

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2008 in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

PRESENT: Diann Barnett, Paul Court, Alistair Ewing, Graeme Fearon, Cllr. Susan Findlay, Sheila Glass (Chairman), George Hawes, Helen Lloyd, Tim McQue, Chris Morgan, John Peck, Geoff Rissone, Ian Ritchie, Geoffrey Treherne, Sue Arnold (clerk), Cllr Humphries and 1 member of the public.

- 1 **Apologies for absence for approval:** Erica Hodgson – Approved. Mrs Hodgson was congratulated on the birth of her son.
- 2 **Disclosure of interest:** None
- 3 **The minutes of the meeting held on October 20th 2008** were approved unanimously (Proposed C. Morgan seconded I. Ritchie)
- 4 **Matters arising:**
 - a. **Resignation.** Geoffrey Treherne will be resigning from the Parish Council at the end of the year.
 - b. **Road closure for replacement of Lamplands and Cedar bridges.** The work is finished except for the paving of the walkways and the replacement of the depth marker. **Action: S. Glass to contact Wilts Highways.**
 - c. **Inaugural meeting of the Marlborough Area Board.** On introduction of the unitary authority in May 2009 the district councils will cease to exist. 20 community areas will be introduced, 19 of which will have Area Boards which will play a large part in local decision-making. Ramsbury will be covered by the Marlborough Community Area Board, which will consist of 4 Unitary Councillors who can vote and Parish Councillors who can't vote. While anyone can attend the board meetings, only 1 nominated representative from each organisation can speak. **Action: S. Glass to write objecting to the rules that do not allow parish councillors to vote.** S. Glass, D. Barnett and J. Peck attended a meeting of the pilot board which decided to test how the new organisation will work by working through a project. (See item 5 No 3706.) A meeting of a pilot board will take place on Tuesday Dec 16th at 7pm in Mildenhall Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend.
 - d. **Back lane traffic speed.** Not response as yet from County Hall.

5 NEW CORRESPONDENCE FOR DISCUSSION

3649	03/11/08	Dept of Communities & Local Government	Codes of conduct for local authority members and employees – a consultation document. Given to S. Glass.
3650	03/11/08	1 st Ramsbury Scouts	Road safety and provision of lighting near Scout Hall in Hilldrop Lane. Given to S. Glass. The PC investigated this some years ago and the cost was prohibitive. Action: S. Glass to check adjacent lighting facilities for further options and then respond.
3653	03/11/08	KDC	Christmas recycling and refuse collections. Action: Clerk to send to diary & parish mag – done.
3660	03/11/08	B. Tottenham	Offer by Amenity Group to provide trees and shrubs for area near new bridges and a request that the contractors encouraged to leave decent soil. WCC intends to replant this area. Once this is done the PC will contact Mr. Tottenham. S. Findlay suggested having a River Kennet sign by the river. Action: S. Glass to contact ARK and MADT.
3666	10/11/08	CPRE	The Big Tidy up. PC toolkit – given to S. Glass
3683	10/11/08	WCC	Tree Warden Scheme – walk for potential wardens. Forwarded to all councillors
3686	10/11/08	WCC	Free child protection awareness sessions on Wed 19 th Nov to anyone running clubs in voluntary sector. Enquiries to Angie Hael – 01225 718093.
3687	10/11/08	KDC	KDC resolutions following Core Strategy consultation in June. Forwarded to all councillors
3689	10/11/08	Community First	Workshop on involving young people. Forwarded to all councillors. H. Lloyd interested in attending. Action: Clerk to submit booking slip for H. Lloyd
3700	17/11/08	Mrs Need	Reporting fall in Back Lane caused by uneven surface on right hand side going away from Square, near gateway to field. Actions: 1. Clerk to ask parish steward to check and repair hole if it is on public property. Done. 2. S. Glass to check if it's on private property and if so write to resident.

3706	17/11/08	Marlborough Pilot Area Board	Pilot to be tested by working through a project, suggestions for project required – forwarded to all PC members. Action: S. Glass to suggest speeding and traffic.
3708	17/11/08	WCC	Electoral arrangements for new Wilts Council. Forwarded to all councillors
3709	17/11/08	Crowood estate	Proposed work to fences and grass-laying that will affect public footpath. Forwarded to Rights of Way Committee. Action: S. Glass to contact for further details.

