

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council Alice Charlwood c/o Council Office, Memorial Hall, High Street, Ramsbury, Wilts SN8 2PB
Telephone: 01672 520045 (ansaphone) e-mail parishcouncil@ramsbury.org

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th August at 7.45pm in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

1910

Present:

S Glass – Chair (SG)
H Lloyd (HL)
D Gill (DG)
Lynn Jauncey (LJ)
C Morgan (CM)

G Hawes (GH)
D Edwards (DE)
E Hodgson (EH)
A Charlwood (AC) – Clerk

One member of the public was also present

- APOLOGIES** – were received from Di Barnett, Roger Greasley, Maggie Waugh, Matthew Tester, Alison Foale and Bernard Murray. **Approved**
- DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST** – None.
- THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**
The minutes of the meeting held on 15th July were approved and signed as a true record. **Proposed LJ; Seconded GH. Approved.**
- MATTERS ARISING** - None
- NEW CORRESPONDENCE** – Items for discussion*

Ref. No	Date Received	July-August 2024 Correspondence	Subject *Highlighted for Discussion
*A7826	06 July	Melissa Camilleri, PCSO	Q2 crime report. Fwd. to Cllrs. SG briefly summarised the report; there had been very little crime between April and June.
*A7832	10 July	Resident	Update re. removal of fallen trees from river on Mill Lane. Fwd. to Rights of Way C. SG continues to liaise with the landowner about the urgency of getting this work done.

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*A7839	17 July	Melissa Camilleri, PCSO	Reporting on various concerns raised at police consultation. Fwd. to Cllrs. SG has written to the PCSO and to the resident (see A7840), in detail and to answer her various queries.
*A7840	17 July	Resident	Notes of her discussion with the PCSO today. Fwd to Cllrs. See A7839 above. Resident has since replied, thanking SG for her efforts.
*A7846	22 July	Wilts CC Climate Technician	Solar Together scheme 2024. Fwd. to Cllrs. SG has posted this on the website and updated the deadline for applications.
*A7848	25 July	SSEN Stakeholder Engagement	Sending information re. new community support grants. Fwd to Cllrs. After some discussion, SG will pass on the info. to the trustees of the Memorial Hall and Axford Village Hall. ACTION-SG
*A7852	26 July	CPRE	Final results of BKV 2024. Fwd. to Cllrs. For information.
*A7860	31 July	Wilts CC Transport Planning	New contractor soon to be appointed to carry out traffic surveys. Fwd to Cllrs. For information.
*A7862	31 July	Resident	Bike and horse riders abusing footpaths near Knowledge Hill. Fwd. to Cllrs. SG has written to Wilts Rights of Way officer (see A7865), and subsequently spoken to the resident to try to resolve this issue. In Whitton Ways she has also asked other residents to let her know if they have had similar problems.
*A7864	02 Aug	Resident	Large lorries removing soil from building site ignoring weight restriction notices on route from Whittonditch to Witcha. SG has learnt from the landowner that Earthline are entitled to use the road to access a site up there where the soil is being disposed of.
*A7865	05 Aug	Stephen Leonard, Wilts CC RoWofficer	Response to PC letter re footpath 4 being used by bikes and horse riders. Fwd to RoW. See A7862
*A7869	07 Aug	Resident	Confirming that contractor has been contacted re soil removal (Ref. A7864)
*A7873	08 Aug	Fred Rendell, Parish Steward Supervisor	Photos of grip & gully cleaning Manor to Hilldrop Lane. Fwd to Councillors. For information

***The full list of incoming correspondence from 5th July – 9th August can be viewed on the parish council website**

6. Committee Reports:

6(i) Planning

Diann Barnett

PLANNING REPORT RAMSBURY AND AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL – Aug 2024

Planning Applications Processed since July 2024 Report

New applications-

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • PL/2024/06742 | Sawyers Cottage, Axford | 2 storey side and rear extension |
| • PL/2024/06840 | 4 The Paddocks, Ramsbury | Single storey porch extension |
| • PL/2024/07169 | 61 High St, Ramsbury | Treework in conservation area |

Still awaiting-

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • PL/2024/04645 | House on the Hill, Hilldrop | Oak framed garage and workshop |
| • PL/2024/06429 | Westfield House, Mill Lane | Treework. |

Decisions - None

Note: Wilts Planning Enforcement are looking into work at 42/44 Oxford Street.

