

# 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](mailto:parishcouncil@ramsbury.org)

492

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY AUGUST 20<sup>th</sup> 2007 in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

PRESENT: Paul Court, Diann Barnett, Graeme Fearon, Sheila Glass (Chairman), George Hawes, Erica Hodgson, Chris Morgan, Geoffrey Rissone, Ian Ritchie, Sue Arnold (Parish Clerk), Cllr Humphries and 4 members of the public.

- 1 **Apologies for absence for approval:** Cllr. Susan Findlay, Tim McQue, Geoff Treherne. **Approved.**
- 2 **Disclosure of interest:** None
- 3 **The minutes of the meeting held on July 16<sup>th</sup>** were approved unanimously with the following amendment: add "Diann Barnett" to the list of those present at the July 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. (Proposed – G. Hawes, Seconded – C. Morgan)
- 4 **Matters arising:**
  - a. **Parish Plans.** G. Hawes will attend an introductory evenings to be held in Devizes has been. **Action: G. Hawes to tell Clerk which meeting he wishes to attend.**
  - b. **Proposed underground cable at the Glebe Field, Whittonditch Road.** See correspondence item 2667.

### 5 NEW CORRESPONDENCE FOR DISCUSSION

2616	23/07/07	M. Pike	Report of vandalism on her property, reported to Police. <b>Action: Clerk to add to vandalism log</b>
2626	30/07/07	Esther Daly	Will organise replacement for handrail at main bridge on seven bridges walk. See item 2661.
2632	30/07/07	WCC	Wiltshire's bid for Unitary Authority Status approved. A judicial review will go ahead. Cllr Humphries reported that 82% of the public in Wilts who gave their views were against the reorganisation
2637	06/08/07	Mr D. Bolton	Confirming he has cut back shrubs encroaching onto road at end of High Street
2642	06/08/07	C. Jackson, Ravensbury Players	Requesting guidance on what type of building would be acceptable for storage on PC land at Surgery site. Given to S. Glass. After discussion the Parish Council agreed that a building clad in natural wooden feather-edge board would be acceptable to the Parish Council. Planning permission would be necessary and the Parish Council would review the arrangement annually and reserve the right to ask for its removal should it become a target for vandalism. <b>Action: Clerk to inform Ravensbury Players of decision.</b>
2660	13/08/07	Swindon & Marlborough NHS Trust	Application for Foundation Trust status, and consultation brochure. Given to S. Glass
2661	20/08/07	Esther Daly, WCC	Cannot replace handrail on bridge on 7 bridges walk, as there never was one, as there are sluice gates in that place. NB. Sluice gates have disappeared. Esther Daly informed. Awaiting response.
2663	20/08/07	Alliance & Leicester	Request for additional details following request to change bank account signatories. <b>Action: C. Morgan and H. Rissone to fill in additional form at Monday's meeting.</b> Done
2667	20/08/07	SSE Power Distribution	Agreement form to put cable under footpath at Glebe Land. Given to S. Glass. SSE Power Distribution will reinstate the tarmac path and pay £3.45 per year for 20 years way leave, in a lump sum of £69. <b>Action: S. Glass to sign agreement form.</b>

## 6 COMMITTEE REPORTS

## A Planning

Chairman: George Hawes

## Planning Applications Processed since July Report

K/56979/LBC	Insertion of one Velux roof light into modern extension The Maltings, 3 Back Lane Ramsbury. Mr R Whimster
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/56672/LBC	Internal alterations to ground and first floors and provision of new double doors to front elevation Dairy Cottage, Stone Lane Axford Mr and Mrs Young
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/56760/F	Insertion of window into hay loft door Barn at Westfield Yard House Mill Lane Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs R Petley
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/56846/F	Conservatory 30 Whittonditch Road Ramsbury. Mr S Cole
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/56684/F	Single storey conservatory extension to existing bungalow Bridge Farm Bungalow, Elmdown, Ramsbury Mr C.S.E. Persson
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
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. Revised application-see below K/56917/LBC Replaced by K/56917/LBC now withdrawn
K/56980/F	Minor alterations to proposals approved under K/54910/F-Garage size altered and height reduced, House re-sited 0.5m to north east Land adjoining 1 Ashley Piece, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs Hicklin
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/56691/F	Replacement dwelling and garage with associated landscaping including change of use of land to incorporate formation of new access and driveway Witcha House, Witcha, Ramsbury. Chapters Property
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/56725/F	Demolition of existing conservatory and single storey extension and construction of two storey extension Rachael's Cottage, Harbrook, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs M Evans
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/57014/LBC	Alterations to nos. 85 and 87 to facilitate conversion to single dwelling house. 85/87 High Street Ramsbury. Mrs C Tellwright
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/56678/F	Dwelling house on land adjacent to Penllyn, Whittonditch Road, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs S Hawes
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/56874/F	Two storey side extension to form additional sitting room to ground floor with bedroom over. Whitton House Whittonditch Lane, Ramsbury. Mrs K Hardwick

