

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: G. Woodward c/o Parish Council office, Memorial Hall, High Street, Ramsbury
Tel no. 01672 520045 (answerphone)
E-mail parishcouncil@ramsbury.org

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20th November at Axford Village Hall

PRESENT: Sheila Glass (Chairman), Gillian Woodward (Clerk)
Diann Barnett, Christopher Payne, Denise Edwards, George Hawes, Ron Young, Erica Hodgson,
Chris Morgan, Graham Fearon

10 members of the public and Councillor James Shepherd also in attendance

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE and DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST:**
Apologies were received from Simon Smith, Helen Lloyd and Terry Brown.
There were 2 disclosures of interest.
2. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16th October 2017** (document PC 20/11/17/01 prev circulated):
The Chairman asked if there were any amendments to any of the pages before approval.
C. Payne asked that thanks be minuted to D.Edwards for her help in tidying up Saxon Forge bins.
E. Hodgson asked that further clarification of the finance report be included in these minutes.
The minutes were passed as accurate. Proposed by D. Barnett and seconded by R. Young. All in favour.
3. **NEW CORRESPONDENCE FOR DISCUSSION** (document PC 20/11/2017/02 prev circulated):
The document had been circulated prior to the meeting and the Chairman ran through the items for discussion.

			November 2017	Comment/Action
A2448	22/10/17	Rosalie Winter and Dennis White	Satellite dish on bungalow opp their property. Is this allowed? F/wd to S. Glass	S. Glass to see the owner of the property opposite to discuss.
A2449	22/10/17	Marilyn Fremlin	Would like to be involved in the Ramsbury WW1 anniversary commemorations if possible. F/wd to S. Glass	This has been noted to bear in mind.
A2457	24/10/17	John Owen/Village Diary	Request to destroy old accounting records for Ramsbury Amenity Group which folded in 2011. F/wd to S. Glass and E. Hodgson	This was agreed.
A2462	25/10/17	Hamish Watson	Email to Wilts Council re Red Lion Axford disposal notice F/wd to councillors	It was agreed that nothing more could be done and need to wait for outcome.
A2473	30/10/17	Chairman	Notice that picnic table at Whittonditch stolen. F/wd to Councillors	Chairman stated that picnic bench had not actually been stolen and needs to be moved from field to north of play area
A2476	1/11/17	Neil Pullen/Wilts Wildlife Trust	Acknowledgement of good working relationship with PC over past two years. F/wd to S. Glass	Noted by all.
A2496	7/11/17	Wilts C	Town/Parish Precepts 2018/19 draft tax base information. F/wd to S. Glass and E. Hodgson	This will be discussed further under Finance Committee report.
A2497	8/11/17	Marilyn Fremlin	Enquiry about Whittonditch play area equipment – cost, why, etc. F/wd to S. Glass	Chairman/Clerk responded and the work has now been finished and the invoice paid.
A2498	8/11/17	Sue van der Hoven	Asking when Whittonditch play area circuit will be completed. S. Glass responded.	See above
A2500	13/11/17	Nigel Smith	Question about the upkeep of Ramsbury war memorial. F/wd to S. Glass	Chairman to write to Mr Smith. It is worth noting that 2 days were spent before the recent Remembrance Sunday cleaning and tidying up the area.

Mr and Mrs J Haw presented their plans for The Old Tannery House to the meeting. The Planning Committee had already visited the site. There was some concern about the building joining the main house with the barn in terms of height and roof lights (light pollution). Mr Haw confirmed that the windows would be fitted with blackout blinds so

this will not be a problem. Mr and Mrs Haw's architect answered all the queries from the PC and interested parties – including about possibility of reducing the height of the middle section although he said this is not a viable option - and the application will now proceed through the planning process. The Planning Committee will send comments to WC.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Planning:

Chairman: Helen Lloyd

The Planning Report (PC 20/11/17/03) had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The Laurel Garage has been granted permission for 6 houses, and the Woodlands Farm application has also been approved.

