

# RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 7.45pm in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

2020

### Present:

S Glass – Chair (SG)  
D Barnett – Vice Chair (DB)  
H Lloyd (HL)  
R Greasley (RG)  
D Edwards (DE)

D Gill (DGi)  
M Tester (MT)  
D Greenway (DGr)  
A Charlwood (AC) – Clerk

**Wiltshire County Councillor James Sheppard (JS) was also present**

- 1. APOLOGIES** – were received from E Hodgson , M Waugh, C Morgan, B Murray and A Foale.  
**Approved.**
- 2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST** – None.
- 3. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 15h September were approved and signed as a true record.  
**Proposed RG; Seconded DB. Approved.**
- 4. MATTERS ARISING** – None
- 5. NEW CORRESPONDENCE** – Items for discussion

| Ref. No | Date Received | September – October 2025<br>From :    | Subject<br>*Highlighted for Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------|---------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A8341   | 15 Sept       | North Wessex Downs Landscape Trust    | Campaign to plant bee-friendly bulbs next Spring. Fwd. to Cllrs. <b>See item 6(vi)</b>                                                                                                                                          |
| A8344   | 16 Sept       | Wilts CC Planning Enforcement         | Response re. unauthorised mobile home NE of Lamplands. Fwd to Cllrs. <b>See item 6(i)</b>                                                                                                                                       |
| A8351   | 18 Sept       | Perry Holmes, Wilts CC                | May election invoices will be issued at the beginning of October. <b>Note: separate invoices for Ramsbury Ward and Axford Ward have now been received. SG is writing to query the basis of the amounts charged. ACTION - SG</b> |
| A8357   | 23 Sept       | Resident (i)                          | Lowering of speed limit on B4192. <b>See item 8</b>                                                                                                                                                                             |
| A8358   | 24 Sept       | Jo Fowles, EOC Triage Paramedic SWAST | Appeal for donations towards cost of another Community Response Vehicle. Fwd to Cllrs. <b>SG was asked to enquire about their offer of CPR training in exchange for a PC donation of £300. ACTION - SG</b>                      |

## 2021

|       |         |                                                   |                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------|---------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A8359 | 24 Sept | Jo Stewart, Wilts CC Planning Enforcement         | Mobile home at Lamplands – new planning application pending. Fwd to Cllrs. <b>See item 6(i)</b>                                                    |
| A8361 | 27 Sept | Resident (ii)                                     | Lowering of speed limit on B4192 – contribution towards costs. <b>See item 8</b>                                                                   |
| A8369 | 06 Oct  | Caroline Dale, North Wessex Downs Landscape Trust | Legal protection of the NWDLT at risk if government repeals section 85 of the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000. Fwd. to Cllrs. <b>For info</b> |
| A8370 | 06 Oct  | Jason Lucas, Wilts CC Traffic Order Team          | TTRO for footpath 30 commencing 06 <sup>th</sup> Nov. Fwd. to Cllrs. <b>See item 6(iii)</b>                                                        |
| A8371 | 07 Oct  | Melissa Camilleri, PCSO                           | Police parish report. Fwd. to Cllrs. <b>See item 16</b>                                                                                            |
| A8372 | 07 Oct  | Flood Wessex                                      | Slides, notes and recording of the Look & Learn session last week. Fwd. to Emergency C. <b>SG attended</b>                                         |
| A8375 | 08 Oct  | Ian Nockolds, Community First                     | Invitation to webinar on Martyn's Law. Fwd to Councillors. <b>See item 6(v)</b>                                                                    |

\*The full list of incoming correspondence from 8<sup>th</sup> Sept – 9<sup>th</sup> Oct. can be viewed on the parish council website

### 6. Committee Reports:

#### 6(i) Planning

*Diann Barnett*

#### PLANNING REPORT RAMSBURY AND AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL – Oct 2025

##### Planning Applications Processed since September 2025 report

#### New applications-

- PL/2025/07997      Parliament Piece, Back Lane      Treework in conservation area

#### Still awaiting-

- PL/2024/07914      Anvil Cottage Barn      Demolish and rebuild barn for family house.
- PL/2025/01559      Upcott Field, Whittonditch Rd      9 houses and associated works
- PL/2025/06883      Coombe Farm, Axford      Self-build house, garaging, tennis court with landscaping, demolishing modern farm buildings.
- PL/2025/04931      Old Coach House, Scholards      Treework

