

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20th APRIL 2009 in The Lych Gate Room, Ramsbury Memorial Hall

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

The chairman opened meeting by thanking Susan Findlay for her stalwart work representing Ramsbury for 22 years as a Kennet District councillor. Councillor Humphries said that Mrs Findlay had been granted the title Alderman in recognition of her work for KDC.

1 **Apologies for absence for approval:** Tim McQue – Approved.

2 **Disclosure of interest:** none

3 **Police Report**

a. No police officer attended the meeting, but it was reported that an arrest has been made in connection with the vandalism of the new pavilion at the Rec. Centre.

b. The 30 mph stickers for wheelie bins were welcomed – they have been distributed by police to residents on the roads into the village (Whittonditch & Newtown Road). **Action: S. Findlay to request stickers for Crowood Lane.**

c. PC Batchelor has spoken to the builders working near the square regarding their parked vehicles creating a hazard at the junction, but it appears to have had little effect.

4 **The minutes of the full council meeting held on March 16th 2009** were approved (Proposed G. Hawes, seconded D. Barnett). **The minutes of the extraordinary council meeting held on March 30th 2009** approved (Proposed J. Peck, seconded G. Hawes).

5 **Matters arising: Parking.** A notice is to be given to the Bell asking their patrons not to park opposite the front door as they may be ticketed. **Action: Clerk to provide notice.**

6 **NEW CORRESPONDENCE FOR DISCUSSION**

4050	06/04/09	Community First	Funds available for refurbishing playgrounds – forwarded to S. Glass & I. Ritchie. These funds are only available for regularly staffed playgrounds.
4054	06/04/09	Mrs A. Foale	Enquiring if garage in Knowledge Crescent available for rent. Action: Clerk to contact Mrs Foale with Sarsen's contact details.
4064	06/04/09	KDC	Thames Water has given notice to KDC that water to public conveniences in Ramsbury will be cut off due to non-payment of bill. This occurred because KDC failed to give PC's address to Thames Water when transferring responsibility for payment to the PC. The bill was sent to the KDC address and unpaid. KDC have dealt with this and the PC has now received a correctly addressed bill.
4070	06/04/09	Cllr Humphries	New planning procedure for referring planning applications to WC planning committee from 1 st April. E-mail and accompanying form needed sent to all councillors
4075	06/04/09	B. Tottenham	On behalf of Amenity Group. Photo of Newtown road, Froxfield Road junction and extracts from minutes of PC meeting of 1994 re ownership of verges at this junction. Given to S. Glass. (Further correspondence listed under item 26). The Amenity Group is to fund this work.
4083	06/04/09	T. Payne	Phone call. Offering Dharma Services to maintain Memorial Garden. Action S. Glass to turn down the offer. S. Glass, D. Barnett, S. Arnold and P. New were thanked for their work on the garden.
4090	06/04/09	Mrs Heron-Watson	Phone call offering Mr Powrie's records of River Kennet flows, water extraction etc going back 30 years. Accepted and received. Action: S. Findlay to let ARK know the council has the records.
4092	06/04/09	Mrs Heron-Watson	Phone call – teenagers camping on field near scout hall have left behind rubbish.

4107	13/04/09	Mrs Edmonds	Details of Aldbourne's allotment arrangements. Given to S. Glass. See also Item 8.I.a
4118	13/04/09	MCASP/ MAVCAP	Request for update in purchase of equipment in place of fence at Knowledge Crescent play area. Action: S. Glass to respond that the choice of equipment is under discussion.
4120	13/04/09	S. Smith	Expressing interest in being co-opted as a parish councillor. Mr. Smith was unable to attend this meeting. Action: Clerk to write inviting him to attend the next meeting.
4125	20/04/09	HM Revenue & Customs	Invitation to 1 day workshop on VAT for local councillors 16 th or 17 th Sept, Bristol (free). Vat claim forms. Action: Clerk to book place.
4126	20/04/09	WC	Parish Steward Scheme – Appointed contact training day, 19 th May, Lockeridge, morning plus optional afternoon. Action: J. Peck to attend.
4129	20/04/09	Thames Water	Re outstanding bill – will take action. Both KDC and Ramsbury PC have explained that the unpaid bill was sent to the wrong address and reached the PC after the last meeting and payment will be sent tomorrow.
4132	20/04/09	CPRE	Does PC want Fieldwork newsletter electronically? Action: Clerk to confirm we want electronic copy and circulate to all councillors.

