

Radwinter Parish Council

Minutes of 12 November 2007

Present:

The Meeting was held in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. Present were Cllrs K Moore (Ch); H Brown; S Graves; M Halls; J Harling; A Jarvis, with the Clerk R A Jones in attendance and C/Cllr S Walsh and Lady Suzanne Walker.

Public Session:

Lady Walker produced a report from the Rec committee which was read later.

1. Apologies for absence:

D/Cllr S Schneider. Cllr N Sandy was not present (later stated unsure of date)

2. Report from C/Cllr:

Cllr Simon Walsh reported on 4 aspects of the work of the CC. (a) they have taken a strong position against Post Office closures (b) They are consulting about the M11 development in conjunction with Stansted, and are concerned about lack of action regarding the A14 (c) Government will only increase funding next year by 2% so savings target has been increased (d) they are against unitary status and are trying to extend partnerships with District Councils. In addition the 'lights out' policy will be reviewed in the New Year. He had also sent details of a meeting for PC Chairman with the Chief Constable in Braintree Town Hall on 19th. Cllr Graves would attend in lieu of Cllr Moore.

3. Minutes of previous meeting of 3 September:

Having been previously circulated their adoption was proposed by Cllr Halls, seconded Cllr Harling and signed by the Chairman.

4. Continued items

(A) traffic & Transport:

(i) Following his site visit to Water Lane on 26 September, Chris Stonham of ECC Hways wrote that 2 possibilities existed (a) road closure to through traffic (b) speed regulatory devices. A traffic monitor would be installed shortly and it was hoped that a decision could then be made for work in next financial year.

(ii) Traffic visibility at Water Lane/Walden Road junction was also investigated but this could only be done by landowner lowering fence and clearing vegetation or land cut back with a retaining wall.

(iii) The flooding in Walden Road by Hall farm is being investigated; Ray Searle of Hways has had discussions with Robert Haigh and an improved outlet from pond to fishpond is planned to be undertaken next year.

(iv) Cllr Harling organized a site visit by Phil Hunt of UDC to examine the problem of flooding in Water Lane. Cllr Graves has also undertaken a survey showing the problem areas and the effect of water from Long Lane. A further site visit is to be

organized with Chris Steinberg of the Environment Agency to evaluate the findings and allocate schedule of responsibilities. Cllr Graves to attend. He was thanked for the work on investigating the problem, and Cllr Harling for organizing the meeting..

(v) It was agreed that an offer of bio-degradable sandbags from UDC Emergency Planning should be taken up and Cllr Halls agreed to store and distribute to householders as required.

(vi) A complaint from Mr Osborn of 49 East View Close regarding over-hanging trees was investigated and Mrs Rayment informed. She visited the site & agreed that remedial work could be undertaken.

(vii) The Clerk wrote as instructed to Mrs Stickley regarding trees obstructing the light outside Little Linden. It is understood that E-On will undertake the work.

(viii) Street Lights. A Cartledge have been informed several times regarding non-functioning lights and the timing of the Rec bollards. ECC have informed us that East View Close lighting is to be renewed, including the damaged lamp-post.

(ix) The Clerk wrote to Mr Denn regarding cars obstructing the footway at Bridgefoot. He will try to abate the nuisance.

(x) We have been informed that Maple Lane is to be closed from 19 November for 5 weeks to lay a water main.

(xi) It was reported that the 3 damaged footbridges have been repaired or replaced.

(xii) The potentially obstructing gate at Saxons has been attended to. There is another at Old Rake Shed in Maple Lane. Mr Copin to be informed.

(xiii) Some footpaths are still awaiting clearing; they are No 92 and access to No 69; bridle way 47 needs cutting through.

(xiv) An ECC leaflet on quiet lanes is being circulated.

(xv) ECC Hways have to be informed of any Christmas decorations above the highway.

(B) Village improvement:

(i) A drawing for the design of the village sign was approved; a thank-you gift is to be made to the school. It is to be painted wood on a wooden column. Clerk to obtain quotes for manufacture and the site to be agreed at public session prior to Council Meeting.

(ii) Cllr Halls has various designs for the bus shelter. He is to contact WJ Developments and another supplier. It was noted that no grants are available for these two projects.

(iii) The forestry work at Hall farm has been completed.

(C) Post Office:

The Clerk has been in touch with Steve Rolf of P O service centre and they are trying to get an outreach worker from closing PO to allow part-time opening.

5. Finance:

(a) Statement

Current Account: £9695; Reserve Account: £53563; Total Funds: £63528

(b) Current expenditure:

Receipts:- second half precept 28/9

Payments:- RBL Appeal £20 (wreath); R Jones £91.65 (expenses); K Moore £23.44

Retrospective consent for payment of: UALC £25 (subn); R Jones £254.40 (bonus); CPRE £27 (subn); Chris Rix Electrical £646.25 (V Hall inspection); SLCC £7 (Mtg fee); R Jones £33.88 (Norton security subn); Ridgeons £83.92 (Hall Cottage grate); Viking Direct £34.74 (stationery);

Mrs K Ruddick £130.34 (V Hall plant tubs)

The payment of all these accounts was approved.

