

Radwinter Parish Council

MINUTES of the Meeting

Held on Monday 3rd July 2006 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present:

Cllrs J Hardisty (Ch); H Brown; M Halls; A Jarvis; Mrs G Simmonds; with the Clerk, R A Jones, in attendance and Mr & Mrs Sandy

Public Session:

Prior to the meeting Gary & Nikki Sandy gave a presentation regarding the problems they are now encountering with their Equestrian Centre. They have an establishment of c20 acres with 36 Stables and an indoor Riding School and associated facilities. When they opened in 1998 there were 4 other 'true' livery stables in the area; there are now 17. They now have only 20 resident horses and face not only competition but also difficulty relating to their location with a busy road through the middle of the property. They are seeking advice and guidance as to how they can progress.

They have sought advice from the UDC without success. The matter was discussed and agreed to circulate the letter (to which comments should be attached) for the matter to be raised at the next meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence:

Cllrs K Moore, D Smith and D/Cllr S Schneider.

2. Minutes of previous Meeting:

held on 15th May had been previously circulated; it was noted that the presence of Cllr Simmonds had not been recorded, nor the apology from D/Cllr S Schneider. Subject to these amendments the minutes were adopted and signed by the Chairman

3. Reports from County & District Councillors:

None.

4. Continued items:

(A) Traffic, transport & related items:

The Clerk reported a letter of 14 June from UDC enquiring if any highway matters were outstanding that they wished to be raised in a meeting with ECC Highways directorate. The Chairman stated that he had reported at the West Area Forum that our relationship with Highways was excellent and we received good service. A number of items were mentioned for raising with Hways; (i) road surface by The Rectory is blistering and in poor condition compared with adjacent recent renovation; (ii) the cats' eyes have not been replaced after recent repair work from Bridgefoot to the Plough, and from Maple Lane to New House Farm (this may be a change in procedure); (iii) Kay Thomas has raised the possibility of flooding in Ashdon Road

due to the ditched being filled by the road repair gang. Clerk to raise these matters with Hways.

The Clerk reported hearing from Mr Coote and Lady Walker regarding the condition of various footpaths. He had raised the matter with Hways and received a list of the paths they cut; it was noted that Path 85 about which a complaint was made was not on the list and this will be taken up. It was noted that some obstruction to footpaths is caused by residents dumping garden waste over their fences onto the adjacent path.

The Chairman reported that the 'walkers in road' sign in Ashdon Road has been replaced. The 30mph repeater sign in Water Lane is still obstructed.

Clerk to obtain 3 'Children on Holiday' signs.

A 'Road accident report card' is being inserted in Ambo together with Cllr Smith's report.

(B) Village Improvement:

The Chairman reported that we had reached the final of the 'Best Kept Village' Competition and that the judges had been met in the Village Hall on their visit on Tuesday 27th June by residents and was grateful for the help of those who came.

A letter of 27 June from Susan Corke has been received pointing out the advisability of biodegradable kitchen waste sacks for use with wet waste in the forthcoming 3 bin system. She also enquired if the Parish Council wished to hold a stock of these for sale to residents. It was agreed that the Council did not want to undertake trading and it was likely to raise problems.

Youth Club: the Chairman has heard that Lorraine is in touch with UDC regarding screening of potential helpers; it is hoped to open the club again in September.

(C & D) Low cost housing and parish plan:

A proposal has been received from Bidwells on behalf of Sir Jonathan Parker for a development adjacent to East View Close. This was discussed at a PC Planning Committee Meeting on Tuesday 27th June, and the plan was displayed to the public at the Parish Plan Group Open Day on Saturday 1st July. At this Open Day the public were requested to make comments, the replies going first to the PPG. The Parish Council view is that this plan must be considered as part of an overall scheme for the village as a whole.

Arrangements have been made to meet Simon Lewis of Cheffins on behalf of Mrs Rayment on Thursday 5th July on site.