PC Comments KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/56911/TR2	Works to trees at the property to comprise; The reduction of a Norway Maple by approx. 20% to good growth points and crown thinning by a similar amount reducing by approx. 10ft. The removal of green-leaved stems on a variegated Norway Maple leaving only variegated leaves. The felling of one robinia and one silver birch. The removal of approx. 20% of the growth to good growth points on twin stems of a second robinia. Isles Court, Isles Road, Ramsbury. The Beechcroft Trust
PC Comments KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/56856/F	Amendment to first floor extension-Games room roof [existing permission K/33512 ] Replace full hip to roof with a half hip roof. Add north-facing window. Ravensfield House Newtown Road Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs R Brandier
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/56908/F and K/56909/LBC	To rebuild rear extension and re-roof kitchen of residential part of building. 59 High Street, Ramsbury. Mr. D White
PC Comments KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/56917/F	Internal alterations, refurbishment and re-servicing window enlargement to rear. 81 High Street, Ramsbury. Mr. H Hyams
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Withdrawn
K/56957/TR2	The crown reduction of a willow tree, situated in the rear garden of the property adjacent to the river, by 30% 33 High Street Ramsbury. Mr D Watson
PC Comment KDC Decision	<b>No objection</b> Granted
K/57055/TR2	The removal of a conifer tree in the garden of the property 47 High Street Ramsbury. Mrs P Furbisher
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/57097/TR2	Works to a sycamore tree in the garden of the property to comprise: a 20% reduction to good growth points and crown thinning by a similar amount, maintaining the natural form of the tree. 3 Back Lane Ramsbury. Mrs S Whimster
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/57078/F	Erection of a conservatory 24 Hilldrop Close Ramsbury Mrs E Titchener
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/57107/LBC	Rendering of 1970s extension, east and north walls to cover new engineering bricks that looked very poor next to original part of the property Elmdown Farm Ramsbury Mr R Devereux
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection to proposed works. Object to the retrospective nature of the application Awaited
K/57120/F	Retention of refurbishment works to existing agricultural outbuilding Preston Farm Preston Ramsbury Mr G Major
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection to proposed works. Object to the retrospective nature of the application Awaited
K/57144/F and K/57183/LBC	New Oak Framed Garden Room Old Smithy Cottage Whittonditch Road Ramsbury Mr T Derrick

**B Finance****Chairman: Ian Ritchie**

- a. Portman Building Society Account.** The building society has informed the PC that the funds held in trust for the Youth Club are in a share account, which is illegal for an organisation to hold. The Parish Council has therefore agreed to change this to a deposit account.
- b. Committee meeting for 2008-9 budget.** Members of the Finance Committee agreed to arrange a committee meeting to discuss the 2008-9 budget.
- c. 2008-9 budget. Action: Any committee chairman who has a project they wish to be considered for the budget to contact I. Ritchie.**

**C Rights of way****Chairman: Graeme Fearon**

**Cycle Route to Marlborough.** The process to get support for improvement to the cycle path is underway. A response is awaited from Sustrans.

**Manor Lane Footpath.** This needs re-grading. **Action: The Rights of Way committee should decide if they wish to include re-grading the Manor Footpath in the 2008-9 budget.**

**D Play Areas and Seats.****Chairman: Paul Court**

- a. Painting play equipment.** Still awaiting response from the Community Payback scheme, which may be able to provide the resources for this.
- b. Zurich Play Area Inspection report.** This included a reference to erosion under the Knowledge Crescent Springer, despite being dated after the laying of new turf under the springer. **Action: S. Glass to contact Zurich.**
- c. Hilldrop Play Area.** A fence has been requested to keep cars and people walking dogs off the play area. **Action: Play area Committee to consider suggestion.**

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

- a. Emergency Plan.** This has now been revised. **Action: C. Morgan to circulate the draft document to the Emergency Committee.**
- b. Emergency Generator at Memorial Hall.** This was not working during a test, but the electrician could find no fault with it. **Action: C. Morgan and R. Osmond to contact manufacturer.**

**F School Governor****Governor: Tim McQue**

- a. The farewell party held for retiring Head Teacher Richard Colley.** This was held at the School on Friday 20 July and was a great success, despite the torrential rain on the day,
- b. After-school care.** The school has entered into an agreement with Woodleys in Aldbourne for after school care for children from September. Woodleys is handling all administration.

