

# RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 19<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2009 IN RAMSBURY MEMORIAL HALL

PRESENT: Paul Court, Alistair Ewing, Graeme Fearon, Cllr. Susan Findlay, Sheila Glass (Chairman), George Hawes, Erica Hodgson, Helen Lloyd, Chris Morgan, John Peck, Geoff Rissone, Ian Ritchie, Sue Arnold (clerk), Cllr Humphries Ms Joanna Price (Head teacher of Ramsbury School) and 5 members of the public.

**Presentation on Ramsbury School.** Before the formal start of the meeting Ms Price, Head teacher of Ramsbury School gave a short presentation on the school's 'Our Great New Space' project. Since the removal of the old mobile classroom which was no longer fit for purpose, the school has been very short of space for music lessons, drama, and hearing individual children read. The school is hoping to raise £75,000 in order to provide a building that will meet these needs and be ready for use in September. The school has started fundraising with a number of events planned for the near future and some funds have already been raised from, among others, a Roxy cinema screening on Jan 18<sup>th</sup>. Collecting boxes for donations will be placed at strategic places around the village. Ms Price asked for ideas from the community for further events and asked for the PC's support in encouraging villagers to get involved in fundraising events.

- 1 Apologies for absence for approval:** Diann Barnett, Tim McQue – Approved.
- 2 Disclosure of interest:** C. Morgan - Item 6A no K/59744/F.
- 3 The minutes of the meeting held on December 8<sup>th</sup> 2008** were approved with a change to page 612, item 5 no 3721 – change *re-pant* to *re-plant* (Proposed C. Morgan, seconded G. Hawes)
- 4 Matters arising:**  
H. Lloyd reported on the 'Involving Young People' seminar she had attended, where getting young people involved when producing a parish plan was suggested. They had no instant fixes for dealing with vandalism. She volunteered to attend any further 'Involving Young People' seminars.

### 5 NEW CORRESPONDENCE FOR DISCUSSION

3797	05/01/09	Mr & Mrs Brooks	Supporting application for garage and storeroom at the Hop House. Given to S. Glass
3816	05/01/09	Mrs A. Storm	Request for gritting Loves Lane. Forwarded to S. Glass. <b>Action: Clerk to follow up PC's request for additional grit bin in Loves Lane.</b>
3847	12/01/09	Savernake PC	Response to application for the Marlborough medical practice to be included in the Pharmaceutical list. Forwarded to S. Glass. (See also 3861). The Parish Council agreed to write expressing concern that the application could lead to further losses of business (in the form of other pharmacies) from the High Street. <b>Action: Clerk to send letter.</b>
3849	12/01/09	Cllr Humphries	Copy of e-mail from Thames Water explaining cold weather causing sharp rise in burst water mains.
3855	12/01/09	KDC	Phone call. Recycling skip services will continue when new WC takes over service in April
3861	12/01/09	Kennet Pharmacy	Application for pharmacy at Marlborough Medical Practice. (See also 3847 above). See 3847.
3869	12/01/09	Mr. R. Price	Land between Froxfield Road / Newtown Road junction and first bridge on Froxfield road on right-hand side of road. It is understood that there is a right of access to the river at this point, but that there are dead trees etc blocking it. The Amenity group would like permission to clear it (See also item 7). <b>Action: Clerk to write to Mr &amp; Mrs Dallas to clarify ownership of this piece of land.</b>
3873	19/01/09	WCC	Pedestrian warning signs, Back Lane. WCC cannot support a sign for Back Lane as it is "not a classified road and only residential areas are accessed by the road, therefore persons using this road will be fully aware that there may be pedestrians walking in the road edge through 200 yards that are not covered by pavement". <b>Action: Clerk to respond that this is a well-used road, the main route to school and church, a bus route, it appears on satnav systems, includes access to a business and is used in preference to the High Street by many drivers.</b>