(E) Recreation Ground:

The recent AGM appointed a new committee including Lady Walker as Chair. She recently met John Hardisty and inspected the Ground; following this she sent a webmail to the Chairman raising several matters; he has replied clarifying some items. NB She is to be asked to communicate directly with the PC and not through the village website.

The location of 'No Dogs' signs was raised and told that they will remain as at present except when there is a Boot Sale when they will be placed on the fence at the entrance to make sure that all are aware of the requirements.

(F) Village Hall Complex:

(i) Post Office: The postmaster Victor Rae has written thanking the PC for payment of the invalid ramps which he obtained. In his letter he also mentioned that if a 'no smoking' requirement is introduced he will resign. He is also nearing retirement age and requests that a replacement is sought; he has already had an approach from a resident.

(ii) Hall Cottage: A complaint was raised by Mr Cox regarding the condition of the cottage which was not accepted. He then contacted Environmental Health who wrote raising items of concern. On discussion with the agent it was agreed to install Ventaxia extractor fans in kitchen and bathroom (already approved). The smoke detector is to be checked; we have been informed by the electrician that it was working before Mr Cox took residence. Concern was expressed about the condition of the garden; Mr Cox has already been instructed to cut the grass. His continued parking his van in the Rec was also unsatisfactory. It was agreed not to renew the lease.

(iii) Hall Management Committee: The Chairman has been in discussion with the Trustees regarding the request from the Committee for Charitable status; it was not thought that this should raise any difficulty or alter the present administration.

(G) Neighbourhood Watch:

Cllr Simmonds said that matters were in abeyance pending clarification of roles vis-
-vis the community police. A meeting in Thaxted on 17th should help understanding responsibilities. There was an incident at the Bowls Club when the fence was broken after a ball game against the Wall. Police were informed.

5) Finance:

(A) Statement:

The RFO reported funds of £11970 current, £44520 reserve, giving total funds of £56490.

(B) Expenditure:

The following accounts are awaiting settlement:

UALC £25 (mem/ship); RCCE £35 (mem/ship); J Hardisty £70.82 (Ch exp); R Jones £81.63 (Clerks' exp).

Retrospective consent was also sought for payment of BT £50.21 (P.O. phone); C W Lowe £378.35 (verge cut); RCCE £10 (model lease).

Payment of all these accounts was approved and the cheques signed.

Notice has been received of the NJC casual car user rate to 54.4p/m wef 1st April.

A request for funding has been received from Vitalise; papers passed to Cllr Brown but agreed no PC support.

6) Planning:

applications, decisions and related matters:

A) Approved:

UTT/0638/06/FUL – The Cliff Radwinter End; 2 storey rear extn – G Pitt

B) Circulated:

UTT/0811/06/FUL – Wheelwrights Princes Well: demolition extns and conversion – M Fanthorpe. – No objections

C) Other:

UTT/0907/06/TCA – Fox Cottage Princes Well: felling of trees in Consvn area – approved.

Committee Meeting: The committee met on Monday 26th June at 8pm in the Village Hall to discuss a proposal for development adjacent to East View Close by Bidwells on behalf of Sir Jonathan Parker. After discussion the matter was passed to the PPG for their Open Day, to be followed by a joint meeting to review as part of an overall development plan.

7) Correspondence:**(A) Meetings**

5 July – Stansted Airport expansion objections – UDC SW 2.30pm

12 July – RCCE AGM Chelmsford - JH & GS to attend and papers passed over

14 July – closing date for community empowering awards.

17 July – Police consultation meeting – Thaxted 7.30pm

(B) Other papers:

The Clerk raised the matter of 16 free places for Radwinter residents at Saffron Screen. It was agreed to make 8 available to over 60s club, 8 to the Youth club for each body to decide which Radwinter residents could go.

Go-East have advised that copies of the regional Spatial Strategy are available in 2 volumes at £10 each They can also be viewed on the web.

8) Other business:

It was agreed that any publications relevant to the Rec could be passed to Lady Walker.

The Chairman reported that ERHA have advised that new occupiers have been found for 51 East View Close (part purchase scheme).

9) Next Meeting:

already arranged for Monday 4th September at 7.30pm