7 COMMITTEE REPORTS

A Planning

Chairman: George Hawes

a. Planning Applications Processed since March 09

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 Wilts Decision	Retrospective. No objection Enforcement notice served. Appeal dismissed
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 Wilts Decision	No objection Enforcement notice served. Appeal dismissed
K/58564/F	Two storey rear extension Preston Farmhouse, Preston, Ramsbury Mr and Mrs E Grylls
PC Comment Wilts Decision	No objection Awaited
E/09/0155/TCA	The removal of a leylandii hedge situated at the southern edge of the car park area to the east of the cottage. N.B. Replacement planting is proposed. Cramer Cottage, Scholars Lane Mr. D. Arnold
PC Comment Wilts Decision	No objection Granted
E/09/0199/FUL and E/09/0201/CAC	Demolition of existing detached house and replacement with a new 3 bedroom detached house 14 Burdett Street Ramsbury. Mr. H. J. Hyams
PC comment Wilts Decision	No objection Refused
K/58961/F	The building of an earth bund near to the highway [B4192] Preston Farmhouse Ramsbury Mr and Mrs EMB Grylls
PC Comment Wilts Decision	The Parish Council objects to the retrospective nature of the application but not to the works proposed. Awaited
E/09/0284/FUL	Alteration and extension of existing house. Construction of new underground garage and driveway/vehicle turning area, with hard and soft landscaping. Sunnybank 13 Union Street Ramsbury. Mr David Kerwood
PC Comment Wilts Decision	No objection Awaited
E/09/0288/ADV	Removal of existing signs and replacement with illuminated stone monolith and small non-illuminated aluminium totem Littlecote House Hotel, Hungerford Warner Leisure Hotels Ltd

PC Comment Wilts Decision	In circulation Awaited
E/09/0236/FUL	Enlargement of residential cartilage into field; retention of trampoline recessed into ground Preston Farmhouse Ramsbury Mr and Mrs EMB Grylls
PC Comment Wilts Decision	Retrospective. No objection Granted
E/09/0246/FUL	Erection of two storey side extension, erection of wall to front of property Bayford Cottage Chapel Lane Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs Byfield
PC Comment Wilts Decision	No objection Granted
E/09/0089/Ful	Demolition of existing farm buildings. Construction of three new farm buildings, comprising one sleep/feed building for cattle, one general purpose building and one implement/general purpose building with rest room for farm staff. Howe Mill Estate, Newtown Road, Ramsbury. Sir Martyn Arbib
PC Comment Wilts Decision	No objection Granted
E/09/0314/FUL	Single storey rear extension Crown and Anchor Ramsbury
PC Comment Wilts Decision	No objection Awaited
E/09/0341/FUL	Proposed two storey front extension and single storey side/rear sunroom extension Meadows Whittonditch Road Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs T Pope
PC Comments Wilts 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 Wilts Decision	No objection Awaited
E/09/0404/LBC	Removal of brick infill to existing window opening and insertion of new timber sliding sash window. New 6 panel external doors. Reinstate timber mullioned window to north elevation. Reinstate brickwork to east elevation including repairs to damaged brickwork and flat arch lintels The Cedars, Scholards Lane Ramsbury. Mr William Garrett
PC Comments Wilts Decision	In circulation Awaited
E/09/0411/TCA	The felling of an apple tree, described as ancient situated at the extreme west end of the garden at the property Rafters 9 Orchard Close. Mr C J Inward
PC Comment Wilts Decision	No objection Awaited

B Finance

Chairman: Ian Ritchie

- a. **Annual Accounts.** There is a shorter timescale this year for submission of accounts to the external auditor. Work is in progress.
- b. **Audit Plan.** I Ritchie and clerk are to meet to prepare audit plan.
- c. **Flyer.** C. Morgan, E. Judge and I. Ritchie are to meet to discuss the finance for the flyer, including vehicle depreciation and provision for an eventual replacement vehicle. **Actions: 1. Bus group to write to George Batten at WC regarding WC's provision for community buses. 2. Clerk to provide C. Morgan with WC's address.** The AGM of the Flyer is on 7th May when a rep. From Community First will talk about managing the community bus, should a replacement not be provided every 5 years, as it was when KDC had responsibility for the scheme.

C Rights of way

Chairman: Graeme Fearon

- a. **Surgery Footpath.** This has been cleared by the Probation Service Community Payback team and the skip finally collected.