3875	19/01/09	Mrs R. Cheney	Telephone call. Tree from her land has fallen onto Nature Reserve. Details given to C. Morgan. C. Morgan has responded that the wood can be cut up, stacked and left.
3878	19/01/09	WCC	Wiltshire Core Strategy – Planning consultation. Forwarded to planning committee members. There is to be a seminar on the new procedures on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb at 7.00 in Marlborough. <b>Actions: 1. Any Planning Committee member who wishes to attend should contact clerk by 26<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2: Clerk to respond to WCC with names.</b>
3884	19/01/09	MS. S. J. Williamson	Thanks to PC for organising Dyers Yard sign, plus dog mess on High Street is getting worse. Clerk has responded asking for details of culprits.
3885	19/01/09	Neighbourhood Policing team	Survey regarding Neighbourhood policing. The PC commented that there are no longer police surgeries and no officer has attended a PC meeting for a while. A. Ewing reported that there had been some new initiatives in Farm Watch. Cllr Humphries has commented to the Police Authority that neighbourhood policing is not visible in the N. E. Wilts police area in which Ramsbury is situated.

## 6 COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A Planning

**Chairman: George Hawes**

NB. D. Barnett has agreed to join the Planning Committee to cover Axford's view of planning applications.

#### Planning Applications Processed since December 08

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/59927/F	New vehicular and pedestrian access from Union Street Sunnybank, 13 Union Street Ramsbury. Mr David Kerwood
PC Comment KDC Decision	The Parish Council feels that the high walls and gates do not fit in with the surrounding developments. No objection to the access. Awaited
K/59744/F	Single storey side extensions 2 The Paddocks, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs Christopher Morgan
PC comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
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/59945/LBC	Internal and external alterations to building 27 High Street Ramsbury. Mr M Palmer
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/59958/F	The erection of a stable building to provide 3 loose boxes and tack room, the erection of a hay store, provision of hard standing Land off Hilldrop Lane Ramsbury. Mr M Murray
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/59968/ADV	Erection of free standing pub sign to attract passing trade The Red Lion Inn, Axford. Mr John Molyneux

PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection but re-site requested 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	In circulation Granted
K/59773/F	Building of detached garage and store room with gymnasium underneath The Hop House Tankard Lane Ramsbury. Mr Julian Cockwell
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection provided that adequate screening is planted on the Scholards Lane boundary Granted
K/59800/TR2	Works to trees within the churchyard to consist of: the pollarding of 12 lime trees, crown raising of two maple trees by one metre to clear the footpath, the cutting back of one Norway maple tree to clear the adjacent building by 1.5 metres, the felling of one willow tree to clear the neighbouring property and the crown raising of two further Norway maples by 1.5 metres Holy Cross Church Ramsbury. Mrs J Handford
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/59826/F and K/59828/LBC	Alterations to verges and kerb lines and reversal of current access/exit gates. Installation of illuminated bollards. Alterations to Littlecote House to create four new guest bedrooms. Conversion and extension of laundry to create five guest bedrooms. Conversion of stalls in the barnyard to create craft areas. Erection of link from barnyard to existing bedroom block. Conversion of Bothy to garden study. Littlecote House Hotel, Littlecote. Warner Leisure Hotels
PC Comments KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/59841/F and K/59842/LBC	Single storey lean-to extension, replacement of existing landing window with dormer window. Rose cottage, 13 Back Lane Ramsbury. Mrs Julia Blunt
PC Comment KDC Decision	In circulation Awaited

## B Finance

Chairman: Ian Ritchie

- a. **Audit plan.** The PC would like an example of an audit plan that the internal auditors approve. **Action: Clerk to send letter to auditors asking for example.**
- b. **School's 'Our New Space' project.** The PC decided to await firmer plans before deciding if it could give any financial support. Sponsorship from this year's Boundary Walk will go to the project.