The Chairman attended the meeting on November 2nd in respect of The Red Lion and thanks to the contribution of the Planning Committee the retrospective application was refused. The applicant can now reduce the height of the building or appeal against the decision. Councillor Shepherd added that it was the right result and that any future planning applicants should take note.

C. Payne noted that Townfield trees application had been granted with no condition about replacement trees.

G. Fearon raised the issue of recent tree-felling at Hop House for which no permission had been sought (perhaps none was needed) and asked that the Planning Committee investigate this and bear it in mind when considering the 3 current TPO applications, given previous tree-related conditions which have been placed on development at this property. **Action: PC to check this before formally querying.**

b) Finance:

Chairman: Erica Hodgson

E. Hodgson added the following to her October meeting comments:

The external audit report has been received. There were no observations made re. accounting or budgeting. The only observation was re. Public Rights and ensuring that on announcement of the period for the exercise of public rights, these are commenced on the day following the announcement. The reports will be displayed on the notice boards.

1. A Profit & Loss statement for the first six months of the Fiscal year (April'17 – Oct'17) has been circulated to all councillors. Spend is on track with some significant capital spend (Whittonditch Play area and Back Lane pavement) already undertaken / imminent.
2. The Finance committee met on October 9th to discuss the 2018/19 budget. The proposal is to increase the precept request by ~5%, to take into account pavement repairs, funding for Axford Broadband, Ramsbury Flyer and Village WW1 commemorative events. The taxbase is expected from WC in beginning November, at which point the draft budget will be circulated to all councillors to be discussed at the next meeting. Approval is planned for the December meeting.

November 2017

As stated at the last meeting, the intent is to increase the precept request to £51,015 (last year we were awarded £48,952). This allows for :

- o Increased donations to the Flyer (increased by £1000 from £3000 - £4000). WC are continuing to cut funding to organisations such as the flyer, and as such we would like to ensure we plan in advance for any potential further cuts to this.
- o Funding for the Axford Internet scheme (£3000) as approved in the Sept meeting
- o Funding for pavements £9000
- o £1000 for WW1 commemorations

- For a Band D property in the village, this increase will result in a 1.5% increase in council tax (see below).

Summary							
Year	Taxbase	Grant (Box A)	Precept (Box B)	Total (Box C)	Total £ for Band D	Difference in £ for Band D	% change on last year for Band D
2017/18	919.99	£0.00	£48,952.00	£48,952.00	£53.21		
2018/19	944.56	£0.00	£51,015.00	£51,015.00	£54.01	£0.80	1.50%

To show the change across all Bands:

Year	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
2014/15	£32.35	£37.75	£43.14	£48.53	£59.31	£70.10	£80.88	£97.06
2015/16	£33.33	£38.88	£44.44	£49.99	£61.10	£72.21	£83.32	£99.98
2016/17	£34.01	£39.67	£45.34	£51.01	£62.35	£73.68	£85.02	£102.02
2017/18	£35.47	£41.39	£47.30	£53.21	£65.03	£76.86	£88.68	£106.42
2018/19	£36.01	£42.01	£48.01	£54.01	£66.01	£78.01	£90.02	£108.02
Difference for each Band £	£0.54	£0.62	£0.71	£0.80	£0.98	£1.15	£1.34	£1.60
% difference for each Band	1.52%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%	1.51%	1.50%	1.51%	1.50%

