

Radwinter Parish Council Minutes of 3rd September 2007.

Present:

The meeting was held in the Village Hall and commenced at 7.30pm. Present were: K Moore (Ch); H Brown, S Graves, M Halls, J Harling, with the Clerk,

R A Jones in attendance and D/Cllr Schneider, J Hardisty, Mrs G Simmonds, Mrs C Smith and 7 others.

Prior to the Meeting the Clerk requested the Council and members of the VHMC present to inspect the ceiling of the kitchen; the architect is awaiting our decision regarding signing the work off. The VHMC members said they would raise this at their next meeting as remedial work could close the use of the kitchen for 6 weeks.

Presentation:

The meeting opened with the Chairman making a presentation of wine to former Councillors Hardisty and Simmonds, and to Mrs Smith on behalf of her husband Dave, in recognition of their services to the community.

Public Session:

D/Cllr Schneider asked what was happening to the Post Office. The Clerk informed her that Mrs Susan Halstead had declined to take up the position

after completing her training. Post Office Counters have now had to remove their equipment. The press have been informed, and an application has been received.

Rob Anderson asked about repairing the footbridge near Saffron Cottage; the Clerk informed him that it and another in Clay Wood are awaiting attention by

ECC Hways. Mention was made of another at Radwinter End; Cllr Halls to provide details.

Mrs Fitch and others queried what could be done about the flooding of Water Lane; the Clerk said that Hways and UDC were aware of the problem and the Environment Agency was checking the state of the whole River Pant. Concern was expressed about the ditches in the Lane, and the Clerk agreed to ascertain whose responsibility they were. The question of traffic in Water Lane was raised, and after discussion it was agreed that a site visit by ECC Hways should be requested.

The meeting proper commenced at 7.50pm

1. Apologies for absence:

Cllr Jarvis & C/Cllr Walsh. Cllr Sandy was not present.

2. Reports from Councillors:

A report from Cllr Schneider was read by the Clerk. It was reported that there would be a meeting of the UDC Environment Committee

on 4th at which the future development of Uttlesford would be discussed and the possible location of housing in selected villages. The Museum is preparing an application for lottery funding and for general support. The Emergency Planning Dept is holding a Flood fair on Tuesday 2nd October.

3. Minutes of previous Meeting of 9th July:

Having been previously circulated their adoption was proposed and seconded and signed by the Chairman.

4. Continued items:

A) Traffic, transport & related matters:

The Clerk reported on his discussions with ECC Hways:

- i) He has been informed that there is now a permanent Area Manager – Mr David Forking.
 - ii) Walden Road pinch point: the legal department are arranging for the change to be advertised and it will then go out to tender.
 - iii) Traffic island in Walden Road: The Clerk has misunderstood the location of the problem area and will send a correction to Hways.
 - iv) Water Lane: An inspection is to be arranged; the Clerk was instructed to ask that the surface is not repaired.
 - v) Water Lane Repeater sign: awaiting moving.
 - vi) The Clerk circulated Road Traffic Accident Report Cards which he had printed.
- Cllr Brown raised the email from Mrs Thompson regarding the traffic island at the bend in Wimbish Green Lane by Gt Brockholds Farm, and produced photos; it was agreed to send a copy of letter to Hways.
- Cllr Halls raised the matter of the traffic island at Radwinter End, which has been fenced. Report to Hways.
- Cllr Moore reported cars being parked on the footway at Bridgefoot whilst building work is being done; Clerk to write to Messrs Hughes and Denn to ask that they cease as soon as possible.

B) Village improvement:

it was reported that the repairs to the footbridge by the Old Vicarage were now complete.

C) Office:

Following the public discussion Cllr Halls agreed to contact the job applicant.

D) Flood prevention:

Following the public discussion Cllr Harling agreed to handle this project; the Clerk provided contact details.

5. Report from the Staff Committee:

The Clerk circulated a paper previously seen by the Committee in which it was shown that his work load is far in excess of that covered by his job description and for which he is paid. He also mentioned the need to consider his replacement, possibly within a year. The feasibility of a job share was discussed, or for him to be paid an honorarium for outside consultancy work. It was eventually decided to award him 30 hours extra pay for work to date and an extra 6 hours per week for the next 6 months when the position would then be reviewed. Councillors will enquire around for a possible replacement or assistant to take over part of the job. He was instructed to contact EALC regarding contact with existing Clerks who may wish to include Radwinter with their existing commitments.