## C Rights of way

Chairman: Graeme Fearon

- a. **Loft's bridge, Seven Bridges.** This is awaiting inspection by a WCC engineer. It was reported that the bridge at Chilton Foliat has had an application of effective anti-slip material. **Action: G. Fearon to inspect.**
- b. **Footpath maps.** A new draft map of Rights of Way in Ramsbury & Axford has been produced. This will be distributed with information on the Boundary Walk.
- c. **Surgery Footpath.** Still awaiting response from Probation Service Community Payback team.
- d. **Hoppers Lane footpath.** Awaiting report.
- e. **Boundary Walk.** Plans are in place for the walk on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. A brochure for the walk is being produced and sponsorship will go to the school. Volunteers are needed to drive the Flyer. C. Morgan volunteered. A. Ewing was thanked for help in establishing which land owners should be contacted for permission for the walk to cross their land.
- f. **Open Access land near Marrison Hill.** **Action: A. Ewing to help G. Fearon establish who owns the land.**
- g. **Ramsbury to Marlborough Cycle Track.** A previous attempt to establish this track failed because permission was not granted by the Ramsbury Manor Estate to allow minor improvements to a part of the track on their land. The PC is now looking into the possibility of Ramsbury Estates giving permission to use their land for this portion of the route.

- h. Crowood Estate – Fencing Work.** S. Glass has had a site meeting with Mr. Dennis and reported that a minor deviation to the path caused by the fencing will not be a problem. Stiles will be included and the footpath to Love Copse will not be impeded. The path will be between the new fence and the hedge.

**D Play Areas and Seats.**

**Chairman: Paul Court**

- a. Knowledge Crescent Play Area.** Sarsen's insurers, Zurich, want a safety surface to be installed under the springers, while RosPA states that well-maintained grass is acceptable. **Action: S. Glass to arrange a meeting with Sarsen to resolve the matter.**
- b. Knowledge Crescent Play Area fence.** The work will start soon.
- c. Swing at Knowledge Crescent Play Area.** Playground Services reported to the PC that the swing's frame was rotting. This was inspected by RoSPA a few weeks ago and the only problem found was that the shackles needed tightening. The swing has been checked again and no defect in the frame has been identified.
- d. Ashley Piece Play Area.** R. Copp is planting 2 trees and erecting tree guards.
- e. Seat at Knowledge Hill Play Area.** This has fallen apart. **Action: P. Court to remove.**

**E Emergency Committee**

Nothing to report.

**Chairman: Chris Morgan**

**F School Governor.**

**Governor: S. Findlay**

- a. The Times Newspaper's 'Tokens for Books' Tokens.** The school would welcome donations of these.

**G Recreation Centre.**

**Chairman: George Hawes**

- a. New Pavilion - Vandalism.** This was the subject of major vandalism on the first day it was open. Attacks took place on the nights of 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> of December. **There is a reward of £500 leading to the prosecution of those responsible. Anyone with any information should contact PC Batchelor – 0845 408 7000 ext 739818, or e-mail [Jeremy.batchelor@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Jeremy.batchelor@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk) or anonymously via Crime Stoppers – 0800 555 111.**

**H Policy Committee.**

Nothing to report

**Chairman: Sheila Glass**

**I Sustainable Community Committee**

**Chairman: Ian Ritchie**

- a. Allotments.** 14 people have put their name on a list for allotments. The Horticultural Society supports this initiative. **Action: A. Ewing to investigate possibility of area for allotments.**
- b. Reduced price oil.** 8 residents have expressed interest in the scheme to negotiate a contract at reduced cost with a company who could make multiple deliveries to Axford & Ramsbury. **Action: C. Morgan to discuss with D. Stoyle possibility of including Holy Cross Church in the scheme.**

**7 Public Forum.**

- a. B. Tottenham** drew the PC's attention to items in the PC's minutes in 1992 and 1994 referring to the land that is the subject of Mr. Price's letter. See item 6 no 3869. He emphasised that the Amenity group were willing to clear the land with the permission of Highways/the landowner and the PC. He referred to the muddy areas left at the road sides after the bridge works and asked if Highway would seed them. It was reported that some of these have been re-seeded in the past couple of days. The amenity group would also like to plant daffodils on the verges near the bridge. It was suggested that small species daffodils would be more appropriate than showier varieties, but that any daffodils might suffer when mown.

**8 Axford.** No report.

- 9 Marlborough Pilot Area Board.** The next meeting will take place in the Memorial hall here in Ramsbury on 27<sup>th</sup> January at 7.00pm. The Chairman and vice chairman will attend. All councillors and the public are welcome to attend and observe.

