

**Radwinter Parish Council – Minutes of Meeting 6th July
2009
Held in the Village Hall at 7.45pm**

Present:

Cllrs M Halls (Ch); A Jarvis; E Duck; S Graves; V Boyden; K Shoolheifer; K Moore (part), with the Clerk R A Jones in attendance and Lady Suzanne Walker and Stephen Hargreaves

Public Session:

Stephen Hargreaves introduced the Recreation Ground Budget which he had emailed to individual Councillors, requesting a fixed permanent subsidy of £3000 per annum. Some discussion took place but as this was not an agenda item no decision could be made and the matter was referred to the next meeting.

It was mentioned that there are outside grant making Trusts who have funds available for projects undertaken either by the Council or by a linked body or charity; it particularly applies when match funding is available. It would require an examination of the criteria from each trust and submission of the appropriate application from someone who knows the requirements. It was suggested that Dave Smith might be willing to help in this connection, and Cllrs Halls and Jarvis agreed to make an approach. The Clerk would supply details

1. Apologies and reasons for absence:

Cllr Moore advised that he would be late for the meeting and that Cllr Halls had been requested to take the Chair. Apologies were received from C/Cllr Walsh.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of 18th May:

the minutes having been previously circulated were approved and signed.

3. Co-optation of new Councillors:

The two vacancies on the Parish Council were formally advertised and no applications were received. Cllr Halls proposed that Mrs Victoria Halls and Mrs Katharine Shoolheifer be co-opted to fill the vacancies; this was seconded by Cllr Duck and agreed. The Candidates then signed the Acceptance of Office. The Clerk had previously presented each with a council reference pack and an information pack from EALC. He then handed to each a Register of Interests Declaration and request for electoral roll for signature for him to send to UDC.

He also requested each existing Councillor to return their reference pack for updating.

4. Reports from County & District Councillors:

None

5. Appointment of new officers:

The following vacancies were filled:

Finance & Audit Committee – Cllr Jarvis

Staff & Structure Committee – Cllr Boyden

Publicity Committee – Cllr Shoolheifer

Footpaths & Trees – Cllr Boyden

Public Transport - Cllr Shoolheifer

Security (Police & Neighbourhood Watch) – Cllr Halls

Youth Liaison – Cllr Duck

A full list of officers is attached.

6.Finance

(A) Statement:

The RFO reported funds on 1st July of £56, 439.13

he reported that the new arrangements with the Co-op bank were working satisfactorily, but that a change of Mandate was required for the new Councillors to become signatures. All Councillors signed the new form and in addition the new Councillors supplied personal details.

(B) Current

income: Interest £5.33. Mrs Butfield has paid £5 rental for the Post Office.

(ii) Expenditure: The following accounts required settlement: Radwinter PCC £37.50 (churchyard maintenance); R Jones £62.60 (Clerk's expenses); Ambo magazine £20.00 (donation). The Radwinter Society have now received match funding for their archive storage from UDC and we are thus able to pay the promised £500. We have been informed that the Over 60's application for match funding from the UDC has been approved, and they have asked for our payment of 50% of the cost of £250 in order to make the purchase.

The RFO has been in touch with E.On regarding a new electricity contract wef November. A new contract has been received with offer price of 10.026p/Kwh for 12 months, or 11.60p/Kwh for 24 months. It was agreed to take the 12 month contract and review at December Finance meeting. E.On has mislaid our direct debit authority and a new form was signed.

Retrospective consent is requested for payment of: RVHMC £32.00 (hall hire); UDC £47.50 (plg appn for village sign); EALC £28.36 (2 new councillor packs); C W Lowe £409.98 (verge cut); Mrs K Ruddick £71.45 (VH flower pots); UDC £120.00 (supplementary fee for village sign appn as non-commercial); RCCE £40.00 (mem'ship). Payment was approved and cheques signed.

(C) Other:

The PCC have asked if we can continue our support. Cllr Jarvis reported that he has obtained quotations for the purchase of a mower for the churchyard in line with our previous offer; he was instructed to proceed; estimated cost £275.

7. Clerk's & Committee Action Schedule:

see attachment .

It was noted that the work scheduled following the visit of Ray Curtis was complete and is to be deleted from list. Joe Bichenor has provided details of the location of the speed regulation signs, and Cllr Halls will liaise with the PCC regarding clearing of

overgrown trees. The signs should be in place by September. Clerk to contact 3 Valleys Water regarding leakage at end of Water Lane .

Footpaths: It was noted that Hways have undertaken some work as requested. A complaint from Mr Coote re path from Water Lane splash to Stocking Green, and a complaint from Mrs Smith re condition of bridleways were referred to ECC Hways. A meeting of the P3 group was held on 10 June with 9 members present; maps and worksheets were distributed and another meeting arranged for early September to review progress.

ECC Charlotte Fellingham has been promoted – awaiting replacement

8. Other matters for review:

Community Plan: Cllr Halls and the Clerk met representatives from Bidwells and Cheffins at the Bidwell offices on 10 June to discuss the current situation. It was noted that the UDC plg policy is at the moment confused. In view of the current review by UDC of housing land availability it was agreed to proceed with preliminary arrangements as contained in the plan.

UDC has just issued a Draft Housing Strategy 2009 – 2012. This outlines their proposed programme for housing and especially affordable housing, but does not give any specific details. A copy is available for perusal as required. Bidwells have been informed.

Recreation Ground: Cllr Halls has contacted J F Knight (Roadworks) Ltd of Thaxted regarding possible projects, ie perimeter path; widening of car park; improved access. A quote is awaited.

Village Hall admin: An email has been received from the Charity Commn. stating that they are waiting to hear what Sir Jonathan and the Trustees are proposing. Clerk to contact Sir Jonathan. It was noted that no accounts have been received from the VHMC, and repairs are still awaited.

Street Cleaning: Chris Turner of UDC Environment Services has informed us that there is a regular schedule for the large sweeper to visit Radwinter every 3 months, the last visits being 18 March and 10 June. They are in the process of rescheduling a programme for the small sweeper.

Allotments: Cllr Duck has received 9 applications from Radwinter residents, and an approach is to be made to Sir Jonathan Parker.

Staff Committee: A report has been received from Dr Helen Brown following her review of the Clerk's contract. It contains recommendations for a restructuring of the Staff Committee and a proposal for a new contract. The report was circulated.

9. Planning

(A) Approved:

UTT/0221/09/TPO: Poplar Hall Princes Well Radwinter - Overall crown reduction and thinning of 1 no. Oak by up to 20%: Valerie Colwill

ENF/148/08/ 28/11/2008 Brook Farm Equestrian Centre, Hempstead Rd - Mobile home on site in breach of condition C.13.2 of UTT/0377/00/FUL

(B) Under review:

UTT/0409/09/FUL & UTT/0410/09/LB – 1 Church View Cottage: rear extn – T Chamberlain (called in by D/Cllr S Schneider). After discussion the Council raised no objection; UDC informed

ENF/196/08/B notice of 18.5/09 White Gables (now known as Stackyards) Maple Lane - garage/annexe to front of property being used as accommodation; an appeal is being made

(C) Withdrawn:

ENF/96/09/B The Old Cartlodge Jenkinhog Farm: change of use from holiday let to day care centre for the elderly – Mrs L Ward

(E) Circulated:

UTT/0580/09/FUL) – Cowlass Hall Farm: conversion of barn to 3 short term holiday lets for - disabled people – Mrs C Cowell

UTT/0584/09/FUL - 4 Thatched Cottages Water Lane: retrospective appn for conservatory – Mrs C Cowell & Mrs O Cowell

UTT/0599/09/FUL – Stackyards Maple Lane : extra rear extn & rebuild existing – Colin Taylor

10. Correspondence:

(A) Meetings

Thurs 9 July – RCCE AGM - Little Waltham 7.30pm

Wens 15 July – ECC West Essex Forum Mtg – Ongar 10am

Mon 20 July – SLCC – Risk Management – Theobalds Park Hotel 9.30 – 4pm (£95)

Wens 22 July - Vol Centre AGM – Thaxted 2pm

Tues 28 July – Uttlesford Care Network telecare service – Foakes Hall Gt Dunmow 10 – 3pm

(B) Other papers:

ECC letter, posters & fliers ref Govt. drink drive campaign.

ECC email 11 June Vicky Bale of Youth Service wants to make contact ; passed to Cllr Duck

ECC notice ref Hanningfield awards for youth activities to Cllr Duck for reference
A questionnaire has been received from the Registration Service for a change in the service to a county instead of district basis using more IT.

EALC – prize of £250 for a Training programme and budget – closing 8 Sep

EALC – Web site award of new computer for PC web site – closing 8 Sep

EALC – additional mailing to Councillors – cost £30; not required

We have just been informed that the Buffy Bus will be calling in EVC on Friday pm 1.45 – 3.30 for the next three weeks; Cllr Shoolheifer informed.

Village SOS – card from big lottery fund to help village projects.

EALC – request info on parish Walks

EALC – info regarding change of name from Parish Council to Village Council; this was rejected

A bag of non-priority items was left with the Chairman

10. Other matters & items for next agenda:

Cllr Shoolheifer is investigating how to improve the website

The budget from the Rec Committee is to be discussed and our subvention.

Cllr Jarvis is to be key-holder for the Post Office following a police request for a local contact.

EALC – new edition of Arnold Baker – Local Council Admin special price of £53.60
(from £67)

Cllr Shoolheifer has changed her contact phone no. to 599660

11. Date of next meeting:

7th September at 7.45 pm in the Village Hall

The Meeting closed at 9.55pm