsbury. Mr. J. Brooks
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/56097/F	Alterations to garage [including pitched roof] to facilitate use as additional habitable accommodation. 6 Union Street, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs C Clark
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection. Retention of off street parking should be a condition of approval. Awaited

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

**Grant Applications.** The finance committee had reviewed grant applications and awards were proposed as shown Under Item 21 – Accounts for payment.

**Additional Grants:** The PC will match Bowls Club expenditure on bowls pushers up to a maximum of 3 pushers, and cover the annual insurance, when due, for Meals on Wheels. Additionally the British Legion were advised that funds for improving facilities for the disabled are available elsewhere, but invited to re-apply for help towards the re-decorating work that they referred to prior to their grant application.

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

- a. Boundary Walk 2007.** A draft guide to the walk was shown to the Parish Council, including information on route, Flyer times, plus nature and geology notes. It is proposed to distribute one to each family with a child at Ramsbury School and make additional copies available via the Post office. **Actions: 1. I. Ritchie to approach PCC and St. John's School for additional printing quotes. 2. Clerk to expand section on the walk in the newsletter.**
- b. Footpath from Isles Road to Swan's Bottom.** This is very worn and muddy. **Action: Clerk to report to Esther Daly.**
- c. Grass-cutting .** Quotes have been reviewed and a decision made.

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

- a. Trees for Ashley Piece Play Area.** These will be planted in the autumn planting season. **Actions. 1. Suggestions for suitable trees to chairman. 2. S. Glass to consult KDC tree officer.**
- b. Worn grass beneath the springers at the Knowledge Crescent play area.** **Action: S. Glass to re-sow one patch of grass/lay turf.**

**E Emergency Committee****Chairman: Chris Morgan**

- a. Fuel Funnels.** **Action: P. Court to pick them up from supplier.**
- b. New Emergency Plan template.** **Action: C. Morgan to review.**
- c. CEV Volunteers.** Diann Barnett is now a qualified Community Emergency Volunteer. In the event of an emergency the WCC Emergency Unit should be contacted as soon as the Emergency Services have been called, to ensure volunteers are fully covered by insurance for the emergency.

**F School Governor****PC Nominated Governor: Tim McQue**

- a. Pre-school relocation project.** The GB has decided to formally support the pre-school's proposal to co-locate the pre-school on the school site. The school has ring-fenced a capital sum for groundworks.

- b. School Travel Plan.** Primarily in order to improve safety for children, the GB recognises the need for action to reduce school-generated vehicle congestion at both ends of the school day in the vicinity of the school and in the village generally. A working group has been formed to produce a school travel plan, which will involve consultation with parents. As an immediate measure, parents who drive will be encouraged to use car-parking facilities away from the school.
- c. New Head Teacher.** Interviews for the Head Teacher post have been arranged for the third week in April.
- d. Hot school meals.** The take-up for hot school meals has been good and the arrangements put in place are working well.
- e. New school brochure.** The GB is producing a refreshed school brochure with updated information and photographs.

#### **G Recreation Centre.**

**Chairman: George Hawes**

- a. Project 2005.** There will be a meeting at the end of the month on potential funding.
- b. The Management Committee** will be reconvened in accordance with the new constitution to give managers specific responsibilities.
- c. Repair to gale damage adjacent to tennis courts.** This is estimated to cost £8000, but will be covered by the contractor or insurance.

#### **H Policy Committee**

**Chairman: S Glass**

**Action: S. Glass to circulate KDC Future planning documents to committee.**

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

- a.** Ben Tottenham requested dates for the village cleaning up and judging period, when decided, for the Diary.  
**Action: S. Glass to supply.**
- b.** Ben Tottenham requested information on the Boundary Walk for the diary. Action: I. Ritchie to supply by 18<sup>th</sup> April.
- c.** Ben Tottenham reported that the Planning case officer has agreed that objections would be overcome by siting the proposed lectern on the ground between the windows of the Bell. It was noted that this is private not public highway land.
- d.** B. Tottenham has given the village design statement to the architect working on proposed new houses in Burdett Street.
- e.** Cllr. Twigger reported that Cllr. Humphries is in hospital in Thailand, having been involved in a serious road traffic accident. The Chairman asked Cllr. Twigger to pass on The PC's best wishes to Cllr. Humphries.