**G Recreation Centre.****Chairman: George Hawes**

- a. Management Committee meeting.** The next meeting is in September to consider a new constitution and clarifying the lines of responsibility between the Rec. Centre Management Committee and Project 2005.
- b. Project 2005 progress.** A potential sponsor for the football pavilion and a further sponsor for the Tennis and Cricket clubs' pavilion are in discussion with Project 2005. Should these discussions come to fruition, it would be possible to start phase 1 of the Bowls Clubs works at the Rec. centre in the next year.
- c. Football and cricket pitches.** The surfaces have been levelled.
- d. Other grass areas.** The Rec. Centre has asked to borrow the brush cutter from the PC for evaluation before purchasing one. **Agreed.**

**H Policy Committee.** Nothing to report**Chairman: Sheila Glass****7 Public Forum - Standing orders suspended for this item.**

- a. B. Tottenham** said that the information lectern for the Square is due for delivery on September 14th Cllr Humphries has been asked to formally unveil it on the morning of Saturday October 6<sup>th</sup>.
- b. B. Tottenham** expressed concern that should he Ravensbury Players get planning permission for a temporary building on the surgery site, it might not be possible for it to be removed should the PC so wish. S. Glass responded that she thought that this would not be the case.

- c. S. Judge reported that 4 pieces of fence need replacing at the zig-zag entry at Knowledge Crescent to the footpath to Bolstridge farm. **Action: S. Glass to inspect.**
- d. S. Judge said that the Manor Lane footpath is overgrown with weed and is wider than the section walkable at present. **Action: S. Glass to check.**

## 8 Axford

**Geoff Treherne**

**The land adjacent to end of Kennet Rise.** This has been sold by Arona and bought by a local resident.

## 9 Nature Reserve.

**Chris Morgan**

- a. **Grass cutting.** It has been possible to cut 60% of the grass. The main entrance area, river area and area around the new seat are being maintained as well as possible given that the ground is very wet. At least 1 and possibly 2 other people are needed for the grass-cutting rota. **Action: Any interested resident should contact C. Morgan on 520501.**
- b. **Access.** The kissing gate is not pram and wheelchair friendly and the main gate is chained closed. C. Morgan reported that this is because the gate needs repairs. **Action: C. Morgan to investigate repairing the gate.** The level of the ground between the gate and the boardwalk needs building up to allow pushchair and wheelchair access. **Action: C. Morgan to talk to Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.** Some of the chicken wire on boarded paths needs repair. **Action: C. Morgan to repair.**

## 10 Square refurbishment.

**Geoff Rissone**

Work is expected to start on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September and take just over a week to complete.

## 11 Purchase of land at 2 Bridges, Mill Lane.

- a. **Update.** A joint offer of £10,000 from the Parish Council and ARK has been accepted. A donation of £5000 by Ark is being matched by the PC, which will need to raise funds to cover its part of the purchase price. Ramsbury WI and the Horticultural Society have been approached for donations. **Action: D. Barnett to approach Community First. C. Morgan to approach Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. I. Ritchie to approach the AONB. S. Judge to approach the SSSI authority, S Glass to approach CPRE.** Sponsorship of a square metre is also being considered.
- b. **Sylvia Judge was formally thanked for bringing the sale of the land to the attention of the Parish Council and lobbying organisations and individuals to support its purchase on behalf of the village.**

## 12 Co-option of Councillors. Deferred.

## 13 Public Conveniences.

- a. **Cleaning.** The contract has now been signed.
- b. **Water Rates.** The Parish Council has not paid any water rates since taking over the conveniences and has not received a response from KDC to a request for supplier contact details.
- c. **Electricity Contract.** British Gas offered a further 2 years at current prices. Accepted.

