

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY JUNE 16th 2008 in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

PRESENT: Diann Barnett, Alistair Ewing, Cllr. Susan Findlay, Graeme Fearon, Sheila Glass (Chairman), George Hawes, Erica Hodgson, Tim McQue, Chris Morgan, John Peck, Geoff Rissone, Ian Ritchie, Geoffrey Treherne, Sue Arnold (Clerk), Cllr. C. Humphries and 2 members of the public.

- 1 **CO-OPTION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR.** Alistair Ewing was co-opted on to the Parish Council, welcomed by the chairman and signed a declaration of office.
- 2 **Apologies for absence for approval:** Paul Court, Helen Lloyd, Cllr Twigger and PCSO Jonathan Mills.
- 3 **Disclosure of interest:** None
- 4 **The minutes of the meeting held on June 15th** were approved with the following amendments: P562 item 8.C.b. Change 149 to 165 (number of people taking part in boundary walk).
- 5 **COMMITTEES.** Committees met prior to the PC meeting to elect a chairman. **Action: S. Glass to provide clerk with list.** Alistair Ewing agreed to join the Emergency and Rights of Way committees.
- 6 **Matters arising:**
 - a. **Closure of Froxfield Road for replacement of Lamplands and Cedar bridges.** **Action: Clerk to send copy of weekly progress report to councillors.**
 - b. **Recycling bins at Surgery.** Hills have been asked to lock them.

7 **NEW CORRESPONDENCE FOR DISCUSSION**

3269	09/06/08	KDC	Streetscene Services to work on same days as parish stewards. Also invitation to attend meeting on new arrangements – 23 rd June 6 – 8pm Kennet House, Hopton industrial Estate, Devizes. Given to S. Glass
3274	09/06/08	ARK	Problem at Whittonditch sewage pumping station affecting River Ald. Copy of e-mail from Thames Water. Action: S. Findlay to forward report from ARK to S. Glass
3276	09/06/08	Mrs M. Cook	Window broken at Church rooms. Action: Clerk to add to vandalism log.
3278	09/06/08	Mrs Foale	Copy of letter received from WCC regarding request for traffic calming measures in Back Lane. The letter suggested that, should the school travel plan be successful in attracting funds, the money could be utilised to fund traffic calming measures. The school's application has been successful, but amount of money to be allocated is not yet known. Action: S. Findlay to pursue via the School's governing body. It was noted that a speed test is in progress in Back Lane at present.
3279	09/06/08	Mrs M. Cook	Further windows broken at Church rooms – police aware of problem. Action: Clerk to add to vandalism log.
3280	09/06/08	Mr D Cook	Query regarding request to have litter bin moved from front wall of 62 High Street. S. Glass has responded asking the owner to request re-siting rather than removal.
3283	09/06/08	Wilts Wildlife Trust	Campaign to stop litter – invitation for PC to become involved. See www.cpre.org.uk for details. Given to S. Glass. Action: Clerk to put on July agenda.
3288	09/06/08	C. Martin	Suggestion that PC introduces 'Service to Community' certificates as do some other PCs e.g. for firemen retiring after long service. Given to S. Glass. It was agreed that this is a good idea and that awards will be made to people retiring after long service to village organisations such as the fire brigade and community bus. Action: S. Glass to pursue certificates.
3289	09/06/08	Ms L Allison	Regarding PC's decision to request Crowood Lane sign. No problem with delivery to her and neighbours' houses. All agreed that finding the houses with a Crowood Lane addresses that were not in the lane itself, but in the cul-de-sac off the lane was a problem. Action: Chairman/Clerk to request that current sign regarding parking on the footpath is replaced by sign pointing to the house numbers in the cul-de-sac.

3290	09/06/08	Postwatch	Public consultation regarding closure of Wilts and Berks post offices. Deadline for response - 30 th June. (NB Ramsbury not affected). Given to S. Glass. The PC decided not to campaign as local post offices are not affected. However the PC urges residents to fill in a card available from the post office to object to changes to the pay card system, which will affect villagers.
3291	09/06/08	Ms P Edwards	Dirty bus stop and other sign in village. Action: Clerk to put on parish stewards June work list. (Done)
3301	09/06/08	WCC	Parish Stewards Summer programme – 23 rd July & 24 th September. Given to S. Glass. Concerns were expressed that the Parish Stewards Scheme is being degraded, with fewer days of the Parish Steward's time being allocated. Action: Cllr Humphries will pass these comments on to WCC.
3311	09/06/08	WCC	Froxfield road will be closed for bridge works on 16 th June
3313	09/06/08	Ms. S. Payne	Copy of letter to WCC. House almost flooded in heavy rains following resurfacing of Swan's Bottom track. (Photos of flooded garden attached). See also Item 9. Action: S. Glass to ask Ms. Payne to forward copies of her e-mails to Cllr Humphries.
3315	09/06/08	Mr Schiff	Telephone call to S. Glass on 15 th May re Froxfield Road closure
3318	16/06/08	WCC	Parish Council elections in Wiltshire. Circulated to all councillors.
3323	16/06/08	WCC	Response to letter from PC regarding delegation to Town and Parish Council, offering to come and speak to the Parish Council. Forwarded to S. Glass. Action: Clerk to invite a representative to speak at the July meeting.
3328	16/06/08	KDC	Grant of £675 awarded towards work on Manor footpath. Action: Clerk to respond.

