

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15th AUGUST 2016 in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

PRESENT: Diann Barnett, Terence Brown, Denise Edwards, Graeme Fearon, Sheila Glass (Chairman), George Hawes, Helen Lloyd, Chris Morgan, Ron Young, Sue Arnold (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence for approval:** Erica Hodgson, Simon Smith, Michael Waite. Approved.
2. **Disclosures of interest:** None.
3. **The minutes of the meeting held on 28th July** were approved. Proposed – G. Hawes, Seconded – C. Morgan.
4. **Matters arising.** None

5. **NEW CORRESPONDENCE FOR DISCUSSION**

A1249	01/08/16	GA Butler & Sons Ltd	Quote for work to the tree in the Square
A1256	01/08/16	Mr P. Wilson	Re horses on Springs Hill. He is sorry people have been worried by horses. The farm's preference is for cattle on the site, but following a TB infection in 2015, the site could not be used for cattle this year. The site needs to be grazed for maintenance. Sheep were considered but for various reasons this was not possible this year. Horses were selected on grounds of their quiet nature and being used to people. As the horses are not classed as dangerous, the farm is entitled to have them grazing on the land.
A1257	01/08/16	Wessex Woodland	Quote for work to tree in Square
A1264	01/08/16	WC	Permission to co-opt Councillor to fill vacancy in the Ramsbury Ward. Forwarded to S. Glass anyone interested in the role who feels they could contribute some time to working with the Parish Council, please contact parishcouncil@ramsbury.org or telephone 520045 and leave a message. Applicants must live or work in Ramsbury.
A1266	01/08/16	Mr J. Liddiard (Via ramsbury.org web site)	Path from Ramsbury Knapp through to Littlecote is overgrown and dangerous to cyclists, dog walkers and ramblers. Update – PC has asked Ramsbury Estates if they can provide details of the landowner. Forwarded to S. Glass. See also A1301 and A1306
A1267	01/08/16	D.W. Oliver Tree Services Ltd	Quote for work to tree in Square. This quote was accepted and the work has been done, including removing the Christmas lights for repair for an additional £25.00.
A1274	09/08/16	Lloyds Bank Commercial Finance	Payment for Rhino Play should be sent to them. Form for receiving account updates needs to be submitted by PC. Action: Clerk to complete and submit – done.
A1276	09/08/16	Ramsbury Estates	Overgrown path from Ramsbury to Littlecote belongs to Eastridge Estate. PC has left a message with the Eastridge Estate office requesting that the footpath is cut back. See also A1301 and A1306
A1277	09/08/16	Abbey Electrical	Publicity – Christmas lights. Forwarded to S. Glass. Action: S Glass to contact Abbey Electrical.
A1282	09/08/16	TLG	Responding to PC's e-mail saying that the PC has not been billed for cleaning the Public Conveniences since December 2015. Will investigate

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A1284	09/08/16	Mr & Mrs A. Littlewood	Objecting to proposed skate park on the Whittonditch Play Area. Forwarded to S. Glass
A1287	09/08/16	TLG	Responding to PC's query regarding I2552 bill for Grounds Maintenance – was actually for cleaning of public conveniences for April – June 2016 Will correct invoice I2552 and raise an invoice for unbilled period of Jan – March. Update following meeting: Correct invoices have now been received.
A1289		Crowood Farming Partnership	Re PC's request to clear overgrown footpath no 39. Will have annual flail at points where stock fencing runs alongside footpath when crop is removed. Will look into strimming more difficult areas including around the kissing gates.
A1293	09/08/16	Mrs J Webster	Wishing to resign from office cleaning and suggesting a replacement
A1298	15/08/16	Mr & Mrs D. Lewis	Objection to proposed skateboard park on grounds of litter and noise associated with previous skateboard ramp
A1301	15/08/16	Mr J. Liddiard	Re footpath from West Lodge to Littlecote. Only part of the path has been cut and he regards it as dangerous. Forwarded to Eastridge Estate
A1305	15/08/16	Harbrook Estate	Re Mill Lane bridges footpath work – would prefer a solution that blends into landscape more than the original boardwalk proposal. Offer to trim back vegetation by fence to provide more space. Action: S. Glass to have a site meeting with ARK representative and Mrs S. Evans to discuss further. Update: Meeting arranged for 29/8/16
A1306	15/08/16	Eastridge Estate	Copy of e-mail to Mr Liddiard. Whole length of footpath is clearly defined and not a danger to users on foot, horse or bicycle