DB was not at the meeting but SG briefly summarised the contents of her report and confirmed that no new applications had come in since the report was written.

6(ii) Finance

Erica Hodgson

Increased payroll fee

The Clerk confirmed she had queried this and been advised that the increase should not have been applied to the PC. Two credit notes in respect of the overcharges have now been received and the previous monthly fee will apply until further notice.

Amendment to 2023-24 AGAR 3 Section 2 Box 9

The Clerk explained that a clerical error was made when completing the AGAR Section 2 at the time of the internal audit in mid-May. At that time the PC were recognising that the value of the fixed assets should be uplifted to reflect the increased value of the refurbished public loos, and it had just been agreed that £32,371 should be added to the fixed asset register in this respect. Unfortunately this was happening at the same time as the AGAR 3 form was being completed and submitted, and the clerk made the mistake of retrospectively adding this sum to the correct figure for the fixed assets at 31st March (£182,884). As a result £215,255 was incorrectly entered in Section 2 Box 9 and the error was picked up by the external auditor who raised a query about the apparent discrepancy.

This was explained in an email to the auditors on 31st July, and in a subsequent telephone conversation, and they have not come back with any further queries to date.

Update on pavement repairs

EH confirmed that Rockstone have been appointed to carry out the works across various areas of the village and work will commence on Whittonditch Road on 2nd September. Rockstone will be doing a letter drop to warn residents likely to be affected. Further works are scheduled to follow on the High Street, and the virtual footpath and crossings on Back Lane and Isles Road will also be resurfaced.

Quotes for new equipment for play areas

SG said that she will be meeting with DE in the next few days to discuss the three quotations that have come in and to firm up on what will be ordered and the likely cost.

ACTION -SG/DE

Dropped kerbs at Isles Court

SG explained that a legal complication had arisen about who owns the small area of land where the dropped kerbs are to be installed. As a result, the oncost of the lawyers' involvement is likely to bring the total up to about £8,000 and the PC would be called upon to cover 25% of that. SG has therefore contacted Cognatum to ask if they would be willing to split the £2,000 cost and they have agreed to contribute £1,000. SG pointed out that the dropped kerbs would be a benefit to the wider community as well as to the Isles Courts residents and therefore sought approval for the PC to also contribute £1,000. This was agreed. **Prop. DE; Sec. EH. ACTION - SG to notify LHFIG**

6(iii) Rights of Way

Lynn Jauncey

- LJ said that there was nothing more to say about the fallen trees at Mill Lane (See Item 5: A7832), and the footpath RAMS4 (See Item 5: A7862).
- As regards the next monthly walk – this will be held on 1st September and will be led by Ian Ritchie. A map of the route has been posted on the website and details published in Whitton Ways and the diary. EH has agreed to put up posters. **ACTION – SG/EH**
- SG mentioned that Robert Copp has been asked to repair the fallen fence at the end of the footpath to the Manor gates.
- There was a further discussion about the dilapidated condition of the Seven Bridges bridge, with concern about the holes that are now appearing. SG will chase up Wilts CC RoW officer Stephen Leonard in September about the need to repair the bridge fairly urgently. **ACTION - SG**

6(iv) Play Areas and Seats

Denise Edwards

- DE said that she aimed to have appointed a contractor to supply and install the new play area equipment at Axford by 7th September so that a display for the plans can be ready in time for the Axford fete. **ACTION - DE**
- EH asked if Nick Waite had been contacted about amending his quote for the works to be done at Whittonditch play area, as Wilts CC have already come and fixed the damaged dustbin and that item can be omitted from his quote. **ACTION – DE/EH**
- There was a discussion about the sofa that has appeared and whether or not it should be disposed of or left where it is for the time being as the local kids are enjoying it. Opinions differed on what to do about this, but it was agreed that the situation would be monitored for now.
- DE mentioned that RoSPA will be coming to carry out their annual inspection of all the play areas in September.