6 COMMITTEE REPORTS

A Planning

Chairman: George Hawes

Planning Applications Processed since October 08 Report

K/58694/F	Change of use of land to enlarged garden and retention of tree platform thereon Preston Farmhouse Preston Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs E M B Grylls
PC Comment KDC Decision	Retrospective. No objection Enforcement notice served. Appeal Hearing 23.Oct.2008
K/58965/F	Change of use of land from agricultural to residential and construction of driveway and vehicular access from Marriage Hill thereon Preston Farmhouse Preston Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs E M B Grylls
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Enforcement notice served. Appeal hearing 23 October 2008
K/58564/F	Two storey rear extension Preston Farmhouse, Preston, Ramsbury Mr and Mrs E Grylls
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/59453/F	Creation of parking bay and retaining walls to each side of bay Poppy Cottage, 9 and 10 Union Street Ramsbury. Mrs Jennie Whiting
PC Comment KDC Decision	The parish Council objects to the retrospective nature of this application but on balance not to the works proposed as this is a very narrow street and any off street parking provision is helpful. Refused
K/59316/F	Removal of wall below window and adaptation of opening to allow purpose made French doors to be fitted Old Bank, 19 High Street, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs Thomas Jonell
PC comment KDC Decision	No objection Withdrawn
K/58961/F	The building of an earth bund near to the highway [B4192] Preston Farmhouse Ramsbury Mr and Mrs EMB Grylls
PC Comment KDC Decision	The Parish Council objects to the retrospective nature of the application but not to the works proposed. Awaited
K/59363/TR2	The removal of a cedar tree in the rear garden of the property The Cedars, Scholards Lane Ramsbury. The owner/ occupier
PC Comment KDC Decision	The Parish Council objects to the removal of this tree which it considers an important landscape resource. If permission is granted we would like a condition requiring replacement Awaited
K/59499/F	Two storey rear extension. Single storey side extension 20 Kennet Rise Axford. Mr and Mrs Lee Davies Replaces 2 previous applications nos K/58631/F and K/59239/F
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/59668/TR2	The topping of four lime trees away from the phone lines and the power lines, comprising a reduction of 25% in total. The trees are situated on the right hand side of the garden The Limes 22 Oxford Street Ramsbury. Mrs. S Suchopar
PC Comment KDC Decision	In circulation Awaited
K/59716/F	Proposed single storey flat roof side garage/office extension and two storey side extension. 3 Ashley Piece Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs M Orford

PC Comment KDC Decision	
K/59456/LBC	Remove existing cement render and replace with lime render and lime wash. Replace existing plastic rainwater goods with cast iron. A new metal conservation roof vent to the inner south facing slope. Re roofing all the existing roof coverings and lead gutters using slate, handmade red clay tiles and lead to match existing. Replacing the existing polycarbonate sheet and tanalised canopy to the east elevations and replacing it with a painted timber glazed canopy structure on a hand made brick plinth. Brick repairs and repointing using lime mortar to remove cement pointing and cement based facing repairs to bricks. The Cedars Scholarads Lane Ramsbury. Mr William Garrett
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/59489/TR2	The reduction of eight leylandii trees, situated in the side garden of the property, by approximately 5-6 feet to previous cutting points, [3 years old] with trimming of the sides The Red House, Back Lane Ramsbury. Mr P Kendall
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted

B Finance**Chairman: Ian Ritchie**

- a. **Audit plan.** This is on-going
- b. **British Gas.** Problems with the direct debit now seem to have been resolved. **Action: Clerk to take off agenda.**
- c. **KDC Cleansing Contract for public Conveniences.** An invoice has now been raised by KDC to cover the period June 07 - Sept 08. See item 18, item I1217.
- d. **Budget and Precept.** A draft budget and precept was given to all councillors to review prior to the December meeting when the PC will be asked to approve the budget. All were reminded that this is a draft so the grant figures are provisional and should not be disclosed to grant applicants until the precept is agreed.

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

- a. **Footpath at Crowood estate.** See item 5 no 3709.
- b. **Public access land.** A response has been received from WCC to a letter pointing out that open access land at Marridge Hill is isolated from the Rights of Way network. There is no requirement to make public access land accessible. **Actions: 1. G. Fearon to pursue with landowner. 2. A. Ewing to provide map showing who owns which local land.**
- c. **Style on Bolstridge path.** This is to be repaired.
- d. **Loft's bridge, Seven Bridges.** Loft's bridge has had its sluices removed leaving no handrail at the fastest and deepest river crossing at Seven Bridges. **Action: G. Fearon to contact E. Daly at WCC requesting handrail, plus chicken wire on all the bridges there that are slippery.**
- e. **Hoppers Lane footpath.** The contractor has started the work and is awaiting stone to finish the job.
- f. **Manor Lane footpath.** The clamp at the far end from the village was removed to facilitate access by wheelchairs, prams and motorized buggies. However there is now only one fence at the end of the path from the footpath to the road. **Action: S. Glass to organise replacement clamp positioned to allow access to buggies etc, but avoiding the direct run onto the road.**