#### **9 Axford**

- a. Roadside hedging.** This is collapsing into the water meadow in a stretch where there is steep drop down from the road. **Action: Clerk to write to Ramsbury Estate manager.**
- b. Roadsigns.** The Axford Village sign on the approach from Marlborough and the Stitchcombe junction sign have both disappeared. **Action: Clerk to report to WCC Highways dept.**
- c. Lamppost.** The first lamppost on the right on entering the village from Ramsbury is in a poor condition  
**Action: D Barnett to e-mail it's number to Clerk so it can be reported.**

#### **10 Nature Reserve.**

- a. The new viewing platform** is completely finished with an additional intermediate cross bar to prevent children falling into the water.
- b. The Seat in memory of Roy Alexander** has been installed. C. Morgan and R. Osmond were thanked for their work on this. **Action: S. Glass and C. Morgan to decide wording for plaque on seat in consultation with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.**

#### **11 Square refurbishment.**

The Finance committee has reviewed quotes for the work and proposed accepting the quote from Brennans of Wiltshire. **Proposed: S. Glass. , Seconded: G. Rissone. All in favour.**

#### **12 Election on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

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All candidates in the Parish Council election are reminded that nomination forms must be with KDC by noon on 4<sup>th</sup> April. **Actions: 1. Clerk to e-mail councillors standing for re-election with their electoral number. 2. All candidates standing for election to request electoral numbers of their proposer and seconder from Clerk.**

### 13 Parish Stewards Visit

**a. KDC to reschedule the March** visit postponed due to the unavailability of the steward. Next scheduled visit - April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

**b. Items for next visit.**

Clear Crowood Lane pavements

Clear pavement near Froxfield Road junction with Scholards lane.

Cut back branches overhanging footpath no 2 from trees on the verge below the tennis courts at the Recreation Centre.

Repair potholes on footpath 2

Remove rusting 'No ball games' sign, post and bin from Knowledge Crescent playground.

Clear drains on Froxfield Road hill

Clear hedge remains from grass verge opposite "Fridays" in Crowood Lane

**Action: Report any other necessary work to clerk by April 11<sup>th</sup>.**

### 14 Police Information Box.

**Outstanding Action: Clerk to put article about box and its location in Parish Magazine.**

### 15 Vandalism.

**Action: Clerk to put disappearing Axford road signs on vandalism log and pass on to PC Batchelor.**

### 16 Police Surgery. Action: Clerk to arrange surgery oat 6.30 on 16<sup>th</sup> April.

### 17 Newsletter.

A further draft had been sent to all councillors. **Actions: 1. The following changes are to be made: Include Boundary walk under separate heading. Remove sentence on head of school. Incorporate latest comments from councillors. 2. G. Hawes to e-mail contact details for PCC printing to clerk. 3. Clerk to get quote for printing from PCC.**

### 18 The Youth Club

**a. New Equipment** has been purchased with funds transferred from the old youth club account.

**b. Events planned** include a pamper day event for girls and hovercraft building activity.

**c. Attendance averages** over 40 teenagers per evening.

### 19 The Ramsbury Roxy

**a. Attendance** at the screening of *The Constant Gardener* was about 80.

**b. Programme:** March 30<sup>th</sup> - *The Glen Miller Story*, April 13<sup>th</sup> - Oscar-winning *An Inconvenient Truth* (NB this film starts at 7.30 not the normal 8.00pm), 11<sup>th</sup> May - Oscar winner Helen Mirren in *The Queen*. (All Fridays).

### 20 Oral History.

Work on putting together the printed archive including taking photos of interviewees is continuing.

### 21 Accounts for Payment

1948	Ramsbury Church Rooms – Rent for Youth Club. 6 sessions – Nov 6 <sup>th</sup> – Dec 11 <sup>th</sup>	78.00		0	No
1949	S. Arnold – stamps for office (1 book)	3.84		0	No
1950	S. Arnold – Clerk's Salary Jan – March	600.00		0	No
1951	S. Arnold – stamps for office (3 books) & envelopes	11.31		0	No
1952	Midway Stores - - Newspapers w/e 14th Jan – w/e 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	9.80		0	No

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1953	M. Manning Correction to error on September payment I886	0.50		0	No
1954	British Gas – electricity for public conveniences due 28/02/07 by direct debit	45.00		0	No
1955	Toddlers – S137 Grant	100.00		0	Yes
1956	Luncheon Club – S137 Grant	100.00		0	Yes
1957	Scouts – S137 Grant	80.00		0	Yes
1958	Ramsbury Pre-School – S137 Grant	200.00		0	Yes
1959	Ramsbury School PTA – S137 Grant	300.00		0	Yes
1960	Ramsbury Junior Football (coaching fees) – S137 Grant	500.00		0	Yes
1961	Ramsbury Memorial Hall (towards stage lighting) – S137 Grant	200.00		0	Yes
1962	Kennet Citizens Advice Bureau – S137 Grant	100.00		0	Yes
1963	Amenity Group towards producing diary	120.00		0	Yes
1964	WALC – payment for Elections training course for clerk	17.63		2.63	No
1965	KDC – Cleaning public conveniences Jan & Feb.	824.63		122.81	No