#### Decisions-

- PL/2025/05894      Hatches House, Axford      Work to E ext., new chimney and windows **APP**
- PL/2025/07085      37a Oxford St      Treework **APP**
- PL/2025/06386      The Old Tannery      Treework **APP**
- PL/2025/06467      Westfield House      Treework **APP**
- PL/2025/06477      the Old Tannery      Treework **APP**
- PL/2025/06387      Kennet House      Treework **APP**

- 3364563      Land north of Newtown Road      **Enforcement appeal refused**
- 3357357      Red Lion enforcement appeal **NC**
- 3362810      Red Lion planning appeal **NC**

## 2022

DB also reported that she had written to Planning Enforcement about their lack of action on the mobile home at Lamplands. Councillors' comments reflected their frustration and concern about the way this matter has been allowed to go round and round in circles and still remains unresolved. JS said there is a wider concern across the County Council that Planning Enforcement is not fit for purpose, and they are looking at ways to address this. He will bring up this particular case.

**ACTION - JS**

### 6(ii) Finance

*Erica Hodgson*

AS EH was not at the meeting, SG reported that:

- The 2024-25 audit has been concluded by PKF Littlejohn LLP and the documentation has been posted on the noticeboards and website as required.
- The Finance Committee met on October 2<sup>nd</sup> to begin budgeting for 2026-27. They will meet again before the next PC meeting to finalise their figures, subject to the WC confirming the tax basis that will apply.
- The Q2 financial report having been circulated prior to the meeting, and no questions being raised, SG sought councillors' approval. **Prop. SG; Seconded MT. APPROVED**
- Committee chairmen were asked to consider what potential capital projects might be undertaken in 2026-27 and submit their ideas to the Finance Committee before the next budget meeting.

### 6(iii) Rights of Way

*Doug Greenway*

- DGr said 7 people had accompanied him on the circular walk on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October. The next on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November to Near Albourne via Loves Lane & Southward Down. (4.3 miles/1.5 hrs.)
- The PC had been expecting the work to have been completed by now but DGr has recently been advised that the repair work to Lofts Bridge is likely to be delayed until January because the river is an SSSI and it will take the Environment Agency that long to process the application that has only now been submitted by WCC. Several councillors expressed grave concern at this further delay as it is recognised that people continue to disregard the signage and other measures already in place to say the footpath is closed and are still using the bridge. The PC regard this as so dangerous as to warrant WCC temporarily disabling the bridge altogether and will contact Stephen Leonard about this urgently. **ACTION – DGr/SG**
- DGr has written to WCC Rights of Way to reiterate the PC's views on the proposed re-routing of the footpaths across the airfield (RAMS5, RAMS6 and RAMS8C). He sees those changes as a reasonable alternative to the previous route and reported that they have now taken place.
- As bridleway 28 has become almost impassable, the hedges on either side are now so overgrown, DGr contacted the three landowners to ask them to take steps to reduce their hedges because it is important to keep the bridleway open. Two of the three are yet to respond - DGr will chase up. **ACTION - DGr**

### 6(iv) Play Areas and Seats

*Denise Edwards*

- DE reported that the new zip wire and climbing frame at Whittonditch have been installed and are looking good.
- SG is in talks with Veena Nanda about a suitable site for a memorial bench for Peter. It was agreed that the location suggested was unsuitable. SG has written to thank Veena for her generous donation towards the cost of the new picnic table at the community orchard.
- RoSPA's annual inspection has yet to be carried out.

### 6(v) Emergency Committee

*Alison Foale*

As AF was unable to attend the meeting, SG reported:

- The Emergency Committee met on 16<sup>th</sup> October. It was agreed that there will be no wardens' meeting this year.

## 2023

- Our grant application to SSEN resilience fund for £5,870 for two new generators for our Village Hubs was successful. SG has sought Tim Pope's advice and said the PC should start looking into sourcing the models we want. She will be investigating how to get rid of the old ones.
- The CPR training sessions on 25<sup>th</sup> September went well and were well attended. The PC will be sending a link to the GoodSAM register to all attendees in the hope that they might like to register to become Volunteer Responders. **ACTION - AF**
- Two new Emergency Warden have been recruited.
- SG, HL and several other councillors were planning to sit in on the Martyn's Law webinar being run by Community First and will report back at the next meeting.

