

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18th JANUARY 2016 in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

PRESENT: Diann Barnett, Terence Brown, Denise Edwards. Graeme Fearon, Alderman Susan Findlay, (Chairman), George Hawes, Chris Morgan, John Peck, Michael Waite, Ron Young, Sue Arnold (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

- 1. Apologies for absence for approval:** Sheila Glass, Erica Hodgson, Helen Lloyd and Simon Smith.
Approved.
- 2. Disclosures of interest:** None.
- 3. The minutes of the meeting held on 14th December 2015** were approved with the following changes:
Page 1199, Item B.a. Change *Planning Committee has proposed a neutral budget* to *Finance Committee has proposed a neutral budget*, and *he draft budget to the draft budget*. Proposed –S. Findlay, Seconded – M. Waite.

Congratulations from all councillors were recorded to Sheila Glass on the award of her British Empire Medal for services to Ramsbury & Axford.

- 4. Matters arising.** None

5. NEW CORRESPONDENCE FOR DISCUSSION

A0633	11/01/16	British Gas	Notice of increase of monthly direct debit payment from £23 to £29 per month from 01/02/16. The increase is caused by the over-reduction of the PC's direct debit amount by BG when the PC's account was in credit.
A0637	11/01/16	Mrs T. Smart	Photos of badly parked cars in Isles Road. Forwarded to Planning Committee
A0651	11/01/16	MAB	Emergency Planning session on 26/01/16 from 7 – 9pm at Marlborough Town Hall. Forwarded to Emergency Committee
A0654	11/01/16	Mr R. Whimster	Copy of e-mail sent to those interested in a Neighbourhood Plan, including topics for discussion at meeting on 13/01/16 and background reading. Forwarded to S. Glass & S. Findlay
A0655	11/01/16	Ramsbury Estates Ltd	Requesting comments on their application to 'Visit Wiltshire' for brown signs to point to Ramsbury Brewery & Distillery in Marlborough, Hungerford and Swindon with smaller signs at Aldbourne and the Axford/Aldbourn junction. Forwarded to all councillors. All councillors supported the signs.
A0656	11/01/16	WC	Highways newsletter, work request spreadsheet and guidance on work that may / may not be requested. Forwarded to all councillors
A0661	11/01/16	WC	Via D. Barnett. 24/7 WC Emergency number is 0300 456 0100
A0665	11/01/16	Wilts Police & Crime Commissioner	Public consultation re proposed increase in policing budget for 2016-7 of 1.9% which amounts to £3.12 p.a. on a Band D property. See http://www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/Transparency/Policeandcrimeelementofcounciltax2016-17.aspx Forwarded to S. Glass
A0666	11/01/16	WALC	Invitation for long-serving councillors to apply for place at Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on 10/05/16/ Forwarded to all councillors.
A0668	11/01/16	ARK	Responding to S. Glass's proposed text for Diary & Parish Mag re feeding ducks on bread. Will discuss with ARK colleagues. No response as yet

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A0671	11/01/16	WC	Invitation to give views at public meeting on 'Rising to the Challenge of 2016 and Beyond' in view of savings to be made in 2016-7 budget. Forwarded to S. Glass. Meeting is 01/02/16 at 5.30pm, Devizes Corn Exchange
A0674	11/01/16	WC	Closure of C206 Crowood Lane from junction with Ashley Piece in northerly direction for approx 600m for repairs to fire hydrant exchange. In force 29/02/16 for period of 18 months. Duration of closure is 3 days
A0681	18/01/16	Glasdon	Purchase order RC18732886 for dog/ litter bin for outside Memorial Hall– delivery is approx 3 – 4 weeks
A0683	18/01/16	TransWilts	Asking residents to respond to Wiltshire Bus public Consultation. See http://option247.uk/ Forwarded to all councillors
A0686	18/01/16	WC	Temporary closure of C6 – High Street, Ramsbury from Mill Lane to junction with Burdett Street to carry out repairs to fire hydrant exchange. Order is from 07/03/16 for 3 days closure. Duration of order is 18 months
A0688	18/01/16	Bath & West Society	Nominations wanted for community organisations (inc schools) that have brought improvement to lives of rural population for awards of up to £1000. See http://www.bathandwestsociety.com/grants-scholarships-conferences-awards/the-prince-of-wales-award Forwarded to S. Glass
A0693	18/01/16	Mr R. Whimster	Notes from inaugural meeting of Neighbourhood Plan Working Group. Forwarded to all councillors
A0694	18/01/16	Mr A. Luke	Missing dog / litter bin by Memorial Hall is leading to more mess. Responded – replacement bin is on order.
A0695	18/01/16	Mr K. Dennis	Collapsed wall at Knap Cottage. BT has agreed to pay for urgent safety measures to enable footpath along the Knap to be re-opened as soon as possible.
A0696	18/01/16	Ab-Fab Loos	Currently taking bookings for 2016 events. Forwarded to S. Smith & S. Glass. The loos for the Boundary Walk have been booked.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A Planning