- b. Hoppers Lane footpath.** This work has been finished.
- c. Boundary Walk.** A booklet and village footpath map will be delivered to every house within the village. Copies will be given to each child in the school and to Midway Stores. Walkers are being asked to be sponsored in aid of Ramsbury School's 'Big New Space' project. It was suggested the information should be sent to the school using the parent's mail facility. New cards have been printed that will record how many people do the walk and how much of the walk they do. **Catering.** Pre-school will provide tea and cakes in the afternoon and hot drinks at lunchtime. Fiona Kimber and Debbie Marshall will provide morning coffee and Geoff Treherne will provide drinks at Stitchcombe. **Portaloos.** 2 will be provided at Preston and the lunch stop and 1 each at Stitchcombe and the airfield. **The Flyer's** timetable is included in the leaflet and will be displayed on an A-Board in the Square. Bottled water has been ordered from Midway Stores on a sale or return basis. **'Police Slow' Signs. Action: G. Hawes to collect.**
- d. Loft's bridge, Seven Bridges.** No progress to report.
- e. Mill Lane Bridges. Action: S. Glass to enquire if the Probation Service Community Payback team can undertake the re-grading work.**
- f. Rights of access to the river. Action: Anyone with any information on the history of access points to the river should contact Graeme Fearon.**
- g. Walking Maps.** It was noted that most maps had now been sold and a reprint would be needed soon. **Action: Clerk to put on May agenda.**

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

- a. Knowledge Crescent Play Area.** No further response has been received following a meeting with representative of Sarsen's insurers, Zurich, who wants a safety surface to be installed under the springers.
- b. Single Point Swings, Knowledge Crescent and Whittonditch. Action: P. Court to fit safety chains on the single point swings to prevent them falling on someone should they come apart.**
- c. Knowledge Crescent Play Area – New Equipment.** There is a limited amount of equipment within the PC's budget of £1,500. **Actions: 1. G. Fearon to provide S. Glass with a list of equipment suitable for primary school children that falls within the budget. 2. S. Glass to pass list to Ramsbury Primary School and the Youth Club for children to make a choice as the Zig-zag equipment they chose last time has proved very popular.**
- d. Seats at Knowledge Hill Play Area and Mill Lane. Outstanding Action: P. Court to remove both.**
- e. Slide at Ashley Piece Playground.** This needs refurbishment.

E Emergency Committee**Chairman: Chris Morgan**

- a. Wardens' Identity Cards. Actions: 1. J. Peck to provide his photo for the warden's identity card. 2. S. Glass to take outstanding 5 photos.**
- b. Introductory leaflets about wardens scheme.** Mrs M. Manning has requested additional leaflets. **Action E. Hodgson to find spares for Mrs. Manning**

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

- a. 'Our Great News Space' project.** The PC was given a letter from the school, thanking the PC for its offer of a grant of £4,000. £50K has now been raised, with £25K more to raise. Upcoming funding events include a bridge afternoon, fun run, auction, summer fete and sponsored walker on the Boundary walk.
- b. Village Clean-up.** Awaiting a response from the school.

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

Open Day. There will be an open day at the Recreation Centre on 25th April. The new pavilion will be formally opened at 12.30.

H Policy Committee.

Nothing to report

Chairman: Sheila Glass**I Sustainable Community Committee****Chairman: Ian Ritchie**

- a. Allotments.** A 3rd site is now being investigated. Information has been received from Aldbourne PC that makes the provision of allotments more viable for landowners. This would involve the PC leasing land from the landowner and subletting to allotment holders. It avoids the land becoming allotments in perpetuity.
- b. Grants available.** E.U money is available for rural development and sustainability projects such as village transport, shops and allotments. The South Wessex Downs AONB is administering the scheme and looking for applications.
- c. Reduced price oil.** 1 resident has now negotiated a reduced cost deal.

8 Public Forum

Parking in the High Street. Mrs Linford asked if alternative arrangements were possible. The chairman explained that this had been looked at many times, but that there was little that could be done.

9 Axford.

Co-option of Councillor. See item 6 no. 4120.

10 Annual Assembly, AGM and 2009-10 Committees

- a. The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on 11th May. Action: All committee chairmen to e-mail a report to clerk by 10th May.**
- b. AGM - Committees.** There was some discussion as to whether a larger planning committee was needed under the new procedures. It was decided to wait until the new Wiltshire Council system beds down before making a decision. **Action: Any councillor who would like to add to or change the committees they sit on should email the clerk prior to the AGM on the 11th May.**
- c. AGM – Chairman & Vice-chairman of the PC. Action: Councillors should e-mail nominations for these posts to the clerk prior to the AGM.**

11 Marlborough Area Board

MAVCAP. D. Barnett has put her name forward for election as vice-chairman to try to ensure village as well as Marlborough representation.

12 Nature Reserve.

Grass cutting. The rota will start in May.

