

Radwinter Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting 24th November 2008

Present:

Cllrs K Moore (Ch); H Brown; E Duck; S Graves; J Harling; A Jarvis, with the Clerk, R A Jones in attendance.

Prior to the meeting there was a presentation by Charlotte Fellingham, County Public Rights of Way Officer, on Parish Paths Partnership and full details of the scheme and possible benefits.

Mr Colin Snell had been asked to attend re Neighbourhood Watch, but was unable to do so.

1. Apologies and reasons for absence:

Cllr Halls was not present.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of 20th October:

Having been previously circulated it was noted that a report had been received from D/Cllr Schneider too late for inclusion but circulated later. Subject to this amendment the minutes were approved and signed.

3. Reports from County & District Councillors:

None

4. Clerk's & Committee reports:

(A) Traffic:

The Clerk reported that he had been in contact with Ron Martin, highways inspector, regarding repairs. He was informed that temporary repairs had been made in Water Lane, Maple Lane and Golden Lane, the latter 2 being sub-standard and will be improved. Repairs are due to the ford crossings in Water Lane but this will involve road closure. Flooding in Ashdon Road due to blocked drains has been reported. The parking signs in Walden Road have been installed. No action has yet been taken regarding the cross-roads, although road markings are to be done and possibly a junction sign. A repair to Park Lane by Godfreys Farm is awaited. The traffic survey in Water Lane will not be done until after the road repairs. The letter from D Smith detailing problems with the pinch points is to be sent to H'ways.

(B) Bus shelter:

report from Cllr Halls: The Clerk wrote to Mr Caton regarding the donation of the old bus shelter. It is understood that Cllr Halls has installed this despite damage by vandals. It was agreed to authorize Cllr Halls to obtain and fix a fibreboard notice board inside the new shelter – budget £100. The Clerk was reminded that consent had been given for the purchase of a new waste bin.

(C) Village sign:

report awaited from Cllr Halls

(D)Recreation Ground:

Cllr Duck has supplied Cllr Halls with the text for a notice re closure.

(E)Village Hall:

The Clerk has been in contact with the Charity Commission and submitted a revised list of clubs and societies. A reply is awaited. He has also been in discussion with Sir Jonathan Parker. Graham Jarvis has now fitted a proximity light in the Hall entrance and its operation is to be checked.

The Clerk wrote to the VHMC regarding the Fire Safety Order and the trap door but they declined to be involved.

(F)Village amenities:

The Clerk and Chairman met Steve Rolfe of the Post Office and Clare Buckley from West Wickham on 21st November. It was agreed that she would take over the running of the Post Office as an outreach office asap. Mr Rolfe said it might take 10-12 weeks for the paper-work to be confirmed. Maximum publicity to be given. Office to be repainted if required.

Cllr Jarvis confirmed that he would undertake the supply and installation of a Christmas tree and lights for the Church Tree Festival, and would liaise with Wendy Rowley.

(G)Recycling:

UDC have informed us of Christmas collection roster and Christmas tree & green waste recycling – Rec 9.0 – 10.30 am Sunday 4 Jan.

5.Councillors' reports and 2008/9 plans:

The Chairman had asked each Councillor to submit plans and estimated costs for projects for the coming year.

Cllr Duck recommended action to help the young. She stated that the Youth Club had failed due to lack of integration of 8-10 yr olds with 11-13s, and that separate groups were needed. It was agreed that a Youth project should be started with Cllrs Duck and Graves, using funds received from the Youth Club on closure. Equipment availability is to be checked. Support for the Mother and Toddler group is to be continued.

Cllr Harling requested support for Neighbourhood Watch, and a budget of £500 agreed to be available

Cllr Graves requested that a major project is undertaken to abate flooding in Water Lane, and a budget of £2500 agreed. It was also agreed that the UDC should be approached regarding parking in Water Lane by the school.

He will also discuss the Web-site with David Mann – budget £200

Cllr Brown requested that all administration procedures should be inspected and revised.

Cllr Jarvis will discuss the Rec requirements with Stephen Hargreaves and report back.

6.Finance:

(A) Clerk's Broadband (out of order):

Due to the failure of the Staff committee to meet it was necessary for the matter to be resolved by the whole Council. The Clerk was sent out of the Hall for 15 minutes whilst it was discussed. It was decided that the PC would pay £18pcm wef 3 October and the Clerk the balance including the VAT. The payment of £60pa for telephone would be cancelled. No payment would be made for installation.

(B)statement:

as at 18/11/08: current £11,307 reserve £48269 total £59576.

It was noted that the interest rates have now fallen to 1.2% current, 2.5% reserve.

(C)Other financial items:

(i) Arrangements for Finance meeting Tuesday 16th December.

It was noted that the request for 2009/10 precept was needed prior to the next Council meeting, and it was agreed that any disagreement with the proposed submission of the Finance Committee meeting should be made to the Chairman prior to 30th December.

(D)Current position and signing of cheques:

Receipts: ECC £3155.41 (verge cutting) Bofl £183.16 interest.

Payments due: St Mary's Ch PCC £37.50 (gardener); CPRE £28.00 (Mem'ship); BT £56.91 (PO phone); A&J Lighting £17.91 (VAT); Royal British Legion £20.00 (wreath); R A Jones £91.23 (expenses); SLCC £82.00 (mem'ship). .

(E)Undertaking of P3 scheme:

It was agreed that the PC should participate in the scheme. In order to qualify for a 2009/10 grant urgent action is required, and an Action Group was formed of Cllrs Halls, Graves, Harling, and Duck, and Lady Suzanne Walker and Sue Bright are to be asked to join. Setting-up budget to be agreed.

7.Planning: Summary of applications decisions and related matters:

Under investigation:

ENF56 & ENF 167 - Jenkinhog's Farm – use of training school

Appns refused:

UTT/1390/08/FUL) – The Old Forge London Road: demolish front wall, replace with
UTT/1391/08/LB) - wood fence and increase car parking – A Jarvis

For comment:

UTT/1781/08/TCA – Harbury House Princes Well: reduce by 1/3 20 trees – Mrs J Haines

8.Correspondence

(A) meetings

29/30 Nov Church Christmas tree festival (Cllr Jarvis providing tree and lights)

Tues 09 Dec - UALC Mtg – UDC offices SW 7.30pm

Wed 10 Dec – ETP Finance Trg Course – Dunmow 09.30am (£52) papers to Cllr Harling

Wed 10 Dec – UDC Civic Carol Service – Hatfield Heath 7.30pm – Clerk to attend

06 Jan – UDC N area forum mtg 7.3pm

(B) other:

Letter 20 Oct from Hempstead PC re Neighbourhood Action Panel; acknowledged by Clerk. Action deferred until able to involve Mr Snell

9.Items for next agenda:

Provision of allotments.

10.Dates of meetings for 2009:

In the Village Hall at 7.45 pm unless *at 7 pm, or if a speaker

Agreed dates:

Monday 26 January

9 March

20 April*

18 May*

6 July

7 September

19 October

30 November

The Meeting closed at 10.40 pm.