**10 Nature Reserve.**

Nothing to report

**Chris Morgan**

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

**12 Community Bus.**

**MIDAS driver training.** The first batch of drivers will undertake MIDAS training (for those who drive community minibuses) in February.

**13 Parish Stewards & Streetscene Cleaning**

- a. Jobs for Steward's next visit.** **Action: Any jobs should be reported to the clerk by 25<sup>th</sup> Jan.**

- b. Previous jobs. Action: A. Ewing to check if collapsed drain has been repaired.**  
**c. Drive to Preston Farmhouse.** Water is running off the road onto the drive. **Action: Clerk to report to Highways.**

#### 14 Vandalism.

- a. Rec Centre.** See Item 6G – Vandalism at Rec Centre & Reward  
**b. Broken windows.** A window at the Memorial Hall and one at Kidson Trigg were broken by a football on the same evening as the criminal damage was carried out on the Rec Centre. **Action: Clerk to add to list & report to police.**  
**c. Note:** following the meeting S. Blunt reported damage to the tiles on a roof over a single storey part of his house. The tiles appeared to have been levered off by a large stick which was left behind. **Action: Clerk to add to vandalism log.**

**15 Memorial Hall.** Nothing to report.

**16 Oral History.** A request for help in preparing the interview transcripts for publication is to be put into the Parish Magazine.

#### 17 Street Lighting.

**New lanterns.** These have now been mended.

#### 18 Public Conveniences

- a. Servicing of Wallgate units & Legionnaires testing.** Awaiting confirmation from KDC that these have been carried out.  
**b. Blocked drains.** These were cleared by Dyno-Rod in December. The problem was caused by a build up due to lack of fall in the drains. For this reason the contractor could not guarantee the work carried out.

#### 19 Accounts for Payment

I1236	KDC – Rates for public Conveniences Direct debit due 01/02/09	69.00		0	No
I1237	British Gas – Electricity for Public Conveniences - direct debit due 28/01/09	25.00		0	No
I1238	PlusNet – Broadband for office. Due 08/01/09 by Direct Debit. (VAT at 15%)	9.75		1.25	No
I1239	Dyno-Rod – unblocking public convenience drains VAT at 15%)	188.32		24.56	No
I1240	Bank charges incurred when 5 statements needed replacement (accidentally shredded) – see also payments received R85. <b>NB no cheque needed – deducted by bank from Instant Reserve Account</b>	25.00		0	No
I1241	S. Glass – gift for D. Arnold to recognise help given to PC	9.00		0	No
I1242	Tim Pope- repairing faults on lights in public conveniences (VAT at 15%)	111.96		14.60	No
I1243	R. A Copp – erecting safety barrier on western end of manor lane footpath	39.00		0	No
I1244	S. Arnold – refreshments for December PC meeting	25.35		0	No
I1245	S. Arnold – Clerk’s salary Oct – Dec 2008	875.00		0	No
I1246	S. Arnold – 4 books of stamps	14.04		0	No
I1247	KDC – Cleaning of public conveniences Oct – Dec 2008 (VAT charged at 15%)	1,259.07		164.22	No

**Total Payments: £2,650.49** Proposed –P. Court. Seconded – H. Lloyd. Approved.

#### 20 Payments Received

R85*	S. Arnold – repayment of bank charges incurred for 5 replacement statement accidentally shredded.	25.00	15/12/08	Cheque to Instant Reserve account	
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R86	Alliance & Leicester. Interest on instant reserve account December 1 <sup>st</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> due for payment 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	15.16	16/01/09	Direct transfer	
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**Total payments received: £40.16**

\*R85. The PC told the clerk that she should include a reimbursement for this on the February meeting agenda. **Action: Clerk.**

**21 Bank Balance on 01/12/08**      CURRENT ACCOUNT: - £4,188.48  
COMMUNITY RESERVE ACCOUNT - £14,984.88

**PLANNING COMMITTEE AXFORD VILLAGE HALL 7PM FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>**

**DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MONDAY FEBRUARY 16<sup>th</sup> 2009 7.45pm**

**MEMORIAL HALL, RAMSBURY**

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

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