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A Planning

Chairman: Susan Findlay

a. Planning Applications Processed since July 2016 Report

16/00119/FUL	The House on the Hill, Hilldrop Lane, Ramsbury Amendments to approved elevations of barn being converted to dwelling (see 14/08822/FUL)
PC Comment WC	No objection
16/00690/VAR	Whittonditch Farm, Whittonditch, Ramsbury Removal of conditions 7,8 & 9 and variation of condition 2 of outline approval E/2013/0171/OUT – to allow for removal of required kerbed footway to highway and resurfacing of existing permissive path near Whittonditch crossroad and amended wording for condition 2
PC Comment WC	Objection being sent to WC with explanation that these conditions were not the terms requested by the Parish Council. The PC were asking for 'softer' pathways Approve with conditions
16/05665/TCA	14 Burdett Street, Ramsbury Fell Hazel Tree
PC Comment WC	Suggested tree should be pruned not cut down as it provides a green 'lung' in the conservation area. No objection
16/04146/CLE	8 Ashley Piece, Ramsbury Certificate of Lawful development for rear extension
PC Comment WC	No objection withdrawn
16/06315/FUL	7 The Square, Ramsbury Change of use from Class A2 (business use) to Class C3 (residential)
PC Comment WC	Following a public meeting we asked that the building should be more widely advertised as business premises in the hope that someone would come forward to buy it as Class A2. We did not want to see one of the last commercial buildings in Ramsbury disappear from use.

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16/06249/FUL	8 Ashley Piece, Ramsbury Single Storey Rear Extension
PC Comment WC	No objection

- b. **Neighbourhood Plan.** No update.
- c. **Planning Committee Meeting to discuss 16/06315/FUL 7 - The Square, Ramsbury - Change of use from Class A2 (business use) to Class C3 (residential).** This was attended by the property owner and 3 members of the public. The PC suggested to the property owner that more effort should be made to sell the property as a shop before applying for change of use.
- d. **Newly received Planning Application for work to repair wall at The Knap.** The decision date for this is 03/10/16. **Action: S. Glass to suggest to WC that it should use its powers of emergency to bring forward the date to enable the footpath to be re-opened before the dark nights, as Highways have highlighted that the work is urgent. Update: WC says this is not possible but applicant can begin work since application has been lodged but this is at own risk.**

B Finance

Chairman: Erica Hodgson

- a. **2017 – 8 Budget.** **Action E. Hodgson to organise a meeting to start the work for the next budget cycle.**
- b. **Quarterly Reconciliation report.** These have been checked and signed off by E. Hodgson.

C Rights of way.

Chairman: Terry Brown

- a. **Mill Lane Bridges.** This is now part of the ARK project funded by the Tesco plastic bags scheme. See item 5 no A 1305.
- b. **Seven Bridges.** There is a hole in the bridge over the weir which is a trip hazard. There is a board on the ground by the final bridge which gets muddy in wet weather, but which is solid at present. **Action: S. Glass to contact the Howe Mill Estate Manager to ask him to walk the route with her to check the bridges.**
- c. **Horses on footpath 18B on Springs Hill.** See item 5 no A1256.
- d. **Footpath from 20 Acre to Loves Copse.** The hedge is overgrown and the landowner has been informed **Action: D. Edwards to follow up.**
- e. **Footpath 39.** This will be cut back after the harvest.

D Play Areas and Seats.

Chairman: Simon Smith

- a. **Axford Play Area.** The work to update the play area with new equipment has been completed.
- b. **Seats.** Grass around the seat towards the Crowood Lane end of Swan's Bottom needs cutting back. **Action: T. Brown to check the seat at the top of Swan's Close to see if it is metal or plastic.**

E Emergency Committee.

Chairman: Diann Barnett

Emergency Plan. **Action: S. Glass and D. Barnett to update the plan including the lists of emergency wardens and first aiders.**

F Recreation Centre.

George Hawes

The Committee will not meet until September

H Policy Committee. Nothing to report

Chairman: Sheila Glass

Public Forum. No items were raised.

7. Axford.

- a. **Fête.** This will be on Saturday 20th August.
- b. **Telephone Kiosk.** A 9-year old girl from Axford has adopted the kiosk, cleared it out and is setting it up as a book exchange. **Action: Clerk to write thanking her.**
- c. **Superfast Broadband.** This would cost £116K to install. **Action: Clerk to write to Claire Perry regarding lack of affordable provision of broadband to the village.**
- d. **The Red Lion.** The piece of land adjacent to the pub has been sold.

8. Marlborough Area Board.

- a. **Meeting of 19/07/16.** The theme was Fair Trade in Marlborough.

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- b. **Youth Festival.** There will be an open air music festival for young people in September for which funding was granted.
- c. **Grants.** £5K was awarded to the Kennet & Avon Trust for work to the Crofton Beam Engine; £650 was awarded to Froxfield Memorial Hall for a new door; £2,500 was awarded to the Phoenix Brass Band to update the horn section. Aldbourne Youth Council had requested grant for £5K but were asked to provide further information to allow the board to consider the request.
- d.

9. **Chairman's Forum.** Nothing to report

10. CATG

- a. **Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS).** These should be installed within the next 3-4 weeks.
- b. **20mph signs.** The road has been marked up in readiness for the work and the posts for the signs have been erected.