- c) **Rights of Way:** **Chairman: Terry Brown**
 Chairman has not yet met up with Terry Brown about the horses on Springs Hill.
- Footpath –Work has begun on the footpath from Whittonditch and £5,000 open space contribution to come to PC from.the developer.
- d) **Play Area and Seats:** **Chairman: Simon Smith**
 The adult equipment is now available and the fitness trail finished. Rhino play now finished all their works.
- e) **Emergency Committee:** **Chairman: Diann Barnett**
 Nothing new to report.
- f) **Recreation Centre:** **George Hawes**
 AGM is on Tuesday 21st November. Report back at next meeting..
- g) **Policy Committee:** **Chairman: Sheila Glass**
 There has been no reason to meet so nothing to report since the last meeting.
5. **PUBLIC FORUM - Standing Orders suspended for this item** 2 members of the public remained throughout the meeting but no questions raised. Councillor Shepherd told the meeting that the Red Lion application decision will probably go to Appeal in which case the PC will be invited. He thought that this was a good example to other developers that they cannot override planning permissions and do their own thing. He added that had the existing building been submitted on the original application it would have been turned down. The original application had been for a ‘modest’ 3 bedroom house which has since become a 4 bed 2 bathroom dwelling.
6. **AXFORD:** **Diann Barratt**
 D. Barnett reported that all the civil work had been done for broadband with completion of everything by end March. However, it is thought that for funding all applications had to be in by end December. **Action: Councillor Shepherd will check and D. Barnett to talk to Ashley de Safrin .**
7. **MARLBOROUGH AREA BOARD (MAB):** **Sheila Glass**
 Meeting on November 28th which the Chairman will be attending..
8. **CATG MEETNG:** **Sheila Glass**
 Next meeting will be on December 14th
9. **WW1 ANNIVERSARY 2018:**
 Arrangements ongoing with the Chairman talking to Ian Smith. Street Fair organisations going ahead, and poppies being knitted. Also a flower festival in the church
10. **PARISH STEWARD SCHEME:**
 The Chairman has spoken to the Steward and the next visit is at the beginning of December. Trimming around road signs will be included in the list of jobs.

11. BINS IN STREETS:

The Chairman confirmed that she had put 2 letters into letterboxes in Burdett Street about not leaving bins out. C. Payne asked for a copy of her letter. **Action: Chairman to provide C. Payne with this.**

12. BEST KEPT VILLAGE:

Nothing to report

13. PRE-SCHOOL:

R. Young had circulated a paper/report he had produced about the possibility of a traffic survey to address the problem of traffic and safety issues arising from the new pre-school, following his meeting with Trudi Taylor. S Glass and C Payne attended the meeting on Nov 13th re parking and traffic. After a lot of discussion about basic ground rules by parents, educating the parents, it not being solely a pre-school problem – R. Young asked if the PC would collectively support such a scheme. It was generally agreed that it would be better to wait until the pre-school is finished and then see if the problems are still the same and then develop a Good Practice Guide or similar for parents dropping off and collecting children from both schools. It was also noted that it was important that the PC should be seen to have concerns even if nothing is to be done just yet - and to include trustees of both schools in these concerns.

C. Payne voiced concerns about the beech hedge along the southern end of Isles Road feeling it was too high and he formally proposed that the height should be reduced. **Action: It was agreed that the PC will have a look at it. R. Young proposed, C. Payne seconded. All in favour.**

14. WEBSITE:

The Chairman is keeping it up to date and is talking to D. Leake

15. BRITISH LEGION BRANCH:

Charles Vere-Whiting is taking over as Chairman this month and will hopefully arrange the donation mentioned in previous minutes

16. LIBRARY:

Nothing to report at this time.

17. ALLOTMENTS:

The AGM is on December 1st - D. Edwards will be attending.

18. TELEPHONE KIOSKS:

Nothing to report at this time..

19. NATURE RESERVE:

C. Morgan reported that cutting had finished and that he would now be looking at a new cutter and getting quotes.

20. POLICE REPORT:

The chairman reported that no reported crimes in Ramsbury this month..

21. MEMORIAL HALL:

G. Hawes reported that the new boiler had been installed. The floor in the hall is being tested as an unidentified stain had appeared .

22. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES:

The light in the ladies loos has been repaired and a new sensor fitted. There are still some odd jobs outstanding and Clerk will follow up again as a matter of urgency. **Action: Clerk to chase**

Although not related D. Edwards reported at this point that Fix the Bike had had a very successful day in the village recently and are keen to do another day between Christmas and the New Year. **Action: D. Edwards to organise.**

23. KENNET TRIANGLE:

Nothing to report.