8 COMMITTEE REPORTS

A Planning

Chairman: George Hawes

Reports received since May 08

K/58694/F	Change of use of land to enlarged garden and retention of tree platform theron Preston Farmhouse Preston Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs E M B Grylls
PC Comment	Retrospective. No objection
KDC Decision	Awaited
K/58704/F3	Proposed single storey flat roof side garage-office extension and a two storey side extension 3 Ashley Piece Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs Malcolm Orford
PC Comment	No objection
KDC Decision	Awaited
K/58564/F	Two storey rear extension Preston Farmhouse, Preston, Ramsbury Mr and Mrs E Grylls
PC Comment	No objection
KDC Decision	Awaited
K/58379/F	Refurbish existing outbuildings to provide incidental property to main house North Block The Old Dairy, Beeches farm Ramsbury. Mr. J Pollard
PC Comment	No objection. The Parish Council is concerned that the adjacent lay-by which is used as parking by many walkers is extended to continue to provide this facility on a busy road. We would also wish to see a condition that the development must form part of the main house and cannot be sold separately
KDC Decision	Awaited
K/58557/F	Single storey rear extension Coombe Farm House, Stitchcombe. Mr. J Burrows
PC Comment	No objection
KDC Decision	Awaited
K/58604/F	Conservatory style extension to enlarge existing kitchen Beenham House, Whittonditch Road Ramsbury. Mr R Hall
PC Comment	No objection
KDC Decision	Granted
K/58631/F	Two storey rear extension, Single storey side extension. 20 Kennet Rise Axford. Mr and Mrs Lee Davies

PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/58787/TR2	Works to trees at the property to consist of the felling of a blue atlas cedar tree and deadwooding of a beech tree, with crown thinning by approximately 15% to include crossing branches Westfield House 19 Back Lane Ramsbury. Mr P Willetts
PC Comment KDC Decision	In circulation Awaited
K/58858/F	Single storey timber outbuilding 4 Dyers Yard, Ramsbury. Mr Sean Ryan
PC Comment KDC Decision	In circulation Awaited
K/58875/F	Single storey extension to north of existing lounge to provide a further reception room. Conversion of existing garage and single storey extension to east of the garage to provide a three room "granny" annexe including a new bathroom. Reids Newtown Road Ramsbury. Mr Robert Grimshaw.
PC Comment KDC Decision	In circulation Awaited
K/58433/F	Revision of garage facilities 1 The Square Ramsbury. Mr A Fitton
PC Comments KDC Decision	The Parish Council does not object to the removal of TR17 protection from the "terrace" area of the former bowling green, but would wish the protection to remain on the green itself until the new facility is completed. We have consulted with the Bowls Club who support the application. Please see revised description Below See revised description below. Granted
K/57650/F	Proposed extension to existing barn building to offer additional storage Lyncholt Meadow Loves Lane Ramsbury. Mr & Mrs Kimber.
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/57671/F	Replacement dwelling and garage [amendment to planning permission K/56691/F-increase in size of basement and minor alterations to fenestration Witcha House, Witcha, Ramsbury. Chapters Properties
PC Comments KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/58433/F	Change of use of land to domestic curtilage, erection of garage building and store and construction of hard-standing 1 The Square Ramsbury. Mr A Fitton
PC Comment KDC Decision	See comments above – unchanged PC comment Granted
K/57910/F	Alterations within existing roof and to existing roof Brick House, Axford. Mrs H Coombes
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited

B Finance

Chairman: Ian Ritchie

- a. **Audit.** The accounts are ready for signing off. The internal auditor was generally happy with the accounts and the procedural changes introduced during the 2007-8 financial year. He highlighted problems with the invoices raised by British Gas for electricity supply to the public conveniences. The PC currently pays £45 per month by direct debit. The payments are not listed on the invoices, although the total does imply these are taken into account. In addition the account is now £227.68 in credit. The clerk has requested a refund of this amount and a reduction of monthly payments to £25 to which British Gas has agreed. S. Glass proposed the 2007 – 8 accounts be approved, seconded by E. Hodgson – Unanimously approved. **Action: Clerk and chairman to complete and submit the audit form.**
- b. **Insurance Schedule.** The review has been completed and the premium paid.
- c. **Funds from old Youth Club held in trust by PC.** The Nationwide has taken over the Portman account and is no longer to offer this type of account. The account currently holds £485.20. I. Ritchie proposed closing the account and giving the balance to the new Youth Club, which has proved viable. The PC will then stop paying the rent for the Church Room incurred by the Youth Club. This was seconded by S. Glass and unanimously approved.

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

- a. Grant applications for Manor and Hopper's Lane footpaths.** The grant application for Manor Lane Footpath was successful with an award to cover 50% of the cost - £675. One quote has been received for Hopper's lane and a second is awaited.
- b. Surgery Footpath.** Awaiting a response from The Probation Service's community service organisation who have agreed to clear the footpath. **Action: S. Glass to organise a skip once Probation Service confirms when they will do the work.**
- c. Play Area to Whittonditch Road footpath.** This path is now under construction in conjunction with the underground cabling work.

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

- a. Knowledge Crescent Play Area fence.** The grant application resulted in £750 being awarded by KDC towards the cost of installing a fence. The work will be done in the autumn.
- b. Cabling Work affecting affecting Ashley Piece Play area.** Cllr Findlay reported she had received a letter from 3 children concerned that some of the play equipment cannot be used while the work is on-going. She has had a site meeting with the children and a parent and responded in writing.
- c. New Play Equipment.** Ramsbury School's Council have given the PC a preferred options list. **Action: S. Glass to apply to KDC for a grant towards a large piece of play equipment.**
- d. Axford Play Area.** The equipment has been painted and new woodchips put under the swings. **Action: PC to consider applying for a grant for a new piece of play equipment.**

E Emergency Committee**Chairman: Chris Morgan**

- a. Streets Wardens.** Many responses have been received to the letter to Street wardens, most being willing to continue. **Action: Clerk to give response letter still in office to C. Morgan.**

F School Governor**Governor: S. Findlay**

- a. Dates:** 21st June – School Fete, 24th June – Sports Day, 29th June - School Choir to sing in Church.
- b. Recent events.** Year 6 have just had a camp. Intel had done 2 days of community work repairing fences and making a flat area for storage in the playground.

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

- a. Fundraising.** The Summer Ball was well received and together with the charity shoot £15,000 has been raised.
- b. Bowling Green.** Costs for providing a bowling green at the Rec Centre are being finalised.

H Policy Committee. Nothing to report**Chairman: Sheila Glass****9 Public Forum**

Tracy Smart expressed concerns that the recent rain had resulted in flooding to Swan's Bottom leaving over a foot of water in the ditch alongside the path. Swan's Bottom is used as a walking route to school and the depth of water was dangerous. Gardens in Isles Road were also flooded. (See also Item 7 no. 3313). **Action: Cllr Humphries to follow up the problem with the Rights of Way officer at KDC.**

10 Axford

- a. Speeding traffic** - an on-going problem.
- b. Fete.** This is on 2nd August.
- c. The Pub** has a new landlord.

11 Nature Reserve.**Chris Morgan**

Grass cutting. The grass has been cut three times in the last month. John Herbertson has joined the rota of grass-cutters. S. Findlay noted that she had seen Mr. Herbertson using a strimmer and asked if it could be used to cut the grass around the bench at the top of Chapel Lane. This is Mr Herbertson's own strimmer. **Action: S. Glass to ask Mr Herbertson if he would be willing to trim around the bench.** It was acknowledged that Mr. Herbertson has volunteered to remove the ivy from the gutter of the public conveniences.