**Total Payment for March = £3,410.71. Proposed – P. Court, Seconded M. Abell – Unanimously approved.**

### 22 Payments Received

R39	Wiltshire Wildlife Trust – Donation in memory of Royal Alexander towards seat and nature reserve work	600.00	05/03/07	Cheque	
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**TOTAL RECEIVED - £600.00**

**23 Bank Balance on 01/03/07** CURRENT ACCOUNT - £3,440.21  
 DEPOSIT ACCOUNT - £23,590.41  
 ROXY FUNDS on 08/01/07 = £886.89, + £540.60 in Parish Council account

### 24 OTHER CORRESPONDENCE - as listed below:

2367	26/02/07	R. Copp	Grass-cutting quotes for rights of way.
2368	26/02/07	WCC	Parish Stewards Scheme – Spring programme 2007. Given to S. Glass
2370	26/02/07	Youth Club	Statement of aims and list of equipment to be purchased
2372	26/02/07	Community police Officer	Results of survey of residents concerns
2373	26/02/07	Cllr Chris Humphries	Copy of Press Release – Music encyclopaedia available at Wiltshire Libraries
2374	26/02/07	Cllr Chris Humphries	Copy of Chisolm press release re WCC Unitary Authority Status submission (report commissioned by 3 of the 4 district councils)
2375	26/02/07	Cllr Chris Humphries	Copy of WCC Press Release regarding report commissioned by 3 of 4 Wilts District councils
2376	26/02/07	BT	BT fault resolution services
2379	09/03/07	Co-operative Futures	Offering help, to companies to trade for social good as well as profit
2380	09/03/07	K. Wilson	Requesting info regarding permissions needed to rebuild garden wall. Referred to KDC Planning Dep.
2381	09/03/07	CPRE	Countryside Voice magazine. Available in office.
2382	09/03/07	Arboricultural officer KDC	Copy of letter giving permission for essential maintenance work to decaying cherry tree in garden of the Cedars. Given to G. Hawes
2383	09/03/07	Alliance and Leicester	Deposit Account Statement. Balance £23,590.41
2384	09/03/07	Alliance and Leicester	Current Account Statement. Balance £3,440.21
2385	09/03/07	KDC	Kennet Times. In office

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2386	09/03/7	Wilts & Swindon Safety Camera Partnership	Explanation of rules relevant to speed cameras. (Sent to G. Treherne). Given to S. Glass
2387	09/03/07	Casualty reduction officer WCC	Proposed review of speed limits on rural roads. (Sent to G. Treherne). Given to S. Glass
2389	09/03/07	Ab Fab Loos Ltd	Confirmation of booking of portaloos for boundary walk
2390	09/03/07	Crowood Estate	Permission to pass through estate on boundary walk
2391	09/03/07	The Membury Estate	Permission to pass through estate on boundary walk
2392	09/03/07	Eastridge Estate	Permission to pass through estate on boundary walk
2393	09/03/07	Peter Kearns, Ramsbury Roxy	Confirmation that a report will be presented to Annual Parish Assembly
2394	09/03/07	Community First	Invitation to chairman to be considered for invitation to attend Buckingham Palace Garden Party.
2396	09/03/07	WCC	Parish Newsletter.
2397	09/03/07	D. Marshall, Ramsbury School PTA	Further explanation of grant request for equipment for catering for hot school meals.
2398	09/03/07	RoSPA Play Safety	Confirmation that Ramsbury play areas will be automatically included in annual inspections
2399	09/03/07	Clerks & Councils Direct	March Newsletter. In office
2400	19/03/07	KDC	Notices of election for display
2401	19/03/07	KDC	Notices of rates for 2007 – 8 (Total £6661.50). May payment £67.50, remainder to end Feb £66.00)
2402	19/03/07	CPRE	Fieldwork magazine. Given to S. Glass
2403	19/03/07	Splash	Acknowledgement of donation
2404	19/03/07	Dept of constitutional affairs	Memorial safety in public cemeteries.
2405	19/03/07	MADT	Spring newsletter. Given to S. Glass
2407	19/03/07	Bowl Club	Query regarding grant application – responded
2408	19/03/07	Cllr C. Humphries	Copy of press release– Family History Roadshow, Marlborough Library, Tues 27 <sup>th</sup> March, 2 – 4 pm
2410	19/03/07	Community First	Baby swing added to insurance policy
2411	19/03/07	WALC	Newsletter and enclosures. Given to S. Glass. Additional copy of newsletter in office.

**DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY APRIL 16<sup>th</sup> 2007  
7.45pm  
IN RAMSBURY MEMORIAL HALL**

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

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