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

- a. **Knowledge Crescent Play Area fence.** The work will be done after Christmas. **Action: S. Glass to find out where gas, electricity and water cables/pipes are located in advance. (Contacts: British gas, SEC, Thames water).**
- b. **RoSPA report.** **Action: P. Court to replace shackles on single point swing in Knowledge crescent play area and carry out other minor adjustments and repairs,**
- c. **New Play Equipment.** A 'zig-zag twister' has been installed at each of the play areas and they are being well used.
- d. **Trees for Ashley Piece play area.** The contractor has this in hand and they will be planted after Christmas.
- e. **Metal seat at Mill Lane.** This is corroded to the extent that one end has become detached from the base. **Action: P. Court to set a relocated seat on new base.**
- f. **Eroded foot path at Mill Lane bridges.** Erosion has now made this dangerous for buggies. **Action: G.Fearon to contact E. Daly.**
- g. **Seat on Sarsen Land at Knowledge Hill.** This is now dilapidated. **Action: S. Findlay to organise its removal.**

Chairman: Chris Morgan

E Emergency Committee

Street Wardens. Street wardens will deliver the latest Sustainable Community newsletter to residents for whom they are responsible. The newsletter includes an explanation of the role of emergency wardens and gives contact information. These details will also be put on the Ramsbury.org web site. Identification cards are being made for wardens. **Actions: 1. S. Glass to take 2 outstanding photos. 2. P. Court to forward 1 photo to J Peck**

F School Governor.

Governor: S. Findlay

- a. **Parent Governor.** A new Parent Governor has been appointed.
- b. **Book Week.** As part of book week author Jeremy Strong is talking and signing books.
- c. **The School Bazaar** will take place on 6th December.

G Recreation Centre. Nothing to report

Chairman: George Hawes

H Policy Committee.

Chairman: Sheila Glass

- a. **Freedom of Information Act.** The committee met to fill in the required template. Much of the information will be put on the website. A £5 fee plus 10p per sheet for photocopying will be charged for requests for information that is not on the website.
- b. **Phone calls. Action: Clerk to tell all callers that their calls are logged and will be recorded in the minutes, including caller's name.**

I Sustainable Community Committee

Chairman: Ian Ritchie

- a. **Hill Stores.** There is interest, but nothing firm as yet.
- b. **Newsletter for residents.** This is ready for distribution by the street wardens. It was suggested that the raven logo is used on subsequent newsletters,
- c. **Reduced price oil.** Chris Morgan is hoping to negotiate a contract at reduced cost with a company who could make multiple deliveries to Axford & Ramsbury. **Anybody with oil-fired heating who is interested should contact Chris ASAP (e-mail: chris_morgan@dsl.pipex.com or phone 520501)**

7 Public Forum.

B. Tottenham expressed alarm at the new structure of Area Boards and the confusion caused by various related organisations with similar acronyms (MADT, MCASP etc). He asked if the new structure was imposed by central government or devised by WCC. Cllr Humphries explained that the area boards were designed as a tool for community involvement in the absence of district councils. Mr. Tottenham agreed to publicise in the diary the meeting of the Marlborough Area Board to be held on Tuesday Dec 16th at 7pm in Mildenhall Village Hall. Members of the public will be welcome. **Action: S. Glass to provide text for the diary.** Mr Tottenham requested an explanation of the new structure for the January parish magazine and diary. **Actions: 1. S. Glass to provide text. 2. Clerk to send out 'rule book' of the new organisation to all who receive the minutes by e-mail.**

8 Axford.

- a. **Garages.** S. Findlay is awaiting information from Sarsen. **Action: S. Findlay to follow up.**
- b. **New pub sign.** The sign erected on the verge near the pub is obstructing the view of traffic coming from the Marlborough direction. It is believed that the KDC planning officer is investigating.

9 Nature Reserve.

Chris Morgan

No rent has been paid for the Nature reserve this year. **Action: Clerk to ask Wilts Wildlife trust to raise an invoice.** A cheque has been prepared (See item 18, no I1220)

10 Kennet Triangle at 2 Bridges, Mill Lane. Nothing to report

11 Community Bus.

- a. **New Bus.** This was delivered last week and drivers were invited to the surgery car park area to look it over and have a chance to drive it.
- b. **Drivers.** New drivers will be asked to take the MIDAS test (theory and practice).