Chairman: Susan Findlay

a. Planning Applications Processed since December 2015 Report

15/07232/OUT	Land at Newtown Road, Ramsbury Outline residential development for 25 dwellings, including layout and access (Resubmission of 14/o9660/OUT)
PC Comment	Objected. See WC web-site for full report
15/10629/FUL	Demolition of single storey rear extension. Replace with single and two storey extension
PC Comment	No objection
WC	Approve with conditions
15/10008/FUL	Woodvale, Whittonditch Road, Ramsbury 1st floor and rear extension
PC Comment	No objection, but submitted comments re light and overlooking
WC	Approve with conditions
15/10664/FUL	5 Ashley Piece, Ramsbury New side extension and conservatory
PC Comment	No objection
WC	Approve with conditions
15/008986/TCA	Malt Cottage, 44 High Street, Ramsbury Yew Tree – fell
PC Comment	No objection
WC	No objection
15/11396/TCA	1 Back Lane, Ramsbury Works to Fig, Damson, Holly, 2 Laburnum, Hazel & Willow Leaved Pear
PC Comment	No objection
WC	No objection

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15/11042/REM	Whittonditch Farm, Whittonditch, Ramsbury Reserve matters
PC Comment WC	No objection Approve with conditions
15/11236/FUL	Eastridge House, Eastridge, Ramsbury Replacement dwelling (Resubmission of E/2012/0427/FUL)
PC Comment WC	No objection Approve with conditions
15/11169/FUL	Land to South of Ramsbury Primary School Erection of new pre-school building
PC Comment WC	No objection but expressed concerns about parking and traffic
15/12346/FUL	6 The Square, Ramsbury Proposed single-storey rear extension
PC Comment WC	In circulation
15/12520/FUL	Knighton Farmhouse, Eastridge Crossroads, Ramsbury Erection of barn, construction of outdoor swimming pool and relocation of existing tennis court
PC Comment WC	In circulation
15/12652/FUL	Woodlands Farm, Witcha, Ramsbury Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of replacement dwelling with associated garaging etc.
PC Comment WC	In circulation
16/00161/FUL	Glenafon, High Street, Ramsbury Replacement dwelling
PC Comment WC	In circulation
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	In circulation
16/00222/TPO	13 High Street, Ramsbury Removal of Yew Tree to fence height
PC Comment	No objection

- b. **Neighbourhood Plan Update.** The group looking at a Neighbourhood Plan felt that those attending the inaugural meeting represented a narrow range of the village's population, particularly in age. They plan to have a meeting on a Saturday as the development of a plan would need broader representation from the village.