### 6(vi) Environment Committee

*Maggie Waugh*

- As there is no bin at the orchard end of the play area and one will be needed, AC was asked to contact Idverde about installing one and emptying it as part of the PC's contract. **ACTION – CLERK**
- DGi reported that the three apple trees planted in the orchard last year are thriving and she requested permission to purchase a further three as previously planned. **APPROVED** **ACTION - DGi**
- The PC have been supplied with 1500 bee-friendly spring bulbs by NWDLT. SG and HL will meet to discuss where best to plant them. **ACTION – SG/HL**

### Public Forum – Parish Council Standing Orders temporarily suspended for this item

JS had some questions about the operating power needed for the new generators to be installed in the village hubs.

### 7. AXFORD

*Diann Barnett*

Nothing to report.

### 8. LOCAL HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS IMPROVEMENT GROUP

*Sheila Glass*

SG attended the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

- The matter of the traffic speed through Whittonditch on the B4192 was discussed at that meeting and it was agreed that SG should order another traffic survey before any further action was considered. **ACTION – SG**
- SG heard that the one-way signs for the trial in Union Street should go up in early January 2026. The trial can continue for as long as necessary. It was **agreed** that the trial and its effect on traffic would be monitored and the trial continued as necessary.
- RG asked when the broken sign at the junction of Newtown Road and the B4192 would be replaced. SG agreed to report it on MyWilts **ACTION - SG**

### 9. MARLBOROUGH AREA BOARD

*Sheila Glass*

The next meeting will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> November.

### 10. WALC WEBINAR ON CHAIRING MEETINGS

SG and DB attended this meeting. One idea they took from the session was a different way of prioritising agenda items so that matters requiring discussion and/or decisions come up before Committee reports and other items. SG would like to arrange a working party of the sub-Committee chairmen to discuss if/how to try implementing this idea in a way that might make PC meetings shorter and more pragmatic. **ACTION – SG**

### 11. TOWN & PARISH CLERKS' MEETING ON 18<sup>th</sup> SEPT

SG summarised what she thought had been a good meeting, perhaps with the exception of the discussion about increasing the number of recycling bins.

## 2024

### 12. ALLOTMENTS

*Sheila Glass*

Having been chasing up a response to the new lease which has been with the landowner and her solicitor for several months, SG reported that she has still heard nothing and has therefore made no progress.

### 13. WEBSITE

The September traffic report had been circulated.

### 14. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

*Sheila Glass*

- Brennans have taken delivery of the new SIDs but have had to delay installation till the end of the month due to bad weather.
- SG reported that the re-painting of the phone boxes has been completed. The PC is considering whether to install a new defibrillator in there and has approached the WI about moving their installation to the phone box outside the Memorial Hall. This will be discussed further at the next PC meeting.
- We expect Ramsbury Estates will be putting up the Christmas trees w/c commencing 24<sup>th</sup> November.
- SG is arranging a daytime demonstration of redeployable CCTV and will invite councillors when the date is agreed.
- The Rec. Centre hope to have the trees obscuring the SID dealt with some time before Christmas, once the tree surgeon has obtained the necessary permission from WCC.
- The plumber has repaired the leaking pipe in the public loo.

### 15. PARISH STEWARD'S ROTA

*Clerk*

Next visit will be on 5<sup>th</sup> November.

**ACTION – CLERK**

### 16. POLICE COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

*Sheila Glass*

- The PCSO was unable to attend the police consultation in the British Legion 11am on 14<sup>th</sup> October as she was ill, but we were not informed of this until after the event and two residents who had hoped to meet with her had a wasted trip on the day. SG has written to Inspector Garratt to complain about poor communication.
- The quarterly crime report noted no crimes and only one incident in the area.

### 17. LIBRARY

Nothing to report.

### 18. MEMORIAL HALL

*Sheila Glass*

DB reported on her research so far at the Wiltshire History Centre, searching for material for the Memorial Hall centenary exhibition on 14<sup>th</sup> March. So far she has been unable to find any record of where the money came from in the first place, or who the builders were, or other information of that sort, and it is feared that all that paperwork may have inadvertently gone into a skip at some point between then and now. However, there is a cupboard full of old paperwork in the hall that SG, DB and HL intend to rummage in soon.

### 19. NATURE RESERVE

*Sheila Glass*

CM was not at the meeting but SG said that Anna Forbes from ARK had been to have a look at the millstream and found nothing untoward with the flow. She said the water levels were low if anything

### 20. RAMSBURY SCHOOL

*Roger Greasley*

RG reported that the school would break up for half-term on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> till Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. The school have recruited a new admin officer but still have vacancies for a part-time teacher and a lunchtime assistant.

## 2025

### 21. VANDALISM/CRIME

Nothing to report.