24. PATIENTS' REP:

G. Hawes reported that the Carers' coffee afternoons are now quarterly with a guest speaker.

24. Tree Lights

Chairman reported that these would be switched on on December 4th.

Before the Accounts the Chairman mentioned that it is intended to reinstate Matters Arising onto meeting agendas (last included November 2016). C Payne then requested that Any Other Business be included as well. After discussion it was agreed that Matters Arising be reinstated but that AOB should not be included as any Councillor can request that the Clerk add an item to the agenda any time before the regulatory 3 clear days (not incl the meeting day or prior Sunday) (usually by Wed am before the meeting) It is generally accepted that Parish Councils do not include AOB as no lawful decisions can be made on items not on the agenda so any discussions would have to be carried over to the next meeting.

25. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT (document PC 20/11/17/03):

There was one LATE invoice included .

Proposed for payment: E. Hodgson, C. Morgan seconded. All in favour.

	Accounts for November 2017 meeting	TOTAL	Net amount	VAT	CQ/D D	S137	Incl in Budget
I2786	British Gas- Electricity for Public Conveniences 5% VAT (a/c £38.55 in credit) (27 Oct payment)	23.00	21.90	1.10	DD	No	Y
I2787	PlusNet - Broadband Service	12.99	10.83	2.16	DD	No	Y
I2788	1&1 Internet Ltd WP package	4.79	3.99	0.80	DD	No	Y
I2789	Altodigital (photocopier rent and usage 3 mths)	36.00	30.00	6.00	CQ	No	Y
I2790	Ramsbury Memorial Hall – 6 months rent and electricity	636.25	636.25	0	CQ	No	Y
I2791	S. Glass – ‘Pedestrians in Road’ sign x 2 (Road signs Direct)	115.20	96.00	19.20	CQ	No	Y
I2792	S. Glass – poop bags for notices (Pets at Home)	2.00	1.67	0.33	CQ	No	Y
I2793	S. Glass – Tubs for The Square x 6 (Amazon)	51.60	42.99	8.61	CQ	No	Y
I2794	S. Glass – Plants for The Square tubs (Wyevale)	32.50	27.08	5.42	CQ	No	Y
I2795	S. Glass – Plants for Memorial Garden (Wyevale)	48.20	40.16	8.04	CQ	No	Y
I2796	S. Glass – plants for The Square tubs (J. Parker)	60.84	50.70	10.14	CQ	No	Y
I2797	S. Glass – plants for Memorial Garden (J Parker)	75.42	62.85	12.57	CQ	No	Y
I2798	S. Glass – attendance at Wilts C Planning meeting 2/11/2017 mileage and parking	20.70	17.25	3.45	CQ	No	Y
I2799	Grant Thornton (audit fees for 2017)	360.00	300.00	60.00	CQ	No	Y
I2800	Idverde (pavement along Back lane)	7830.00	6525.00	1305.00	CQ	No	Y
I2801	Ramsbury Electrical Ltd (replacement light and sensor in public conveniences)	119.99	99.99	20.00	CQ	No	Y
I2802	BT telephone bill 1 st Nov – 31 st Jan 2018	69.01	57.51	11.50	DD	No	Y
I2803	G. Woodward – Clerk’s salary for November	465.36	465.36	0	CQ	No	Y
I2804	Kennet Computer Systems	120.60	120.60	0	CQ	No	Y
	TOTAL	10,084.45	8,610.13	1474.32			
	LATES						
I2805	The Poppy Appeal – 2 wreaths Ramsbury – and Axford	50.00	50.00	0	CQ	No	Y
		10,134.45	8,660.13	1474.32			

Bank Balances as at 6th November 2017:

Current A/C: £38,496.98

Savings A/C £31,537.71

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

26. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday December 11th at Ramsbury Memorial Hall at 19.45

N.B. this is SECOND Monday in December

* All documents can be found on <https://ramsbury.org.uk/parish-council-minutes>