

Radwinter Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting Monday 16th April 2012
Held in the Village Hall at 7.45pm.

Present:

Cllrs S Graves (Ch); M Halls; K Shoolheifer; K Thompson, with the Clerk, R A Jones in attendance.

1. Apologies and reasons for absence:

Cllrs Duck & Moore (personal); Cllr Boyden (sick)

2. Minutes of the previous meeting:

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

3. Matters Arising:

The Chairman recommended that the approval procedure of draft minutes should be formalised. The Clerk should circulate the draft council minutes within 7 days of the meeting; Cllrs would then have 7 days to put any objection or comment to the Clerk or Chairman, which if agreed by the Chairman would then be included. The minutes would then be published, and any further objection must be put in writing and will be included in the papers for the next meeting prior to their adoption. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Halls and carried nem con, and will be operative from the May meeting and included in the Standing Orders.

4. Finance:

(A) statement:

current: £5955.72; reserve £35000

(B) Current position and signing of cheques:

Receipts: £0.98; Payments: RCCE £36.00 (203 - HN survey); NALC £15.50 (204 - subn LCR); R A Jones £71.24 (205 - Clerk's exp); EALC £159.51 (206 - m'ship); J F Knight £1728 (207 - Car park repair). Retrospective consent was sought for payment of: A&J Ltg £89.10 (201 - st light repair); Go the whole hog £100.00 (202 - advance Jubilee celebration). The payments were approved and cheques signed. Receipt of half the precept is due next week.

(C) Other financial matters:

We have now rec'd £333.33 from UDC as our share of the NH bonus through the offices of the D/Cllr.

Requests for financial help have been rec'd from Uttlesford CAB (previous don. £50); SSE have requested renewal of mem'shp at £10; Payment of these was agreed.

'Each' charity have suggested a Royal Tea party to donate funds (prev don £25). It was agreed to send a £25 donation and refer the Tea Party to Sue Bright.

UDC are establishing a Jubilee Fund as part of the NH bonus for 2012/3, and Cllr Howells has stated that we are eligible for £666.67.

The Audit Commission have appointed 24 April as date of announcement of audit, with returns to be made by 11 June.

A meeting of the Finance & Audit Committee is to be held on Thursday 17 May at 8pm.

The Clerk is investigating other insurance providers

The meeting adjourned at 7.45pm for the Annual Parish Meeting, and resumed at 9.20pm.

5. Review of Action Schedule:

Contact with Hways over the past month has been intermittent due to changes in structure, contractor and computer. An improvement is anticipated shortly.

A revue is to be undertaken of the speed limits on minor roads in Essex. The Clerk was asked to propose Maple Lane and Water Lane for inclusion, and reduction of limit at 'The Plough' junction.

A complaint has been rec'd from Mrs Taylor of Stackyards, Maple Lane regarding erosion of her garden by traffic causing a mains water leakage; it has been reported twice. Insertion of a kerb is recommended.

Cllr Halls has arranged for Knights of Thaxted to undertake repairs to the car-park. They have given a quotation of £1440 to repair potholes at entrance, £1200 to resurface 12m width of rhs, and £5715 to reconstruct front half which has disintegrated. Cllr Halls gave consent for the initial work to be undertaken. A further quote is to be obtained from Peter Knight. After completion of this work we can then engage Camline to paint the white & yellow lines.

It is possible that all this could all be funded from the Jubilee Fund.

Street lights have been repaired in East View Close & Bridgefoot.

6. Other matters for review

(A) Community Plan:

A Housing Needs Survey though RCCE has been carried out throughout the parish by Cllrs. Replies are required by RCCE by 20 April. This is prior to an exhibition in the Village Hall to be organised by Bidwells, with further literature available. Progress on the scheme is currently pending clarification of ECC Education Service policy regarding road access.

(B) Code of Conduct:

UDC have informed us that under the Localism Bill 2011 we will need to adopt a new Code consistent with the Act. UDC will be adopting the new Code wef 17 April, and it is recommended that the Parish Council should follow suit at the AGM; copies have been circulated. This was agreed.

NALC have also informed us that the Act includes a new registration and disclosure of members' interests requirement. This has also been circulated, and it is

recommended that it is adopted at the same time. The Clerk was requested to obtain further details.

(C) Jubilee:

Cllrs Boyden & Duck have discussed a hog roast with a supplier and paid £100 deposit. A clown has been hired, and arrangements undertaken with the VHC and school regarding hiring. Plow 2 are also helping. The possible closure of part of Water Lane has been discounted.

7. Planning

(A) Approved:

UTT/0043/12/FUL) - Gt Brockholds Farm - conversion of barn to dwelling

UTT/0045/12/LB)

UTT/0103/12/FUL - The Barn, Hempstead Rd: installation of swimming pool and outbuilding

(B) Enforcements:

ENF/316/11/D - The Old Bakehouse: Black cladding & new entrance - Conservation Area

(C) Circulated:

UTT/0341/12/TCP - The Old Brewery: fell Ash Tree - A Pardoe Closed 10 March

UTT/0256/12/FUL - Lower House Farm, Water Lane: change of use from agricultural to stables -Lady M Belen-Parker - closed 23 March 2012

UTT/0307/12/FUL - The Grainstore, Jenkinhog Farm: installation of solar panels - Lord Walker - closed 23 March 12

8. Correspondence:

(A) Peter Snow of UDC has informed us of a Further Electoral Review which the Boundary Commission require them to undertake. The Clerk has been in discussion with him to ascertain the implications for Radwinter PC and whether we need to be represented at the meeting on 9 May.

(B) A letter has been received from Roger John Mance objecting to our letter to EECOS about the possibility of a 'wildlife meadow' at Stocking Green. He claimed that the Stocking Green residents have special rights over the land. On being requested by the Clerk to clarify this he retracted but expressed concern about any change. Mr Briggs was asked to convey to Mr Mance that the title to the land is held by the Parish Council, for use by the Council to the benefit of the Parish as a whole.

(D) RCCE have informed us that they are launching a bulk buy scheme for heating oil.

(E) An invitation has been rec'd from Essex dignitaries to attend a Diamond Jubilee Evensong in Chelmsford Cathedral on Sunday 27 May. The Clerk has tickets.

9. Other matters:

A meeting of the Staff Committee is to be arranged to discuss the Clerk's replacement.

10. Next Meeting:

AGM, already arranged for 28 May at 7.45pm.
The meeting closed at 10.20pm