12 Kennet Triangle at 2 Bridges, Mill Lane.

Now the purchase is complete, the land is being managed with ARK with minimal intervention. A. Ewing had noted some dead and dangerous trees on the land. **Action. S. Glass to arrange site meeting with A. Ewing.**

- 13 Mobile Library.** Changes to the service do not affect the parish as Axford has had no mobile library service for some time.
- 14 Delegation to Town & Parish Councils. Action: Clerk to invite a representative to attend the July meeting.**
- 15 Sustainable Communities.** The new committee comprises I. Ritchie, C. Morgan and J. Peck. **Action: Committee chairman to organise meeting of new committee.**
- 16 Parish Stewards & Streetscene Cleaning. .**
- a. Potholes: Action: Clerk to report pothole on the North side of the road leaving Ramsbury towards Axford, 10 yards after seat.**
- b. June 25th Visit: Actions: Councillors to e-mail any other problems to clerk by 20th June.**
- c. It was noted that over the last few months there appears to be a diminution in the service offered**
- 17 Best Kept Village Competition.** Nothing has been heard yet from the organisers. S. Glass and D. Barnett have tidied and replanted the Memorial garden and flower tubs in the Square and at the Memorial hall have been replanted.
- 18 Vandalism.**
- a. Windows broken at the church rooms.** The police are aware of this.
- b. Lead theft at Holy Cross Church.** An arrest has been made following the theft which occurred some months ago. It is believed lead may have been stolen from another building in Ramsbury this week.
- c. Class A drugs** were seized by police from a house in the village.
- 19 Memorial Hall.**
- a. AGM.** The AGM was held on Wednesday 21st June.
- 20 The Youth Club. See item 8.B.c**
- 21 Oral History.** Nothing to report.
- 22 Street Lighting.** Lights are remaining on in Chapel Lane and also on Atherton Close. **Action: S. Findlay to report.** A high vehicle has knocked the reflector of the light by the Old Post office. **Action: S. Glass has reported and reminded the district council that this is also a light for which a lantern replacement has been requested.**

23 Accounts for Payment

I1149	KDC – Rates for public Conveniences Direct debit due 01/06/08	69.00		0	No
I1150	KDC – Rates for public Conveniences Direct debit due 01/07/08	69.00		0	No
I1151	British Gas – Electricity for Public Conveniences - direct debit due 28/06/08	45.00		0	No
I1152	PlusNet – Broadband for office. Due 08/06 by Direct Debit	9.99		1.49	No
I1153	Splash – grant	60.00		0	Yes
I1154	Ramsbury Community Bus – hire of bus for Boundary Walk	63.55		0	No
I1155	BT – telephone bill (paid vi direct debit)	61.57		9.17	No
I1156	Printing and delivery of boundary walk booklet	327.78		48.42	No
I1157	Midway stores – newspapers for library w/e 5 th April – 26 th April. NB Clerk to query outstanding amount of further £50n bill (not paid)	5.00		0	No
I1158	Ramsbury Memorial Hall - Rent and electricity – Parish Council office	616.25		0	No
I1159	Ab-Fab Loos Ltd – hire of 3 portaloos for Boundary Walk	211.50		31.50	No
I1160	S. Arnold – file dividers and printer	31.57		4.47	No

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I1161	G. Treherne – refreshments for boundary walk	10.48		0	No
I1162	The Cobblers Shop – medals, ribbon and engraving – for boundary walk	19.50		1.50	No
I1163	S. Glass – refreshments for boundary walk	64.83		0	No
I1164	S. Glass – Homebase – bark chips for play area	15.00		0	No
I1165	S. Glass – Plants for tubs in Square	44.85		6.78	No

Total Payments: £1,209.87 Proposed I. Ritchie, Seconded. D. Barnett. All in favour

24 Payment authorised in principle at May meeting and since made

	WALC – Annual Insurance premium. Given to S. Glass, Due 1/06/08 – Maximum amount	1,405.82		58.58 (insurance tax)	No
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25 Payments Received

R60	KDC – MCASP funding towards play area fence	750.00	09/06/08	Cheque	B015
R61	KDC – Community Cleansing grant 2008/9	150.00	09/06/08	Cheque	
R62	Interest paid into instant reserve account 1 st – 31 st May – due 16 th June	52.05		Direct transfer	

Total Payments Received =£952.05

26 Bank Balance on 01/06/08 CURRENT ACCOUNT: £11,071.20
 COMMUNITY RESERVE ACCOUNT: £15,539.07

NB £6,000.00 transferred from current to community instant reserve account on 09/06/08

