

Radwinter Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting Monday 2nd July 2012
Held in the Village Hall at 7.45pm.

Present:

Cllrs K Thompson (Ch); Cllrs V Boyden; E Duck; S Graves; M Halls; K Moore; K Shoolheifer, with the Clerk,

R A Jones in attendance, and Mr J Simmons, Mrs L Plant and Mr J Briggs

Public Session:

Mr Simmons gave a demonstration of the use of a defibrillator and explained its benefit in rapid response to a heart arrest. It needs to be used in conjunction with a trained 'community first responder' to give the back up. The cost is c£2000 new + £90 for the battery, but models may be obtained second-hand for as little as £200. The Council thought it would be a very useful social facility but we must first gauge public support which could be done by offering a subsidised first aid training course to parishioners.

1. Apologies and reason for absence:

C/Cllr Simon Walsh; personal commitment

2. Minutes of previous meeting 28 May:

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

3. Matters arising:

From the floor, Mr Briggs requested a clarification of his role as 'security liaison'; it was explained that it entailed maintaining contact with the police and possibly arranging a visit, and coordinating the work of the Neighbourhood Watch. He was satisfied with this.

4. Reports from County & District Councillors:

C/Cllr Walsh sent a report stating that ECC had allocated an extra £11M for pothole repairs to be carried out before the winter. They are also due to undertake a number of 'surface dressing' jobs locally, but he could not provide details. There has been no communication from the D/Cllr since April.

5. Finance

(A) Statement:

Funds at 27 June were current £7860.30, reserve £35,000

(B) Current position and signing of cheques:

Receipts: £0.90 Payments: E Duck £51.68 (222 - Jubilee); Each Charity £150.50 (223 - Jubilee donations); R A Jones £56.89 (224 - Clerk's exp) Kay Pilsbury £120

(225 - licence) Go the whole hod £130.00 (226 - extra payment) J Briggs £225 (227 - Radwinter Times costs). Retrospective consent was sought for payment of: V Boyden £225.95 (217 - Jubilee); RCCE £40.00 (218 m'ship); VCU £10.00 (219 - m'ship); C W Low £483.00 (220 - verge cut); Viking £99.17 (221 - office supplies). The payment of all these accounts was approved and the cheques signed.

A statement has been received from James Briggs indicating that the cost of photocopying and posting 'Radwinter Times' for 11 months to June is £202.01. It was agreed that this should be paid together with £25 for travel costs. It was agreed that invoices should be sent on 31 March in future.

Cllr Halls drew attention to the extra amount of food provided by the hog roast team for which no charge had been made and recommended a supplementary payment of £130. This was agreed.

An application has been made to HMRC for the repayment of £539.93 VAT

(C) Other financial matters:

The RFO is holding a revised budget to be submitted to the Finance Committee, incorporating the severance payment due to the retiring clerk but which has not yet been finalised; discussions are in hand with D Tonks and A Cohen regarding the severance package and tax liability.

The Clerk has prepared a submission to the UDC Jubilee Fund for for a grant for refurbishment of the car-park.

An application for continued support has been rec'd from Home Start (donation £10 2010/1). Declined.

An acknowledgment has been rec'd from 'Each' charity for our donation of £25.

6. Matters for review:

(A) Highways):

The Clerk has endeavoured to get in touch with Hways regarding outstanding matters, but despite repeated phone calls and emails no response has been obtained. It was suggested that this is due to commitments regarding the Jubilee and Olympic Torch progress.

(B) Community Plan:

This was discussed by the village development committee at a meeting on 25 June. At the meeting the UDC opinion given on UTT/0086/12/SCO was discussed in conjunction with the RCCE housing survey of April 2012. The SCO suggested a minimum of 40 properties, whereas the findings of RCCE were that the majority of villagers regarded 40 as the maximum. RCCE findings on affordable housing showed a likely interest in 10 properties. The committee took the view that instead of the suggested 40 properties (24 comml + 16 affordable a better mix would be 36 total (24 comml + 12 affordable). This takes into account the site layout and its difficulties and the need for a good mix of property types: 1 to 4 bedroom commercial, and 1/2/3 bedroom affordable. The need for adequate car parking space was also mentioned. The Clerk was instructed to contact Hasloe Housing to arrange a meeting to discuss affordable housing. The other requirements under Section 106 are:

An extension to the west of the Rec. for a football pitch.
Another entrance to the Rec. from Walden Road at the SW corner.
Provision for locating the sports pavilion adjacent to this entrance
A new children's play area in proximity to the new sports pavilion site.
Installation of hard courts at NW area of Rec. for multi sport usage.
Provision of allotment area(s) on the flood plain below the development

Discussions are in hand between Bidwells and Cheffins regarding future action regarding the school grounds. The committee noted that the Council have already stated that the provision of access to Walden Road is an essential part of the project due to the dangerously poor visibility at the church cross-roads, and that without it the Council would oppose the scheme.

(C) Recreation Ground:

Following the publication in 'Radwinter Times' of comments purportedly made by Dixie Walker, Kay Pilsbury has requested a discussion regarding a licence fee for the use of their drawings of the sports pavilion as submitted to UDC for planning consent. Cllr Graves has done this, and it has been agreed that we should pay £100+VAT for their use in this connection.

The Chairman has requested details of the Rec committee meetings so that he may attend.

(D) Stocking Green:

The Clerk has written to the residents of Stocking Green c/o Mr R Manse clarifying the position of the Council in regard to any possible development there or elsewhere.

(E) Jubilee Commemoration:

The Jubilee was commemorated arranged with a hog-roast held on the Rec, a paying bar in the village hall, and teas, a clown and children's entertainment in the school hall.

The funding for the hog-roast was provided by the Council at no cost to residents but with provision for a charitable donation; this raised £150.50. The project cost was £1471.35, together with a supplementary payment of £130 to 'Go the whole hog' for their extra catering. A vote of thanks to the organizers was proposed and agreed for a very successful social event.

(F) Appointment of new clerk:

Advertisements have been placed by the EALC, on notice boards in the village, on the village web-site and by word-of mouth. By closing date of 30 June 3 replies had been received and the Chairman will be arranging interviews in conjunction with the Staff Committee.

7. Adoption of Code of Conduct:

Under the Localism Act 2011 there is a requirement for all councils to adopt a new Code of Conduct wef 1 July 2012. Following discussion this has now been agreed and the Code as submitted by UDC accepted. This includes a new Register of Members Interests which all Councillors are required to sign and submit to UDC personally by 28 July 2012. The Clerk has discussed the requirements at length with Michael Perry of UDC and the following procedure has been agreed:-

(i) Radwinter Parish Council will adopt the new Code of Conduct wef 2 July, but with the exception of Section 1 of the Register relating to pecuniary interests. It is understood that these requirements will not be operative until after the member has been freshly elected, ie not to sitting councillors either elected or co-opted.

(ii) Radwinter PC, by submitting a copy of these minutes to UDC, confirm adoption of the Code of Conduct.

(iii) The requirement for the register of interests to be published on line is noted and the Council accept the offer of the UDC to publish these on their website.

The Code has been sent to all Councillors and the Clerk issued forms for the Register of Interests to each Councillor for their completion and despatch to Michael Perry at UDC. Michael Perry will hold a meeting on this topic on Monday 9 July at 7.30pm on the Council offices. The Chairman will attend.

8. Planning

(A) Approved

UTT/0341/12/TCP - The Old Brewery: fell Ash Tree - A Pardoe.

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

UTT/0725/12/FUL - Radwinter House, Wimbish Green Lane: 1st floor rear extn - F Foxall

UTT/0726/12/FUL - Radwinter House, Wimbish Green Lane: new gge with gym over - F Foxall

UTT/0750/12/LB - Purkis, Mill End: new plumbing & amended layout - P Thomas

UTT/0875/12/LB - Radwinter village hall complex, 1&2 Hall Cottages: secondary glazing - RVHC

(B) Opinion Given:

UTT/0086/12/SCO - Construction of development off East View Close - K Benjafield

(C) Refused

UTT//0926/12/FUL - Thatch Cottage, Radwinter End - extend gge - J Moses

(D) Circulated:

UTT/0942/12/FUL - 2 Church View Close; new drive - Sir Jonathan Parker - closed 27/6/12

UTT/1085/12/FUL - 4 Beech Cottages: 1 & 2 Storey rear extn - J Shoolheifer - Closing 19 July 12

UTT/1290/12/FUL) - Newhouse Farm, Walden Rd: extn & conversion to make 2 residences into 1

UTT/1291/12/LB) - N Redcliffe - closing 28 July

(E) Other:

(i) Hedge: UDC have advised of the application to remove a hedge from Hill Farm, Sampford Road. This was approved.

(ii) Conservation: Mr John Bosworth of UDC has carried out a survey of the Conservation area with Cllrs Thompson, Graves and the Clerk. A report is to be issued.

(iii) PSMA: Ordnance Survey have informed us that our application to join the Public Sector Mapping Agreement has been successful.

(iv) P3 scheme: our membership of the scheme has been withdrawn by ECC.

9. Correspondence:

(A) Meetings

Mon 9 Jul - UDC: Localism Act by M Perry - 7.30pm Council Offices

Fri 7 Sep - closing date for nominations to Buckingham Garden Party

Thur 27 Sep - EALC AGM and presentation of garden party tickets

Fri 7 Sep - closing date for entry into EALC competitions (details already circ)

Thurs 13 Sep - EALC: Chairman's day - Gt Dunmow 9.30

(B) Other:

Details were circulated of the 'Developing Uttlesford' consultation.

The Chairman has received details of the '100 parishes' scheme; membership was declined.

CIRCULATION PACK: The Chairman agreed to hold this and activate the distribution.

10. Other matters

(I) Appointment of Public Transport representative:

Mrs Plant has declined to serve as Council representative

(ii) Radwinter Information pack:

this was discussed at length and agreed that it should be an A4 loose leaf folder with inserts. It was also agreed to encourage more participation in the commercial section of the website.

(iii) Grants and Awards:

Details have been received of Community achievement award and the 'fields in trust' scheme.

11. Next Meeting:

Already arranged for Monday 3rd September at 7.45pm