11. Committees: Action Clerk to put on September agenda.

12. **Parish Steward Scheme.** Suggested priorities for work when the scheme gets under way in October are as follows:

- Gutters in Newtown Road
- Painting the rails at The Knap
- Hedge at the bottom of Isles Road.
- Painting the rails at Mill Lane Bridges
- Hedges around the 30 mph sign at Axford (**Action: D. Barnett to talk to Ramsbury Estates rep first**)
- Weed at the junction of Crowood Lane and Ashley Piece
- Manor Footpath (once the trees have lost their leaves)

Action: Councillors are requested to forward suggestions to S. Glass when they arise.

13. **Pre-School.** Nothing to report.

14. **Post Office.** The post office seems to be going well.

15. **Website.** The PC has provided initial information for the site. **Awaiting update from D. Leake.**

16. **ARK Projects.** Projects to provide a fire pit for the Scouts, Rec. Centre hedging and the Nature Reserve dipping pond platforms are going ahead. For update to the Mill Lane Bridges project see Item 5 no A1305.

17. **Library.** Update since meeting: Ramsbury came out very well in the Wiltshire Community Library Survey 2015. **Action: S. Findlay to present results at PC's September meeting.**

18. **Allotments.** All is OK

Denise Edwards

19. Telephone Kiosks.

Graeme Fearon

a. **Axford:** See Item S. 7.b.

b. **Ramsbury:** Mr & Mrs S. Glass have replaced the pane of glass that had been vandalised in the Whittonditch Road kiosk.

20. Nature Reserve.

Chris Morgan

Dipping Platforms. Work on these will begin on 24/09/16. ARK is providing people who can work in the water to install stanchions and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust (WWT) will undertake the rest of the work.

5-bar gate at entrance. The gatepost is rotten at ground level. **Action: C. Morgan to ask WWT to repair it.**

Grass-cutting. This is going well this year as the ground has dried out well.

21. **Tree Lights.** **Action: S. Glass to follow up. See item 5 no A 1277**

22. **Vandalism.**

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- a. **The goal post** at the Ashley Whittonditch Play area has been taken to pieces. **Action: S. Smith to see if it can be re-assembled.**
- b. **Rubbish dumped** in gateway in Newtown Road. Mr T. Barratt has removed this.

23. Memorial Hall.

- a. **Hall Lighting.** This is to be replaced. The Hall is experimenting with possible replacements and samples of 2 different lights have been installed for evaluation.
Loos. New basins, lever taps and work surfaces are to be installed in both loos.

24. **Memorial Garden.** Nothing to report.

25. Public Conveniences.

- a. **Cleaning.** A bill for the 2nd quarter of 2016 has been received and a bill for the 1st quarter has been requested and is awaited. **For post-meeting update see item 5 no A1287.**
- b. **Vegetation around the building.** This is due to be cut back, financed by the PC and The Church.

26. **Kennet Triangle.** There is a small amount of maintenance to be done, including ensuring fallen trees are positioned so they do not block the flow.

27. **Patients' Rep.** The next meeting is scheduled for September.

George Hawes

28. Accounts for Payment

Ref	Item	Total	VAT	S137	Incl in budget
I2548	British Gas- Electricity for Public Conveniences. (DD2) (from Dec 14 – Nov 15).Account is £16.37 in credit	29.00	1.38	No	Y
I2549	PlusNet - Broadband Service(DD4)	12.99	2.16	No	Y
I2550	Thames Water (DD6) – water for public conveniences	59.78	0	No	Y
I2551	<i>Rhino Play limited – purchase & installation of equipment for Axford Play Area. Replaces I2547 listed in July minutes and is replaced by I2556 below</i>	14,587.20	2,431.20	No	Y
I2552	BR – telephone bill	79.55	13.26	No	Y
I2553	TLG – Cleaning public conveniences April - June	836.56	139.43	No	Y
I2554	CPRE – Annual subscription	36.00	0	No	Y
I2555	S. Glass – replacement glass pane for telephone kiosk plus carriage	21.18	3.78	No	Y
I2556	Lloyds Commercial Finance – purchase & installation of equipment for Axford Play Area. Replaces previous invoices I2551 and I2547 in main agenda and is £276.00 less. NB the total is approx £500 greater than the budgeted amount, and will be funded from the surplus carried forward from the 2015-6 accounts. Action: Clerk to record transfer of funds in the accounts.	14,311.20	2,385.20	No	Y

TOTAL PAYMENTS = £15,386.16 of which £2,545.21 is VAT. Proposed – D. Barnett, seconded – G. Fearon. All in favour.

29. Payments Received

R421	Santander – Interest on Business Savings account on 01/08/16	9.03	01/08/16	Direct Transfer	
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TOTAL PAYMENTS RECEIVED = £9.03

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30. Bank Balance ON 03/08/16 CURRENT ACCOUNT **£28,799.11**
ON 06/08/16 BUSINESS SAVINGS ACCOUNT - **£31,482.27**

These figures include ring-fenced funds of £778.86 from defibrillator fund, plus allocated budget for year, funds for long-term capital projects and contingency.

DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 19th September 2016

at 7.45pm

in

RAMSBURY MEMORIAL HALL

YOU WILL BE VERY WELCOME - PLEASE COME

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ALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC