

Minutes of the Parish Council held on Monday 20th October 2014.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Parish Council meeting. Those wishing to speak or raise any issue are requested to do so at 7.45 p.m. prompt.

Amanda Rivers representing the School

At a recent governor meeting concern was raised around the heavy use of the car park and the cars parking on the playing fields. They are aware that this will start to damage the condition of the playing fields as the weather deteriorates and could cause problems for the recreation ground committee and the other recreation ground users.

Parents are also parking in Water Lane, East View Close and Church Hill in order to avoid parking on the playing fields but this causes problems for pedestrians, school taxis and the school bus using these roads, not to mention the neighbours inconvenienced by this.

They don't know whether a temporary parking area could be used on the playing fields with some kind of temporary surface, thus reducing traffic on the neighbouring roads but ensuring vehicles are parked safely? The governors would be very interested to hear the views of the Parish Council and work together to achieve a satisfactory outcome for all parties.

Melanie du Plessis Treasurer

On behalf of the Radwinter Pre-School Management Committee

Radwinter Pre-School has been operating for 36 years and has experienced many ups and downs in its time. They are currently experiencing one of those downs and so they are writing with a request for help from the parish council.

Over the last few years their attendance numbers have dropped below their breakeven point, and they have therefore been operating at a loss. Although they are a charity, not striving for profit, they do need to earn enough to cover their expenses and to stay viable.

They have made every effort to reduce their operating costs while ensuring that they maintain the high standard of care that they provide for the children in their care.

They have reduced the number of sessions they offer in order to minimise their staff and hall hire costs. They have also undertaken various fundraisers over this time. Although the last three years have resulted in losses, profits in previous years built up their reserve funds and they have been able to use these savings to help them through this difficult period.

As they knew that their attendance numbers were going to drop even lower in September when children moved on to the primary school, in June they held an Extraordinary General Meeting to decide whether the pre-school should close at the end of the 2013/2014 academic year. Although they predicted attendance numbers were very low which would result in greater losses, they did have enough funds to continue to operate for a period and didn't want to close their doors while they were still able to offer continuity to the children in their care.

It was decided that they should continue to operate until the funds were depleted. Although it was a close vote, the people who voted to stay open were all mums who felt passionately that their children have flourished in the environment that the pre-

school offers.

Their attendance numbers have improved since the start of this year and they have had expressions of interest from enough parents that they believe they will break-even by the end of February.

However, with a conservative estimate of attendance, not accounting for the enquiries they have had, they will have a shortfall in funding, and their reserves will not last them until the end of this academic year. Ideally they would like to remain open until the end of the academic year to allow for the children who are starting school in September the chance to stay in the pre-school where they are settled. They are hopeful that with all the interest they have had, they will be viable in the near future but they do need to make plans to sustain them until the children who are coming reach the age of two (our admission age).

Radwinter Pre-school is a valuable community resource that once lost would be very difficult to reinstate. There have been many families in the community who have benefitted from the pre-school and many more will benefit if we stay open. The management committee, going forward, is determined to grow the pre-school both financially and in head count, but this can only be done in time and the committee, parents and children would be very grateful to have community support, in terms of funding for this difficult time.

At present there they need 8 children doing all 4 sessions to break even.

Julie Haines

reported that the constitutional needed rewriting this is nearly finished and needs to be checked by the charity commission once they have approved the constitutional the recreation committee need to hold a meeting to adopt the new constitutional. The new constitutional means that the new trustee will have limited liability.

The Recreation Ground committee has no chairman at the present time but does have a Treasurer and secretary. The new lease is being rewritten adding in the Bowls Club and the car park was already included but there is a need to add in the potential recreation ground extension which should come as part of the development package for East View Close. Also need to make provision in the new lease for building the new pavilion.

The Parish Council will have 3 nominate trustees and 3 other trustees. Which means the recreation ground will be protected for the village.

The representatives for the Parish Council at present are Cllr Halls and Cllr Duck. Cllr Halls to asked Cllr Rains if he would like to stand as the 3rd councillor on the committee.

Present

Cllr Halls (Chairman)

Cllr Graves

Cllr Duck

Cllr Mary

Cllr Moore

Cllr Boyden

Cathryn Carlisle (Clerk)

3 members of the public

14/01 Apologies for Absence

Cllr

14/02 Members' Declarations of interest

Cllr Hall item no 14/07

14/03 The minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 8th September 2014

were approved and signed.

14/04 Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that if there were any pot holes that need attention to let the clerk know, so she can report them as soon as possible. This also relates to hedges that need cutting.

14/05 District Councils Report

District Councillor not present

14/06 County Councillors

County Councillor not present

14/07 Recreation Ground:

14/07.1 To discuss the approval of a draft lease to the Recreation Ground Committee

Report given above

14/07.2 To discuss the Recreation Ground Car Park

The council agreed to look into how much it would cost to put grasscrete on the waste piece of land behind the pavilion, towards the toilet block. Cllrs thought that we would need to put something along the field side to stop people driving on to the field. It was agreed once we had a price the clerk is to write to the school to see if they would contribute to the cost.

14/07.3 To discuss the Recreation Grounds new Constitution

Report given above

14/08 Stocking Green Conservation Area: Update

Uk Power hasn't started the work at Stocking Green, Cllr Duck to chase.

14/09 Finance:

To agree the following payments:

14/09.1		Marisa Baltrock - salary Oct	500288
14/09.2		Cathryn Carlisle - salary Oct	500289
14/09.3	£36.00	Radwinter Village Hall Hall Hire	500291
14/09.4	£120.00	PKF Little John	500292

14/09.5	£170.09	Marisa Baltrock Expenses	500293
14/09.6	£65.32	E-on Electricity	d/d
14/09.7	£	Cathryn Carlisle Clerk Expenses	
14/09.8	£48.38	A & J Lighting	d/d
14/09.9	£96.40	HMRC Tax	500290

Payments were approved by all members of the council present.

Councillors requested that the Clerk buy a thank you gift for Marisa Baltrock the retiring clerk to the value of £50.

14/09.8 Monthly Budget and Bank Reconciliation

Was approved by all members of the council present

14/09.9 Audit to receive audited accounts

The clerk read the comments from the External Auditor.

14/09.10 Budget 2015/16

The Clerk presented the first draft of the Working Sheet for the budget.

14/09.11 Tablets

Cllr Boyden reported that she had been to PC World and 8 tablets would cost the Parish Council £1866.64 for the Galaxy tablet 10"

Staples offered the a tablet for £210 each.

Councillors voted whether to get councillors tablets or not. Councillors voted result was 5 for tablets 1 against.

It was agreed that Cllr Boyden gets a quote from Staples. Cllr Moore suggested that Cllr Boyden tries ebay.

14/10 Recent Planning Applications:

14/10.1 Planning Applications

14/10.2 Planning Results

UTT/14/2341/HHF Proposed part 2 storey part first floor side extension and double garage.

Granted with conditions

Applecroft Little Brockhold Farm Radwinter Saffron Walden Essex

UTT/14/1541/LB Installaation of an 18 tube solar thermal system on the south facing roof of the property

Refused

The Old Post Office Walden Road Radwinter Saffron Walden CB10 2SW

UTT/14/2302/FUL Proposed single storey rear and side extensions, enclose existing open sided out building to rear and change of use of existing office to retail outlet.

Granted with conditions

Park Farm Radwinter End Radwinter Saffron Walden Essex

UTT/14/2006/OP Outline application with all matters reserved for the erection of 10 no. dwellings with garage/Carport/ parking provision and access point off Mill End

Road.
Refused
Land at Plough Ridge Walden Road Radwinter Essex

14/11 Highways: Updates

No report

14/12 Radwinter Pre-school

It was agreed that we would give the pre school some money, the council thought initially £200 but if Hempstead gave some money the Parish Council thought they could give more.

Council voted on the £200 2 for
£500 4 for on provision that Hempstead gave a donation

14/13 Standing Orders

Next Month

14/14 Financial Regulations

Next Month

14/15 Other updates

No updates

14/16 Date of next Meeting

8th December 2014

14/17 Matters to be raised by members for the next agenda

14/18 Meeting Closed at 10.10 pm