6(v) Emergency Committee

Alison Foale

- AF was not at the meeting but had discussed with SG whether a village general noticeboard could be put up on the side wall of the Post Office. SG has since heard that the property owners and the Post Office are agreeable to this so she will look into the cost of doing so. **ACTION – SG**
- Once AF returns from holiday a wardens' meeting will be arranged in late September and she will liaise with SG about that. **ACTION - AF**
- SG reported that, despite months of trying, she was no further forward with trying to arrange a meeting with the Ramsbury Manor Trustees to discuss how they maintain and monitor the state of the bridge over the weir. However, she will continue to pursue this matter. **ACTION - SG**

6(vi) Environment Committee

Maggie Waugh

- DG said she was pleased that information about the Wilts CC collaboration with Solar Together was up on the website for the benefit of anyone who might be considering installing solar panels.

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- DG explained that the idea of a community orchard needed further consideration as there was no guarantee that any grant application for the project would be accepted. What was the council's view of the idea if only a partial grant was paid towards the cost of the trees, or no grant was paid at all? During the ensuing discussion, some people were generally in favour of the idea if it was well thought out, whilst others voiced concerns about where they would be sited, their eventual size, who would plant the trees in the first place, and who would do the necessary intense watering and maintenance in the first two years. DG was asked if the sub-committee would carry out a feasibility study and report back at the next meeting about what would be involved, and the likely cost. **ACTION - DG**
- DG asked CM if photos could be taken of the Nature Reserve to be posted on the website. It was agreed that he should wait to take the pictures until after WWT have come and done their next cut. **ACTION - CM**
- The new position of the NO FISHING sign in the river at Duck Bridge was discussed a resident has complained it is spoiling the iconic view of the river from the bridge. No conclusion was reached.

Public Forum - Parish Council Standing Orders were temporarily suspended for this item

One member of the public was present who expressed concern about the noise being made one night recently by the young people congregating on Whittonditch play area late into the evening, and the disturbance to her and her neighbours with young children.

7. AXFORD

No report.

Diann Barnett

8. LOCAL HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS IMPROVEMENT GROUP

SG will attend the next meeting on 17th October.

Sheila Glass

ACTION- SG

9. MARLBOROUGH AREA BOARD

SG will try to go to the next meeting on 1st October.

Sheila Glass

ACTION - SG

10. ALLOTMENTS

Denise Edwards

DE said clearing up was still being done up on the allotments. Some fantastic produce had been exhibited at the Horticultural Society Summer Show and it was very good to see that more exhibitors had entered in the vegetable classes this year.

Allotment Enquiries: Dee Edwards 07867921878; allotments@ramsbury.org

11. WEBSITE

The most recent Google analytics report had been circulated and SG said there was nothing else to report.

12. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- Bike racks in the car park** – SG said she had sourced some galvanised steel, wall-mounted bike racks for about £40 each. She thought three would be enough but would go and measure up properly.
- Millenium Tapestry print** – Is now back up on the wall in the Memorial Hall in its new frame and is looking good.
- Christmas trees and lights** - SG has contacted Alistair Ewing and he has agreed to order the trees again, and arrange to put them up. The PC will do the lights. SG is trying to find a better, brighter white or gold uplighter to go with the green and red that were successful last year. **ACTION - SG**