B Finance

Chairman: Erica Hodgson

- a. **Annual Review of Risk Assessment and Standing Orders.** The deadline for approval of the documents is the March meeting. **Action H. Lloyd to review the documents and submit a recommendation to the Finance Committee.**
- b. **SIDS – recommendation and costs.** TLG has agreed to quote for installations of SIDS.
- c. **New External Audit Scheme.** Following the announcement of the abolition of the Audit Commission, Grant Thornton was appointed as external auditor to the PC for an interim period. This arrangement will continue for 2015-6, and 2016-7. Thereafter a new scheme will come into place. PCs may opt into a scheme proposed by NALC and supported with government funding, or choose to opt out in which case they must follow the process for appointing an external auditor laid down by the Department of Communities and Local Government. The deadline for PCs to opt out of the NALC scheme is 31/01/16. M. Waite proposed opting in on the grounds that opting out would be expensive and complex. **All in favour.**
- d. **Quarterly Review of Spending v Budget.** All spending is on track other than capital spending, which is under budget but should increase with spending on cinema equipment. Spending on SIDs and Play Areas needs to be scoped and accelerated.

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C Rights of way.

Chairman: Terry Brown

- a. **Mill Lane Bridges.** Nothing to report.
- b. **Lippiatt Track.** The fingerpost has been installed.
- c. **Kissing Gates on Springs Hill.** These have now been installed.
- d. **Boundary Walk.** The portals have been booked.

D Play Areas and Seats.

Chairman: Simon Smith

Axford Play Area. Only 2 responses were received to the questionnaire sent to all residents regarding updating the play area. Quotes have been requested from several companies with a view to replacing the swing that failed the inspection before Christmas.

E Emergency Committee.

Chairman: Diann Barnett

- a. **Snow Warden.** An e-mail has been received from the WC Snow Warden reminding PCs to plan for snow.
Action: D. Barnett to forward e-mail to the office.
- b. **Emergency Plan.** This was last updated in 2012. **Action: D. Barnett to review and update.**
- c. **Village Emergency Wardens.** **Action: E. Hodgson to forward Emergency Warden list to clerk.**

F School Governor

S. Findlay

The next governor meeting will take place at the beginning of February.

G Recreation Centre.

George Hawes

Nothing to report
The Managers' meeting will take place on 19/01/16

H Policy Committee.

Chairman: Sheila Glass

Public Forum. Standing orders suspended for this item. No items were raised.

7. Axford.

- a. **Superfast Broadband.** Awaiting result of a BT survey, which is being conducted over a 3-month period, to find out how much it will cost to provide superfast broadband to Axford.
- b. **The Red Lion.** Following the application by the PC, the Red Lion has been acknowledged and listed as a Community Asset by WC.

8. Marlborough Area Board: D. Barnett is to attend the next meeting which includes an Emergency Planning workshop.

9. Chairman's Forum.

Nothing to report.

10. CATG Meeting.

- a. **20mph Limit in Back Lane.** The PC may need to pay £750 towards the cost of providing an installing the signs. **Action: S. Glass to query this charge, as it is unclear whether the provision of 20mph signs was a separate initiative, or part of the scheme to respond to PC's requests, for which there is 25% charge.**
- b. **Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS).** At the meeting on 17/12/15 WC said it would not quote for the installation of SIDs, as it doesn't have the resources to undertake the work. TLG has agreed to quote.

11. Pre-School.

Planning Application 15/11169/FUL for a Pre-School on the site of the School has been called in at WC. R. Young expressed disappointment, on his own behalf and that of Isles Road residents, that the PC had not made a more robust request for a traffic survey. They will continue to pursue this with WC.

12. Post Office – Threat to Income.

There is a board in the post office asking for suggestions of other services and goods that it could offer. The Roxy is to promote the Post Office via an advert before the films.

13. Housing Association House Sales.

Nothing to report.

14. Website.

D. Leake is mocking up some draft pages for the new design in PowerPoint for general review.
Action: D. Leake.

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15. Library. (Via. S. Findlay) Everything is fine and there is nothing further to report.

16. Allotments. No report

Denise Edwards

A resident had e-mailed a report of a suspicious vehicle on the site. It is thought this belonged to a new plot-holder - however see item 21.

