

Radwinter Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting 1st March 2010 Held in the Village Hall at 7.45pm.

Present:

Cllrs K Moore (Ch); V Boyden; E Duck; S Graves; A Jarvis; K Shoolheifer, with the Clerk, R A Jones in attendance and C/Cllr S Walsh and Mr R Hughes

Public Session:

Mr Hughes raised his concern regarding the condition of the footway alongside Walden Road, which he stated need sweeping and trimming. The hedge along the section from the church to the Plough also needed trimming. It was agreed to refer the path to Hways but to ask David Low to trim the hedge as it was planted by the Parish Council. He was also concerned about the litter which is left along the roadside, and offered to clear it. This kind offer was gratefully received and he will be given a rubbish picker and sacks.

1. Apologies and reasons for absence:

Cllr Halls - sick

2. Minutes of the previous meeting 18 January:

Having been circulated they were taken as read and were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. Reports from County & District Councillors:

C/Cllr Simon Walsh reported on his discussion with Sampford PC regarding pot-holes, and it was confirmed that we have an identical problem, particularly Walden Road by the pinch-point and along to Swards End. He will inform Hways. He has also raised the matter of the police not knowing the location of Radwinter when informed of vandalism, and will raise the matter with them and the non attendance of the Community Police.

4. Finance:

(A) Statement:

Funds at 1st March: £55461.47

(B) Current position:

Income:

£9.79 interest

Expenditure:

Radwinter Soc £5.00 (mem'ship); R A Jones £54.84 (Clerk expenses); CB Mower Repairs £124.61 (Ch mower); retrospective consent for payment of UDC £341.93 (CA skips); R Jones £27.99 (honorarium to A Cohen); RVHMC £16.00 (hall hire);

RVHMC £24.00 (hall hire Plough 2); Ridgeons £22.91 (road salt); Tiamco £325 (hall window repair). Payment of all these was approved and the cheques signed.

(C) Other financial matters:

Mr John Whitehead has forwarded an appeal from Home Start Uttlesford for funds. Since they have supported local families it was agreed that they fall within our remit of only supporting local charities, and it was agreed to give £25.

A rubbish picker is to be purchased for Mr Hughes.

The Clerk asked permission to purchase from EALC 'standing orders for local councils' @ £25, and 'governance and accountability for local councils' @ £15. This was agreed.

Copies of a briefing report on 'Audit & Risk Assessment' from EALC were circulated to members of the Finance & Audit Committee.

5. Review of action schedule:

i) The Taws sign by the church was due for installing on 25 Feb. An initial traffic survey carried out prior to the introduction of the signs has been circulated.

ii) Grit-bins – now installed

iii) Churchyard trees – now lopped

iv) Hedge by Brook farm – now attended to

v) Footpaths – work on restoring in hand, but held up by weather

vi) Footpaths P3 scheme – Cllr Halls to contact Cllr Frost of Hempstead regarding future course of action.

vii) Vehicle obstruction – The Clerk has written to Mr Baynes but with no response to date; further warning letter to be sent. Several complaints have been raised regarding obstructions in East View Close.

viii) Water Lane Cross-roads visibility – Hways to be contacted concerning realignment of road. Almshouse trustees to be asked to trim front hedge.

ix) Flooding – Cllr Graves reported that Walden Rd by Hall Farm affected by blocked drains; Wimbish Green Lane by Grange corner has blocked drain pipe; chairman to contact Ray Searle of Hways regarding these. Golden Lane: excess water going across Ashdon Rd and not into culvert. Clerk to again contact N Fordham. Water Lane improved.

x) Potholes: it was agreed that following the discussion with C/Cllr Walsh each Cllr should take responsibility for a section of road and report any defects to Clerk & Hways.

xi) Obstruction on verge: it was noted that stone blocks have been placed on verge outside Saxons. Clerk to request removal.

6. Other matter for review:

(A) Village Hall:

The revised scheme of Sir Jonathan Parker for the setting up of a Charity was debated. It was agreed to accept this with some caveats and with reservations regarding safeguarding the Rec funding.

(B) Recreation ground:

The Chairman & Clerk met Stephen Hargreaves to discuss future funding and possible changes. Cllr Jarvis has arranged for a digital survey of ground levels at entrance to be carried out. Funds to be sought from 'safer journeys to school' programme.

The gates were closed on Tuesday 16 February; Cllr Jarvis to arrange replacement. The next closure will be on Thursday 30 December.

(C) Village sign:

Mrs Bennett has advised that the sign will be ready for erection and unveiling within the next few days. Cllr Halls has support post and erection in hand. Tentative unveiling date 25 April.

(D) Environment:

The dates for the civic amenity skips are: am Sat 17 April; pm Sat 10 July; pm Sun 12 Sept. Green skips will commence on Sunday 2nd April 9am to 10.30am every Sunday.

(E) Community Plan:

Bidwells have requested a meeting with us and Hways to discuss access.

7. Planning:

Summary of applications, decisions and related matters

Enforcements:

ENF 96/09 – Old Cart Lodge, Jenkinhogs Farm – advertised to let: in breach of plg consent

Circulated:

UTT/0224/10/LB – 3 Church Hill: installing loft with roof-lights – J Goodfellow
UTT/0317/10/CLP – Hallams, Sampford Rd: cert of lawfulness for outbuilding - M Watson

Both closing 12 March.

8. Correspondence:

(A) Meetings;

Thurs 4 Mar – UDC Community Forum re District Core Plan: SWCO 7.30

Tues 9 Mar – ECC West area forum Mtg – Ongar 10am

Wens 10 Mar – EALC Cllr Training day: - Gt Dunmow 9.30 – 3.30 (£54)

Sat 20 Mar – SLCC AGM & Trg day – South Woodham Ferrers – 9.30am

Mon 22 Mar- 33 Engr Regt :display of Carver Barracks Airfield – 7.30 Carver Barracks Wimbish

Wens 24 Mar – Radwinter Society AGM – RVH 7pm

Wens 31 Mar – EALC advanced Cllr trg Day – Gt Dunmow 9.30 – 3.00 (£54)

Fri 23 Apr – EALC: law & procedures course – Gt Dunmow 9.15am (£57)

Wed 28 Apr – Ecumenical Civic Service – Brentwood Cathedral – 7.30pm

(B) Other letters:

UDC: M Perry letter 1st Feb: Code of Conduct - re the ability of Cllrs with a prejudicial interest now being able to speak at the public session of a meeting on the subject matter.

UDC: L Lipscombe email 19 Jan: request for names & addresses of households prone to flooding

9. Other Matters:

Cllr Halls will arrange the removal of the photocopier from the Post Office.

It was noted that Melvin Caton will be retiring as headmaster of Radwinter School at the end of July.

10. Next Meeting:

Council Meeting & Annual Parish Meeting: already arranged for Monday 12th April at 7pm with a break from 7.30 – 9pm for the APM.

Cllrs are reminded that each will be asked to make a presentation of their work over the past year.