12 Parish Stewards & Streetscene Cleaning

Parish Stewards: Action: Clerk to add the following to the list and report to Co-ordinator:
Manor Lane footpath needs cleaning.

Clarence. This is the mechanism to report highway problems – faulty lights, holes in the road etc and there is a freefone number that any member of the public can use– 0800 232323. **Actions: 1. Clerk to report large hole on Hildrop 600-700 metres Northwest of Hildrop Farm on the left-hand side going up, and grid lifted in Back Lane on road near Gallery 2. T. McQue to report street light out in Back Lane. 3. S. Glass to provide text about Clarence for diary.**

13 Vandalism. Nothing to report.

14 Memorial Hall.

- a. Toilets.** Taps in toilets are to be replaced with push type taps to avoid sinks being blocked then taps left running as recently happened.
- b. Lych Gate.** The offices have been let and the room available for hire is being well used.

15 Oral History. Disk has been sold at several events recently and will be on sale again at the School Bazaar on 6th December.

16 Access to PC Office. Keys were distributed to those who need them. **Action: S. Glass to follow up swipe card for A. Ewing**

17 Street Lighting.

- a. New lanterns.** 2 of the 3 are malfunctioning despite having been reported numerous times. The invoice will not be paid until they are working properly.
- b. Christmas lights.** Permission has now been granted to attach these to lamppost no 28 and replacement bulbs have been ordered.

18 Accounts for Payment

I1213	KDC – Rates for public Conveniences Direct debit due 01/12/08	69.00		0	No
I1214	British Gas – Electricity for Public Conveniences - direct debit due 28/11/08	25.00		0	No
I1215	PlusNet – Broadband for office. Due 08/11/08 by Direct Debit	9.99		1.49	No
I1216	Public Works Loan Board - Loan repayment due 30/11/08 by direct debit	1,870.31		0	No
I1217	KDC- Cleaning of public Conveniences June 2007 – Sept 2008	6,597.10		982.54	No
I1218	John Peck – Expenses re Unitary Authority open meeting	15.00		0	No
I1219	Ramsbury Memorial Hall – PC office rent and electricity	616.25		0	No
I1220	Wiltshire Wildlife - Annual rent for Nature Reserve (** awaiting invoice before payment made)	10.00		0	No
I1221	Playground Services – refit seats on play equipment	72.85		10.85	No
I1222	Supply & install zig-zag twister with grass tiles underneath at Ashley Piece, Knowledge Crescent & Axford play areas	3,689.50		549.50	No
I1223	S. Glass – plants for tubs in Square	44.95		6.70	No
I1224	S. Glass - plants for Memorial Garden	78.61		13.74	No
I1225	The Poppy Appeal – wreath for Remembrance Sunday	22.00		0	No
I1226	BT – Telephone Bill	65.65		9.77	No

Total Payments: £13,186.21. Proposed - Fearon. Seconded - G. Treherne. Approved.

Replacement cheque

I1175	S. Glass – replacement for lost cheque no 704 issued at July meeting	12.98			No
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19 Payments Received

R76	Sales of 6 Oral History disks at Chilton Foliat & Ramsbury events	29.99	03/11/08	Cash	
R77	Alliance & Leicester. Interest on instant reserve account October 1 st - 30 th due for payment 16 th Nov	96.28	16/11/08	Direct transfer	
R78	Mrs A. McFee – 1 oral history disk	7.99	11/11/08	Cheque	
R79	Antalis – payment for damage to tubs in Square	154.04	11/11/08	Cheque	

Total payments received: £288.30

23 Bank Balance on 01/11/08 CURRENT ACCOUNT: **£3,610.21**
COMMUNITY RESERVE ACCOUNT: **£31,844.41**

NB £12,000.00 transferred from Community Reserve account to current account on/10/11/08