## 14 Parish Stewards Visit

- a. **Action: Clerk to add clearing overgrowth from Manor Lane footpath to September list.**
- b. **Requests for September visit. Action: Please contact clerk by 22<sup>nd</sup> September.**
- c. **Road Surfaces.** There is a hole in the tarmac between the Bell and the entrance to the Bowl club and the road surface in The Paddocks is crumbling. **Action: Clerk to report to WCC.**

## 15 Police Information Box.

It appears that an internal panel has always been missing. **Action: Clerk to approach T. H. White for a replacement.**

## 16 Vandalism.

A whole window, including the frame has been knocked out gents' area of the public conveniences. The mess was cleared by the cleaners. As the window is small and high up, it will be left as it is. **Action: Clerk to add to vandalism log.**

## 17 Police Surgery

- a. PC Batchelor phoned to cancel at 6.45. PC Batchelor's e-mail address was given to the 3 people who turned up. **Action: Clerk to contact police and put notice on notice board saying the surgeries are cancelled but that information for the police may be left in the police information box in the Post office.**

#### 18 Memorial Hall.

The Parish Council is awaiting purchase documents to sign from solicitors. There has been interest in renting the office space in the new part of the building.

#### 19 Honours for Local People.

The Parish Council asked for nominations of local people deserving to be put forward under the national Honours system. **Action: Anyone who would like to make a nomination should pass it to the clerk.**

20 **The Youth Club.** Nothing to report as it is the summer holiday.

#### 21 The Ramsbury Roxy

**Programme.** The Autumn programme starts on 14<sup>th</sup> September with *Holiday*.

22 **Oral History.** Work on producing a CD of highlights from the interviews is continuing.

23 **Street Lighting.** Efforts to organise the installation of a lantern outside the Post office are continuing.

#### 24 Accounts for Payment

I1020	British Gas – Electricity for Public Conveniences - direct debit due 28/08/07 (Actual bill received for £13.25)	45.00		0	No
I1021	KDC – Rates for Public Conveniences – Direct debit due 1/09/07	66.00		0	No
I1022	Dharma Gardening Services – work & bedding Plants – replacement for incorrect invoice I1017	127.00		0	No
I1023	Ramsbury Community Bus – Hire charges for May Boundary Walk	25.90		0	No
I1024	BT – telephone Bill. By Direct Debit due 22/08/07	71.68		10.67	No

**Total Payment for August = £335.58**

#### 25 Payments Received

R45	Crown & Anchor – map sales	30.00	01/08/07	Cash	
-----	----------------------------	-------	----------	------	--

**Total Payments Received = £30.00**

26 **Bank Balance on 01/08/07** CURRENT ACCOUNT -£3,582.96  
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT - £28,590.41  
NB £6000 transferred from current to deposit account in July

#### 27 Other Correspondence - as listed below:

2613	23/07/07	Co-operative Futures	Newsletter. Given to S. Glass
2614	23/07/07	WALC	Nominations requested for Executive committee. Given to S. Glass
2615	23/07/07	KDC	Post and stickers re 2007 Dog Fouling Act. On notice boards
2617	23/07/07	N. Steadman	Response to I. Ritchie's e-mail exploring improvements to Ramsbury to Marlborough cycle route
2618	23/07/07	WCC Emergency Planning Unit	Training opportunity- Introduction to Civil Contingencies and Emergency Management. Forwarded to Emergency Committee
2619	23/07/07	M. Gibson, ARK	Update on offer received for 'Kennet Triangle' land (by 2 bridges, Mill Lane) from someone outside the area.
2620	23/07/07	M. Gibson, ARK	Copy of joint offer on behalf of Ramsbury Parish Council & ARK to Woolley & Wallis agents for 'Kennet Triangle' land (by 2 bridges, Mill Lane)

2621	30/07/07	Atlas Landscaping Ltd	Brochure
2622	30/07/07	Sarsen Housing	No need for planning permission to locate bench at Swans Close
2623	30/07/07	Aster Group	Zurich report on play equipment at Hilldrop Close. Given to S. Glass
2624	30/07/07	KDC	Year Book and Parish Book. On notice board in office.
2625	30/07/07	Wilt Highways	Report on Parish Steward's work carried out – June visit plus feedback form. Given to S. Glass.
2627	30/07/07	PC Batchelor	Confirmation of August police surgery. Offenders being dealt with for vandalism at Scout Hall
2628	30/07/07	Cllr C. Humphries	Wiltshire's registration services to be modernised. Local registration offices to remain open.
2629	30/07/07	CPRE	Best Rural retailer competition
2630	30/07/07	Portland Building Society	Money held in trust for Youth Club is in a Share account which is not legal for an organisation to hold. Account must be change to a deposit account or closed. Deadline for response – August 7 <sup>th</sup> . <b>Action: Clerk to organise a letter signed by account signatories authorising change to a Deposit account.</b>
2631	30/07/07	Carla Payne Newbury Weekly News	Carla Payne is leaving – replacement to cover this area is Debbie Gore.
2633	30/07/07	Wilt Highways	Report on Parish Steward's work carried out – July visit. Copied to S. Glass.
2634	30/07/07	WCC	Arrangements for CEV volunteers training day. Forwarded to D. Barnett
2635	30/07/07	M. Gibson ARK	Joint offer of £10,000 by Parish Council and ARK for land near two bridges has been accepted.
2636	30/07/07	Community First	Invitation to AGM 3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct 2007, 7.00pm Devizes Corn Exchange, plus enclosures. Given to S. Glass
2638	06/08/07	IOG Saltex	Play Equipment and safety surface exhibition invitation Windsor Racecourse, 4 <sup>th</sup> 2639– 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept
2639	06/08/07	British Gas	Offering to maintain current contract process for next 1-3 years. Given to S. Glass
2640	06/08/07	South West Regional Assembly	Public Consultation - Review of additional pitch requirements for gypsies and travellers in South West. Copy in office, 1 copy given to S. Glass
2641	06/08/07	RoSPA	Play area inspection Sept 2007. Given to S. Glass
2643	06/08/07	Alliance and Leicester	Current Account Statement. Balance £3,582.96
2644	06/08/07	Alliance and Leicester	Deposit Account Statement. Balance £28,590.41
2645	06/08/07	SSEC Power Distribution	Reminder response needed to proposed underground cable at the Glebe Field, Whittonditch Road. S. Glass had already tried to respond and is awaiting a call back from SSEC. Given to S. Glass
2646	06/08/07	WCC	List of work done and not done during July Parish Steward's visit. Given to S. Glass
2647	06/08/07	Wilts Fire & Rescue Service.	Questionnaire for comment on their 2007 Service Plan. All Given to S. Glass
2648	06/08/07	Community First	Summer newsletter via e-mail. Forwarded to all councillors.
2649	06/08/07	WCC	Consultation on revised options for Wilts & Swindon Minerals and Waste Development Control Policies. Given to S. Glass. E-mail forwarded to S. Glass.
2650	06/08/07	G. Findlay	Congratulations to ARK, PC and Sylvia Judge on the acceptance of the joint PC and ARK offer for the land at river near Mill Lane
2651	06/08/07	M Gibson, ARK	Confirmation that completion on land by river near Mill Lane is expected in October and publicity will be undertaken then.
2652	06/08/07	M Gibson, ARK	Enquiring if PC has a solicitor to handle purchase of Mill Lane land. S. Glass has responded.
2653	06/08/07	WCC	August Parish Newsletter. Forwarded to all councillors

## 499

2654	06/08/07	WCC Emergency Planning Unit	Newsletter. Includes details of Parish exercises – Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> November and Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> November. Forwarded to members of Emergency committee.
2655	13/08/07	M. Gibson, ARK	Confirmation that L. Smith of Wood Awdry Ford to act as solicitor for joint Parish Council and ARK purchase of land by Mill Lane bridges.
2656	13/08/07	Swindon & WCC	Consultation on Issues and Options for Wiltshire and Swindon Aggregate Mineral Site Allocations DPD. Consultation starts for 8 weeks from 13/08/07. See <a href="http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning-home.htm">www.wiltshire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning-home.htm</a>
2657	13/08/07	BT	Confirmation that bills will now be paid by direct debit. Filed in accounts file.
2658	13/08/07	WCC	Wilts Rights of Way improvement plan questionnaire. Given to G. Fearon
2659	13/08/07	North Wessex Downs AONB	Nomination form for appointment of Advisory members to the Council Partners. Given to I. Ritchie
2662	20/08/07	P. Allin	Asking for help as no response to his request to webmaster for a rambury.org address. Webmaster contacted.
2664	20/08/07	CPRE	Membership card
2665	20/08/07	Portman Building Society	Requesting return of passbook so it can be changed from a share account to a deposit account. Done.
2666	20/08/07	British Gas	Account £14.98 in credit. <b>Action. Clerk to supply meter reading</b>
2668	20/08/07	WCC	Minerals and Waste Planning. Given to S. Glass

**NEXT MEETINGS: FINANCE COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup> 8PM  
IN PARISH OFFICE**

**NEXT MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING –MONDAY SEPTEMBER 17<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**