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- 13. MEMORIAL GARDEN** *Sheila Glass*
SG said the garden was doing well but had required a huge amount of weeding at her most recent visit.
- 14. PARISH STEWARD'S ROTA** *Clerk*
Next visit will be on 4th September. The clerk was asked to put a number of tasks on their rota.
ACTION – CLERK
- 15. LIBRARY**
It has been suggested that the library might open again on Thursday afternoons 2-4pm w.e.f. October but this will depend on how many of the current library volunteers can commit to being available for this additional shift in addition to the time they already give.
- 16. MEMORIAL HALL** *Sheila Glass/George Hawes*
GH said that the next trustees' meeting would be held on 21st August. Some concerns have been raised about the state of the courtyard and how this might be improved.
- 17. NATURE RESERVE** *Chris Morgan*
- CM has spoken recently to Wiltshire Wildlife Trust about whether they could clear the build up of water weed and detritus from the leat at the entrance to the Reserve. He is hopeful that they may be able to get this done in the near future. They are also trying to reestablish some of the overgrown paths to the left of the boardwalk as you go in.
 - There was a discussion about the practicality of seeking some volunteers from the village to carry out some of the maintenance tasks but it was soon agreed that a previous attempt at this had failed and that, in any case, storing the necessary equipment ourselves would also be present too much of a problem.
 - SG said she would like to make an arrangement with the British Legion café that the PC would like to cover the costs of refreshments for the WWT personnel when they come to look after the Nature Reserve. CM was asked to let WWT know.
ACTION – SG/CM
- 18. POLICE CONSULTATION**
Another Police Consultation on 29th August has been advertised on Facebook. SG will ask the PCSO for details of where and what time.
ACTION - SG
- 19. RECREATION CENTRE** *George Hawes*
No meeting. GH reported that that tarmac road connection to the existing track has now been completed.
- 21. RAMSBURY SCHOOL** *Roger Greasley*
No report.
- 22. VANDALISM/CRIME**
No report.
- 23. PATIENTS' REPRESENTATIVE** *George Hawes*
No meeting.

24 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT IN AUGUST

Inv. No	Payments to Suppliers – August 2024	Amount	Net	VAT	Paid By	S137
I4098	Idverde Ltd - Bin emptying in June. Paid in July	22.20	18.50	3.70	BACS	No
I4099	HMRC – Clerk’s income tax in last quarter. Paid in July	395.40	395.40	0.00	DD	No
I4100	JRB Enterprises Ltd - Dog poo bags. Paid in July	100.74	83.95	16.79	VisaDebit	No
I4101	Sheila Glass – 50% share of cost of reframing millenium tapestry. Paid in July	50.00	50.00	0.00	BACS	No
I4102	Ramsbury Pre-School – litter-pick donation. Paid in July	100.00	100.00	0.00	BACS	No
I4103	HP Instant Ink – 28 th June – 27 th July. Paid in July	11.99	9.99	2.00	VisaDebit	No
I4104	M J Baker Accountancy – Payroll fee for July (adjusted for credit notes re. May and June overcharge)	6.75	6.75	0.00	DD	No
I4105	Coral Westall – Public loo cleaning in August	180.00	180.00	0.00	BACS	No
I4106	Robert Copp – Grasscutting and strimming	217.00	217.00	0.00	BACS	No
I4107	Idverde Ltd - Bin emptying in July	22.20	18.50	3.70	BACS	No
I4108	Castle Water – public loo water charges 1 st -31 st July	28.29	28.29	0.00	BACS	No
I4109	Community First – Renewal of Associate Membership	40.00	40.00	0.00	BACS	No
I4110	BT – phone and broadband Aug - Oct	155.14	129.28	25.86	DD	No
	TOTAL TO PAY (excluding Clerk’s salary I4111)	£1,329.71	£1,277.66	£52.05		
	TOTAL AMOUNT ON DEPOSIT*	£122,462.12				
	incl. gross interest earned to 31 st July 2024	3,462.12				
	MONIES RECEIVED					
	Charity shop rent	300.00				
	TOTAL INCOME	300.00				
	Current A/c at 31st July 2024 – £4,756.00					

*This includes monies held in reserve for parish initiatives such as the Ramsbury Flyer, defibrillators, provision of play equipment, pavement and road repairs, etc.

The Accounts were accepted and were unanimously approved. Prop. DG; Sec. HL

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER at 7.45pm at Ramsbury Memorial Hall

ALL ARE WELCOME