24 Other Correspondence - as listed below:

3648	03/11/08	KDC	Funding for minor grants exhausted
3651	03/11/08	KDC	Appeal against enforcement notice re unauthorised change of use of land at Preston Farmhouse. 23 rd Oct 2008. Given to G. Hawes
3652	03/11/08	S & C Slater	Publicity material – developing and repairing play areas
3654	03/11/08	Citizens' Advice Bureau	Invitation to AGM & Annual public meeting, 6pm Thursday 13 th Nov 2008, CAB office, Devizes. Given to S. Glass
3655	03/11/08	Splash	Autumn update
3656	03/11/08	Great Western Ambulance Service	Newsletter. Given to S. Glass
3657	03/11/08	KDC	Appeal against enforcement notice re unauthorised change of use of land at Preston Farmhouse. 23 rd Oct 2008. Given to G. Hawes
3658	03/11/08	Arien	Glazed signs – publicity
3659	03/11/08	Sarsen Housing	Annual review 2008. Given to S. Glass
3661	10/11/08	Alliance & Leicester	Community Instant Reserve Account Statement on 04/11/08– £31,844.41
3662	10/11/08	Alliance & Leicester	Current Account Statement on 01/11/08– £3,610.21
3663	10/11/08	WALC	November newsletter & insertions. Given to S. Glass
3664	10/11/08	KDC	Cavity & Wall insulation discounts for people over 70 years old. See PC notice board for details
3665	10/11/08	Macro Groundcare Equipment Ltd	Brochure
3667	10/11/08	Public Works Loan board	Migration to new computer system – PC's payments to be reduced by 1p. PC pays by direct debit therefore no action necessary
3668	10/11/08	Clerks & Councils Direct	November newsletter
3669	10/11/08	WCC	Leaflets – helping you drive safely in adverse weather
3670	10/11/08	Playground Services Ltd	Specification and installation instructions for new zig-zag twister. Filed
3671	10/11/08	Mr A. Silman	Copy of e-mail sent to KDC planning dept re proposed work to 62 High Street. Copy given to G. Hawes
3672	10/11/08	Mr S. Hampton	Requesting information on parish boundary. S. Glass has responded
3673	10/11/08	WCC	Re October list for Parish Steward. Unfinished items to be carried over to November list
3674	10/11/08	WCC	Tidying up and re-instatement work around Cedars & Lamplands bridges to be undertaken w/c/3 rd Nov.
3675	10/11/08	CPRE	Countryside Voice magazine. Given to S. Glass
3676	10/11/08	Clarence	Request to attach connection to lamp in Square for Christmas lights forwarded to Street Lighting dept
3677	10/11/08	Ravensbury Players	Querying whether their grant application has been received as hadn't noticed it on minutes. Responded – it was listed under 'other correspondence' and passed to finance committee.
3678	10/11/08	Mouchel Ltd	Will survey lighting column which Christmas lights will be attached to.
3679	10/11/08	Cllr Humphries	Back on duty following hospitalisation

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3680	10/11/08	Cllr Humphries	Copy of e-mail sent to KDC (Eden Speller) in response to PC's request for his help in getting permission to attach Christmas lights to lighting column
3681	10/11/08	KDC	Copy of e-mail sent to KDC (Bob Hussey) by Eden Speller in response to Cllr Humphries' request for his help in getting permission to attach Christmas lights to lighting column
3682	10/11/08	Mr M. Tester	In response to letter to Crowood lane residents regarding proposed sign to no's 11 – 14 and Arcadia – strongly in favour.
3684	10/11/08	Cllr Humphries	Promoting disability equality in Wiltshire. Forwarded to all councillors
3685	10/11/08	WCC	Parish newsletter. Forwarded to all councillors
3688	10/11/08	Marlborough Area Board.	Poster for launch meeting. (Details already circulated to all councillors)
3690	10/11/08	KDC	Electronic version of Christmas arrangements for recycling and refuse collection. Forwarded to parish mag and diary
3698	17/11/08	Sports & Play Construction Association	Invitation to exhibition & seminars - Sandown Race Course 25/11/08
3699	17/11/08	British Gas	Statement of charges to 31/10/08 - £28.87 – covered by payment plan
3701	17/11/08	SEC	Chasing payment for lanterns. No number left for response. Lights will not be paid for until repaired.
3702	17/11/08	MCASP	Requesting updates on projects. Action: Clerk to respond.
3703	17/11/08	KDC (Bob Hussey)	Permission to attach Christmas lights to street lights
3704	17/11/08	MCASP	Next meeting of MCASP – wed 10 th December, 7.00pm in Burbage village hall. Forwarded to S. Glass
3705	17/11/08	WCC	Rights of Way newsletter. Electronic version forwarded to ROW committee members, paper version in office.
3707	17/11/08	Aldbourne PC	Aldbourne PC have voted not to take on any delegated duties
3710	17/11/08	WCC highways	Confirming this week is ok for receipt of copy of PC's insurance for Christmas lights
3711	17/11/08	Wilts Fire & Rescue Service	Press release. Safe Drive Stay Alive campaign for year 11 students

DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY DECEMBER 8th 2008 7.45pm

MEMORIAL HALL, RAMSBURY

WINE AND MINCE PIES WILL BE SERVED

ALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

YOU WILL BE VERY WELCOME - PLEASE COME