The quotation was accepted from Jarvis Electrical for the remedial work to the village hall as required by the insurers following the 5 yearly inspection.

It was noted that the seat vouchers from Saffron Screen have not yet been distributed. It was agreed to give 8 to the school, 4 each to the WI and over 60s.

Radwinter Mother & Toddler Group have requested assistance with their funding as being new they are not yet established. After discussion it was agreed to pay 50% of the hall hire fee for the remainder of the session and would await a report on progress.

Radwinter Speedwatch is being established by Laura Martin of 49 East View Close. She has already recruited a number of members, and wishes to hire the hall for an inaugural meeting. It was agreed to fund this and request further information for PC participation.

The VHMC have reported that the projector which the PC donated to them is broken and needs a new bulb or replacement. It was agreed that this was a gift to the VHMC and as such is their responsibility to maintain or replace.

SSE have sent a request for funds; it was agreed that it should be left to individuals to subscribe.

(C) Finance Meeting:

It was agreed that this would be at 7.30pm on Monday 17th December to carry out an audit and agree a budget and set the precept for the coming year.

(D) It was agreed that the chairman should receive £60 each year (£30 in January & June) towards his communication expenses.

6. Planning:

Applications, decisions and related matters

Approved

UTT/1328/07/FUL – Lower House Farm: erection of garage – Lady Parker –

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

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

Refused

UTT/1603/07/FUL - Foxreach Stocking Green: raise roof to install extra rooms – J Briggs 17/10

Circulated – comments awaited

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

UTT/1780/07/FUL – Bendysh Hall Barn: new staircase & rooflight – S Mattick 9/11/07

Trees in Conservation Area

UTT/1473/07/TCA – St Mary's Ch: fell cypress; prune cedar, 2 beech, thin 1 cedar, pollard 1 ash

UTT/1961/07/TCA – Old Bakehouse Church Hill – remove 1 eucalyptus & 1 Fir – B Chamberlain

7) Reports

(A) Affordable Housing and Community Plan:

Cllrs Moore & Brown met with Bidwells and Cheffins on 25th October and agree future policy. The Clerk was instructed to write to Sarah Nicholas of UDC planning and advise her that we wished to proceed with the implementation of the Community Plan as soon as possible.

(B) Recreation Ground:

The Clerk has submitted another request for confirmation of title to the Land Registry with supporting documentation.

Lady Walker submitted a report from the committee on the current situation.

Cllr Halls is to fix chain and post fencing around the car-park.

(C) Village Hall & Cottages:

The draft letter from Hewitsons to the Charity Commission was read and approved with minor modification.

The Clerk reported that Jarvis Electrical will be commencing remedial work on the hall and cottages immediately, as some urgent attention is required.

Cllr Graves reported on his attendance at the VHMC meeting; minutes are awaited to clarify matters. Cllr Jarvis is to inspect the oil tank to ascertain requirements. Cllr Halls is to attend next meeting in place of Cllr Moore.

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter from the insurers regarding our claim for payment for the repair to the kitchen. Redgate Construction are requested to supply a breakdown of costs, and to ascertain who requested the services of the architect.

Mr Walker & Ms Vineal will be leaving Hall Cottage on 25th November; replacement tenants are being sought.

8) Correspondence

A) Meetings

13 Nov – EALC roles & responsibilities course – Dunmow £30
17 Nov – UDC workshop on future of Uttlesford - Dunmow Sat 9.30
20 Nov – UDC information event for old people SW URC church 9am - 1pm
29 Nov – EALC statutory planning course – Dunmow £50
1/2 Dec – St Mary's Ch Christmas tree festival – it was agreed that the PC would provide a tree; Cllr Halls to organise
4 Dec – VCU – International Volunteer Celebration – SW 7pm
5 Dec – EALC law & procedures course – Dunmow £50
12 Dec – UDC Parish liaison Mtg - SW 7.30pm
20 Feb – UDC conference on Carbon neutral Uttlesford SW 9.30 – 4pm

Other

Request from PCC for joint meeting dates; 4/5/6 December were proposed

DEFRA/EALC – details of community grant schemes

Fairfield Partnership – letter 27 Sep detailing their involvement in proposed new settlement near Elsenham

Pack for circulation was passed to Cllr Harling

9) Calendar of Meetings:

The following dates were agreed – meeting in the village hall at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated

21 January

25 February

14 April – Parish Meeting – start 7pm

19 May – AGM start 7pm

16 June

14 July

8 September

20 October

24 November.

The meeting closed at 10.40pm