Chris Morgan

- 13 Kennet Triangle at 2 Bridges, Mill Lane.** The dog fouling notice has been knocked over repeatedly. **Action: S. Glass to cement into place.**

14 Best Kept Village Competition.

- a. Entry.** An acknowledgement of Ramsbury's entry has been received.
- b. Public Conveniences.** Damage to the door needs repairing. **Action: S. Glass to coat door.**
- c. Village clean-up.** It is hoped the school will do this – response awaited.
- d. Dog mess.** This has become a problem again. **Action: Clerk to put up notices.**
- e. Visit by the hunt.** A. Ewing spoke to the organisers before the event and the Square was left cleaner this year.

15 'Age No Barrier Week'

The village has been asked to organise an event to raise the profile of older people and show that there is no barrier to their participation in the community. It was felt that is a lot of participation by older people in Ramsbury, but a village clean-up was suggested. **Action: All councillors to consider possible events for discussion at the May meeting.**

- 16 Community bus.** See item 7.B.c

17 Youth Involvement

Helen Lloyd

The PC considered that early teens are catered for by the Youth Club and Scouts and they young people with an interest in sports are generally well catered for in the village, but there is little provision for older teenagers who are not interested in sport. The provision of a meeting place was discussed, but such an area would need to be supervised. **Action: All councillors to consider possibilities for discussion at the May meeting.**

18 Parish Stewards & Streetscene Cleaning

Jobs for Steward's April visit.

Clean White local sign at end of Newtown Road

Clear nettles in Scholar's Lane

Clear weeds along base of wall at The Paddocks

Cut back trees overhanging footpath no 2. They belong to the Rec centre which has no objection.

Action: Clerk to submit list to Highways

19 Vandalism.

A lady in the High Street has reported that petrol was siphoned from her car while it was parked there.

20 Memorial Hall.

- a. **Access.** A door is to be put into the Lych Gate room to give access across the courtyard to the main hall.
- b. **Indoor bowling club.** The new indoor bowling club has a constitution. They will meet twice-weekly from September. The club has asked the PC to pay for 1 bowling mat at a cost of £200. **Action: Clerk to put on May's agenda.**

21 **Oral History.** 2 new volunteers are now working on proof-reading and correcting the transcripts. 2 scripts have been done so far.

22 **Street Lighting.** A defective street light in Crowood lane was first reported about a month ago and has been reported several times since.

23 Public Conveniences.

- a. **Lights.** The lights in the ladies' toilets have been fixed.
- b. **Doors.** See item 14b.
- c. **Flush** in the ladies' toilet hard to use. **Action: Clerk to report to cleaner.**
- d. **Ivy** growing over windows. The cleaner has removed this.

24 Accounts for Payment

I1265	Wiltshire Council - rates for Public Conveniences Due 01/05/09	73.50		0	No
I1266	British Gas – Electricity for Public Conveniences - direct debit due 28/04/09 (VAT at 5%)	25.00		1.20	No
I1267	PlusNet – Broadband for office. Due 07/04/09 by Direct Debit. (VAT at 15%)	9.75		1.25	No
I1268	IWS - Cleaning & Disinfection of water tank at public conveniences (VAT at 15%)	308.55		40.25	No
I1269	IWS – Delay due to missing keys (Key with Dyno-Rod)	107.32		0	No
I1270	MBC Badge Company- badges for boundary walk. (VAT at 15%)	358.80		46.80	No
I1271	Town Printers – Boundary walk cards. (VAT at 15%)	97.75		12.75	No
I1272	Axford Village Hall 0 hire of hall for planning meeting on 4 th Feb	10.00		0	No
I1273	Salisbury DBF – Glebe land rent	150.00		0	No
I1274	S. Arnold - Deferred to May meeting– awaiting credit card statement to ensure payment taken for 1 & 1 Internet for hosting web site (£62.08)				
I1275	Thames Water – water for public conveniences 6/10/08 – 11/01/09	26.74		0	No
I1276	S. Glass – topsoil & grass seed for play area. (VAT at 5%)	8.73		1.14	No
I1279	Midway Stores – Newspapers for library w/e07/03/09 – w/e/28/03/09	6.20		0	No
I1280	Community First – ‘Getting involved’ training for H. Lloyd on 7 th March. (VAT @ 15%)	28.75		3.75	No
I1281	Treloar Trust – Plants for Memorial Garden	15.00		0	No
I1282	S. Arnold – stationery for office(daybook)	3.78		0	No
I1283	Thames Water - water for public conveniences 12/01/09 – 08/04/09	24.74		0	No
I1277	Town Printers - Boundary Walk Booklet	322.00		42.00	No

Total Payments: £1,576.61. Proposed –P. Court, Seconded - E. Hodgson. Approved.

25 Payments Received

R91	Alliance & Leicester. Interest on instant reserve account March 1 st – 31 st due for payment 16 th April	1.09	16/04/09	Direct transfer	
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