27 Other Correspondence - as listed below:

3257	09/06/08	Cllr Humphries	Wilts school terms and holidays 2009 - 10
3258	09/06/08	Alliance & Leicester	Current account statement - £11,071.20
3259	09/06/08	Withy King	List of files held on behalf of parish Council. Given to S. Glass. Action: Clerk to respond.
3260	09/06/08	WCC	Parish newsletter – forwarded to all councillors
3261	09/06/08	Pete the Ink	Ink cartridges available for Dell printers (filed in computer file)
3262	09/06/08	Cllr Humphries	Notes from site meeting with WCC re Lamplands and cedar bridge closures
3263	09/06/08	Toddler group	Acknowledgement of grant from PC and Toddler Group report
3264	09/06/08	Savernake PC	Thanks for Ramsbury & Axford PC's offer of donation, if necessary, towards costs of legal action regarding closure of Savernake hospital's minor injuries unit.
3265	09/06/08	Val Compton	Thanks for Ramsbury & Axford PC's offer of donation, if necessary, towards costs of legal action regarding closure of Savernake hospital's minor injuries unit.
3266	09/06/08	MCASP	Draft minutes of MCASP meeting held on 14 th May. Forwarded to S. Glass
3267	09/06/08	Marlborough Rural Policing team.	June 2008 Bulletin. Hard copies available for councillors at meeting.
3268	09/06/08	Glasdon	Street furniture brochure
3270	09/06/08	Denise Milner, Meals on Wheels	Query regarding Froxfield Road closure, which will affect delivery to resident on other side of bridges. Action: Clerk to forward progress newsletter to her.
3271	09/06/08	CPRE	Best village competition posters. (Now on notice board and in Post Office)
3272	09/06/08	Nationwide	Account no longer supported. Must close account or transfer funds to Business investor account. This is the money held in trust from the old youth club. Current balance = £485.20. Given to I. Ritchie.
3273	09/06/08	MCASP	Award of grant of £750 towards Knowledge Crescent play area fence. Action: Clerk to raise invoice. Done
3275	09/06/08	Cllr Humphries	WCC One Council newsletter. Forwarded to all councillors
3277	09/06/08	Community First	Spring issue of newsletter. Forwarded to all councillors
3281	09/06/08	Mrs S. Evans	Acknowledgement of response regarding interest in co-option
3282	09/06/08	Cllr Humphries	Police report of high value burglary in Pewsey area

3284	09/06/08	Bella Voce	Acknowledgment of grant from PC
3285	09/06/08	KDC	Extension of deadline for feedback for consultation on Development Control Services in Unitary Council to 20 th May. (S. Glass informed)
3286	09/06/08	Ravensbury Players	Acknowledgment of grant from PC
3287	09/06/08	PCC	Acknowledgment of grant from PC
3292	09/06/08	Community First	Acknowledgement Of receipt of membership fee.
3293	09/06/08	KDC	Recycle week campaign. Event at market, 04/06/08 Marlborough
3295	09/06/08	Alliance & Leicester	New telephone numbers. Files in finance folder with pin numbers
3296	09/06/08	CPRE	Notice of AGM – Friday 6 th June 7.00, Langford Lakes Nature Reserve. Also minutes of 2007 AGM
3297	09/06/08	WCC	Parish stewards – jobs completed and feedback form. Given to S. Glass
3298	09/06/08	KDC	Kennet Economic Partnership. Given to s. Glass
3299	09/06/08	Wilts Police Authority	Vacancies for independent members of authority. Closing date for applications 30 th May. (Councillors informed of vacancies at May meeting)
3300	09/06/08	CPRE	Fieldwork magazine - with clerk.
3302	09/06/08	Cllr Humphries	Copy of WCC One Council newsletter – forwarded to all councillors
3304	09/06/08	Cllr Humphries	Report of suspicious horse watchers
3317	16/06/09	British Gas	First 3-monthly statement. Changes made to direct debit and refund requested. See item 8.b.a
3319	16/06/09	WCC	Week 1 report on work on Cedars and Lamplands Bridges
3320	16/06/09	PCSO Jonathan Mills	Apologies for June meeting
3321	16/06/09	Mrs S. Payne	Copy of e-mail from WCC regarding flooding – action awaits return of Rights of Way warden. (see item 7 no 3313 and item 9)
3322	16/06/09	MCASP	Extraordinary meeting to discuss how unitary status affects MCASP and MADT 25th June, 7.00pm, Burbage Village Hall. Forwarded to S. Glass
3324	16/06/09	Cllr Humphries	Copy of Boundary Review update. Forwarded to S. Glass
3326	16/06/09	Alliance & Leicester	Regarding problems transferring money from Current to Community Reserve account. Resolved.
3327	16/06/09	WALC	June newsletter. 1 copy to S. Glass, 1 copy filed.
33329	16/06/09	Brennans of Wiltshire.	Quote for repairs to Hoppers Lane footpath, Axford.

DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY JULY 21st 2008 7.45pm

RAMSBURY MEMORIAL HALL

ALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

YOU WILL BE VERY WELCOME - PLEASE COME