### 22. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT IN OCTOBER

| Inv. No | Payments to Suppliers – October 2025                                                           | Amount             | Net              | VAT            | Paid By   | S137 |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------|------|
| I4349   | Galleon Hygiene Products – loo rolls for public loo. Paid in Sept.                             | 30.00              | 25.00            | 5.00           | VisaDebit | No   |
| I4350   | Dobbies Garden Centre – thank you gift for internal auditor. Paid in Sept.                     | 50.00              | 41.66            | 8.34           | VisaDebit | No   |
| I4351   | J. Parker Dutch Bulbs – Tubs, planters and Memorial Garden. Paid in Sept.                      | 291.00             | 242.50           | 48.50          | VisaDebit | No   |
| I4352   | Bank Charges. Paid in Sept.                                                                    | 4.25               | 4.25             | 0.00           | DD        | No   |
| I4353   | JRB Enterprises Ltd. – dog poo bags. Paid in Sept.                                             | 72.96              | 60.80            | 12.16          | VisaDebit | No   |
| I4354   | HP Instant Ink - 28 <sup>th</sup> Aug – 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept. Paid in Sept.                   | 13.49              | 11.24            | 2.25           | VisaDebit | No   |
| I4355   | M J Baker Accountancy – payroll fee for Sept.                                                  | 11.25              | 11.25            | 0.00           | DD        | No   |
| I4356   | Idverde Ltd - Bin emptying in Sept.                                                            | 22.20              | 18.50            | 3.70           | BACS      | No   |
| I4357   | Coral Westall – public loo cleaning in October                                                 | 200.00             | 200.00           | 0.00           | BACS      | No   |
| I4358   | PKF Littlejohn LLP – 2024-25 audit fee                                                         | 378.00             | 315.00           | 63.00          | BACS      | No   |
| I4359   | Ramsbury Memorial Hall – electricity to PC office, public loo & charity shop 01/07/25-30/09/25 | 127.09             | 127.09           | 0.00           | BACS      | No   |
| I4360   | Robert Copp- mowing Whittonditch hill footpath                                                 | 60.00              | 60.00            | 0.00           | BACS      | No   |
|         | <b>TOTAL TO PAY (excluding Clerk's salary I4361)</b>                                           | <b>£1,260.24</b>   | <b>£1,117.29</b> | <b>£142.95</b> |           |      |
|         | <b>TOTAL AMOUNT ON DEPOSIT on 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2025*</b>                                   | <b>£121,953.32</b> |                  |                |           |      |
|         | incl. gross interest earned Dec 2022 to 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2025                             | £5,953.32          |                  |                |           |      |
|         | <b>INCOME</b>                                                                                  |                    |                  |                |           |      |
|         | Charity shop rent                                                                              | £320.00            |                  |                |           |      |
|         | August SO for Memorial Hall broadband                                                          | 9.60               |                  |                |           |      |
|         | Donation towards cost of tree felling on Mill Lane. Rec'd in Sept.                             | 400.00             |                  |                |           |      |
|         | Wiltshire C.C. – 1 <sup>st</sup> tranche of 2025 precept                                       | 40,543.25          |                  |                |           |      |
|         | <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                                                                            | <b>£41,272.85</b>  |                  |                |           |      |
|         | <b>Current A/c balance at 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2025</b>                                        | <b>£37,953.02</b>  |                  |                |           |      |

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

NB. As well the £1,260.24 due for payment as set out in the meeting agenda (as above), SG sought councillors' approval for four further payments to be settled before the end of this month:-

|       |                                                            |       |       |       |      |    |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------|----|
| I4362 | Community First Insurance – addition of new play equipment | 62.19 | 62.19 | 0.00  | BACS | No |
| I4363 | Castle Water – water to public loo in Sept.                | 8.57  | 8.57  | 0.00  | BACS | No |
| I4364 | Community Heartbeat – defibrillator pads                   | 77.94 | 64.95 | 12.99 | BACS | No |
| I4365 | C H Plumbing – repairing leak to public loo flush pipe     | 65.00 | 65.00 | 0.00  | BACS | No |

**Bringing the total expenditure for approval up to £1,473.94**

**2026**

The Accounts were accepted and were unanimously approved. Prop. SG; Sec. MT

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.10pm

**DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER at 7.45pm at RAMSBURY MEMORIAL HALL**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

AS THE DECEMBER PC MEETING ON 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
IS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME EVENING  
AS CAROLS AROUND THE TREE  
IT WAS AGREED THAT THE MEETING SHOULD START  
A LITTLE LATER THAN USUAL – AT 8.00p.m.