6. Finance: Statement;

Current Account:

£7523; Reserve Account: £52861: Total Funds: £60384

Expenditure

Payments:- Viking Direct (office equipt) £28.75; Viking Direct (ptg) £10.56; Redgate Constn (V Hall): £1512.23; R Jones (Clerk exp) £118.00; Land Registry (Rec) £40.00

Retrospective consent for: Hedley Wright (wine gifts) £142.29; VHMC (mtgs) £24.00; BT (PO phone) £56.01. The payment of all these accounts was approved with the exception of Redgate Construction and the cheques signed.

7 Planning:

Applications, decisions and related matters

Approved

UTT/0877/07/FUL – Godfreys Farm Radwinter End: 3 bay gge & room above – E Charnaud UTT/0885/07/FUL –

The Cliff Radwinter End: retrospective for extra windows in extn –G Pitt

P/A/2/14/257 – Ag Detmn – Park Farm Radwinter End: erection wooden barn – A Kiddy

UTT/1090/07/FUL – Park Farm: change of use of barn to game processing – G Kiddy

UTT/1149/07/FUL – Fox Reach Stocking Green: 1 storey extns front & rear – J Briggs

Refused

UTT/0886/07/FUL – Stocking Green Farm: rebuilding farm blg – J Cooke

Circulated

UTT/1422/07/FUL – Oakwood House Radwinter End: erection of entrance gates – J Cremins

UTT/1457/07/LB – Old Cart Lodge Jenkinhogs Farm: changes to windows & roof-lights - amendment to (UTT/1077/03/LB) – Mrs J Williams

UTT/1540/07/FUL – Stocking Green Farm: roofing & encl flint wall to make solar heated room – J Cooke

Appeal

UTT/0507/07/FUL – Hillview Sampford Road; 1 storey extn – Mrs S Graves

Trees in Conservation Area

UTT/0869/07/TCA – 4 Church Hill – removal 1 conifer

UTT/1223/07/TCA – The Old Forge Walden Road - Fell 1 Holly

UTT/1473/07/TCA – St Mary's Ch – Fell 1 Cypress; prune 1 Cedar & 2 Beech; pollard & prune 1 Cedar & 1 Ash

It was agreed that in addition to giving notice of applications on the email, the former system of circulating full details to interested Councillors would be resumed.

7. Reports

(A) Affordable Housing and Community Plan:

The Clerk stated that he and Cllr Brown had a meeting with Sarah Nicholas of UDC Planning, which was inconclusive. Mrs Nicholas will contact her colleagues. A query was raised about the whole ethos of the scheme and Section 135 agreements. It was decided to hold a separate meeting to discuss the matter fully.

(B) Recreation ground:

The Clerk reported that Sir Jonathan Parker has written a letter for the Land Registry confirming the transfer, and they are willing to accept this as evidence and will undertake the transfer of the lease. He read a letter from Mr Colin Parker complaining of the difficulty of parking on the date of the fete.

Rec committee to be informed. An email from Lady Suzanne Walker was discussed. It was agreed to pay for the erection of further post & chain fencing around the car park but leaving space for vehicle access to the Bowls Club. Mole draining was discussed at length; it was agreed to fund a single scheme by Cllr Halls not to exceed £2000.

(C) Village Hall Complex:

The Clerk has been in contact with a Solicitor as instructed; he is waiting to hear further. A visit has been made by the insurance inspector who requires certain things to be done i.e. a regular check of the roof and gutters, a check of electrical system and the replacement of the oil tank.

Contractors have been contacted for the first two items and the VHMC informed about the third

8) Correspondence:

(A) Meetings

4 Sep – UDC Env Com – SW 7.30

5 Sep – UDC Dev Control – SW 1400

6 Sep – UDC Community Comm – SW 7.30

26 Sep - Parish Liaison Mtg – SW 19.30

27 Sep – Three Valleys Water forum – Cheshunt 18.30
5 Oct – ECC Rail Seminar – Chelmsford 10.15
20 Oct – RCCE village hall conf – Wickham Bishop 10.00 (£17)
18 Oct – EALC Councilor Trg Day - Dunmow £50
24 Oct – RCCE conference on climate change – Chelmsford (£35)
2 Nov – EALC/SLCC Joint Liaison Mtg – Dunmow

(B) Other

13 Aug – ECC – West Essex Forum Mtg agenda.

A pack of non priority items was given to the Chairman for circulation

10. Other Business:

none

11. Next Meeting:

Already arranged for 12th November at 7.30pm.

The Meeting closed at 11.10pm.