17. Telephone Kiosks. Nothing to report

Graeme Fearon

18. Nature Reserve.

Chris Morgan

Work Party. A team of volunteers from both the village and Wiltshire Wildlife will undertake a clear-up at the Reserve on Saturday 30/01/16. **Action: Anyone wishing to help with the work party should contact Chris Morgan on 520501.**

19. Tree Lights. More lights have been ordered for next year. **Action: S. Glass to discuss with contractors whether the lights should remain permanently on the tree, or installed and removed annually.**

20. Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration. Suggestions included: opening the Church Tower in conjunction with a Flower display in the Church; combining a celebration with The Summer Show; sending a birthday card to the Queen on behalf of the village; combining the event with a Street Fair. **Action: D. Barnett to e-mail I. Smith requesting date of any planned Street Fair.**

21. Vandalism.

a. Break-ins. It was noted that garages at Hilldrop have been broken into.

b. Dog Mess. It was noticed that during the wet weather there has been an increase in dog mess within the village. **Action: Clerk to put a note in Diary/Whitton Ways reminding people it is even more important to clear up after their dogs within the vicinity of the village, especially in winter conditions when paths are slippery enough without further hazards.**

22. Memorial Hall.

Maintenance. The floor was re-surfaced during the Christmas period. Work has been undertaken on the roof to repair tiles and remove moss. The courtyard and gutters have been pressure washed.

23. Memorial Garden. **Action: Clerk to bill British Legion for 50% of cost of winter/spring bedding.**

24. Public Conveniences. Nothing to report.

25. Kennet Triangle. This is wet, but not flooded at present.

26. Oral History. The project is now finished. S. Arnold was thanked for her work on it. It has not been possible to trace relatives of 3 of the original interviewees, for each of whom there is a copy of their interview on disk. Anyone with knowledge of contact details for relatives of Skipper Dewick, Nigel Grove or Martin Lindemann is asked to contact the PC office – 520045 or e-mail parishcouncil@ramsbury.org

27. Patients' Rep. Nothing to report

George Hawes

28. Accounts for Payment

Ref	Item	Total	VAT	S137	Incl in budget
I2452	British Gas- Electricity for Public Conveniences. (DD2) (Increased payment from 01/02/16)	29.00	1.38	No	Y
I2453	PlusNet - Broadband Service(DD4)	9.99	1.66	No	Y
I2454	S. Arnold – www.ramsbury.org domain name for 2 years	52.79	8.80	No	Y
I2455	S. Arnold – Hardback indexed book	8.45	0	No	Y
I2456	S. Arnold – refreshments for December meeting	31.05	4.38	No	Y

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I2457	S. Arnold – envelopes	2.95		0	No	Y
I2458	S. Glass – gift for D. Arnold re work on PC computer during 2015	8.00		1.33	No	Y
I2459	Midway Stores – newspapers for library 31/10/15 – 26/12/15	28.80		0	No	Y
I2460	The Landscape Group Limited. Cleaning public conveniences 01/06/15 – 31/12/15	1,951.99		325.33	No	Y
I2461	A.J. Cherrington - supply and installation of 3 kissing gates and 1 fingerpost	1,050.00		0	No	Y
I2462	AltoDigital Networks Ltd	36.00		6.00	No	Y

Total payments = £3,209.02 of which £348.88 is VAT. Proposed C. Morgan, seconded –t. Brown. All in favour.

29. Payments Received

R407	Santander – Interest on Business Savings account on 01/01/16	15.04	01/01/16	Direct Transfer
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TOTAL PAYMENTS RECEIVED = £15.04

30. Bank Balance

ON 04/01/16 CURRENT ACCOUNT **£24,095.65.**

ON 06/01/16 BUSINESS SAVINGS ACCOUNT - **£39,346.86**

These figures include ring-fenced funds of £1,645.81 from defibrillator fund, plus allocated budget for year, funds for long-term capital projects and contingency.

DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 15th FEBRUARY

at 7.45pm

in

RAMSBURY MEMORIAL HALL

YOU WILL BE VERY WELCOME - PLEASE COME

Residents are reminded that they can automatically receive agendas & minutes of monthly PC meetings by email. Contact parishcouncil@rambury.org if interested.

ALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC