

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15th January 2018 at Ramsbury Memorial Hall

PRESENT: Sheila Glass, Chairman (SG), Gillian Woodward, Clerk (GW)
Diann Barnett (DB), Terry Brown (TB), Denise Edwards (DE), Graeme Fearon (GF), Ron Young (RY) Helen Lloyd (HL), Christopher Morgan (CM), Christopher Payne (CP) and George Haws (GH)

There was 1 member of the public present and Councillor James Sheppard

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE and DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST:

Apologies were received from Erica Hodgson (EH) and Simon Smith (SS)
There was 1 disclosure of interest. Apologies approved.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th December 2017 (document PC 15/01/18/01) prev circulated):

The Chairman asked if there were any amendments to any of the pages before approval.

There were no amendments.

The minutes were approved as a true record. Proposed by DB and seconded by CP. All in favour.

3. Matters Arising from last meeting on 11th December 2017:

Tree lights: The Chairman reported that Ramsbury Estates had very kindly and generously offered to take on the task of ensuring tree lights in The Square from this December. They may or may not use the PC's existing lights.

Fire hydrant in Swans Bottom: understood that work is now under way.

4. NEW CORRESPONDENCE FOR DISCUSSION (document PC 15/01/18/02) prev circulated):

The Chairman ran through the items highlighted for discussion:

			January 2018	ACTION
A2564	19/12/17	Wilts Gazette & Herald	Email to S. Glass about member of public complaining about Ramsbury Cenotaph. S. Glass replied and copy sent to Councillors	SG spoke to Gazette and a positive article was published as well as RY's letter and one from C. Vere-Whiting in support.
A2582	20/12/17	Ramsbury Primary School	School newsletters. F/wd to Councillors	Consider including these as future agenda item as and when
A2584	22/12/17	Ben Tottenham	Pre-school roof looking good, solar panels bad idea. F/wd S. Glass	Pre-school covered in Planning report
A2586	22/12/17	Arun Shenoy	Letting PC know about 'keyed' car in High Street. F/wd to S. Glass. Clerk to enter in Vandalism Log.	For information
A2589	28/12/17	Mr Campbell Gordon	Tree overhanging street light at Parliament Piece, will let Clerk know when work to be done. F/wd to S. Glass	Not done yet
A2593	02/01/18	Wilts Police	2018/19 Policing Precept Consultation Launch F/wd to S. Glass	Extra £1/month. PC response happy to support providing it translates into 'boots on the ground'
A2595	02/01/18	Gazette & Herald	Article on Ramsbury Cenotaph / N. Smith F/wd to Councillors. R. Young responded and S. Glass to also respond	See first item
A2597	04/01/18	WALC	BP Garden Party nominations. F/wd S. Glass	Proposal to nominate Sue Findlay. Everyone happy with this.

A2598	04/01/18	Vanya Body	Whitton Ways – enquiry re possible funding from PC to expand magazine/print costs S. Glass	Agreed to give £100 this year only – and then review.
A2605	09/01/18	WiltsC	Notice of deferment of government referendum principles for PCs 3 years. F/wd to E. Hodgson and S. Glass	Covered in Finance report
A2607	09/01/18	Ramsbury Flyer	Invitation to Feb Party F/wd to Councillors	SG accepted on PC's behalf
A2609	09/01/18	Louise Andrews	Concern re HRH visit. S. Glass to respond.	SG read letter out and confirmed she has written to Louise Andrews.
LATES				
A2610	12/1/18	T. Gauntlett	Noise from SSID has reported to Wilts Council S. Glass to contact Messagemaker	Thought to be a low light problem. A similar thing happened to the Newtown Road one but with a couple of brighter days has rectified itself. Proposal to monitor it until after some bright days to see if this helps. If not SG will ask Messagemaker about it. Mildenhall and Axford also having problems.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Planning:

Chairman: Helen Lloyd

The Planning Report (PC 15/01/18/03) had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The Hop House has had conditions imposed re planting replacement trees

Pre-school planning application 17/11668/VAR – all received comments have been sent to Wilts C but HL has not heard anything back yet about extending the final date for comments. Isles Court residents had not been informed of the application and therefore missed the deadline for comment. Advised by Chairman to ask the Planning Officer for an extension of the deadline. Councillor Sheppard commented that if solar panels can be seen from the highway then planning would be refused. HL reported that to date there were equal numbers for and against the proposal.

One new planning application from the Langtons (Newtown Road) with a pre-application site visit from Planning Committee scheduled for Saturday 20th January at 09.00 am.

b) Finance:

Chairman: Erica Hodgson

EH not present at meeting but her report was circulated at the meeting. Spending looks on track and the grass cutting invoice for 2017 has been received. Invoice for the Christmas lights is due. The 2018/19 local government Finance Settlement has confirmed that no referendum principles relating to increases in council tax will be applied to town and parish councils for 2018/19 and the Government says it will defer any such principles for 3 years. Rosalie Winter has agreed to carry out the internal Audit for the PC this year.

c) Rights of Way:

Chairman: Terry Brown

TB reported that the Water Board have still not fixed the manhole outside Oakes House and that the piece of wood he had put down to cover it had been stolen. **Action: TB to contact Water Board again.**

Boundary Walk – SG and CM have organised the Flyer for May 6th. Fiona Kimber has agreed to do coffees, and the preschool will be doing teas. Waiting to hear from Matt Hodgson re leading the walk. **Action: RY and CM to organise drivers. SS to write to landowners and order loos.**

The recent high winds had brought down several trees in the village including saplings across a bridge on 7 Bridges. Generally agreed to keep an eye out. GF will try to remedy.

d) Play Area and Seats:

Chairman: Simon Smith

Nothing to report.

e) Emergency Committee:

Chairman: Diann Barnett

SG and DB to meet Wardens on 15th – 22nd February and will report back.

f) Recreation Centre:

George Hawes

Meeting on 16th January. Nothing new to report at the moment.

g) **Policy Committee:**

Nothing to report.

Chairman: Sheila Glass

6. **PUBLIC FORUM - Standing Orders suspended for this item**

There was 1 member of the public present – Mr R Whimster

Mr Whimster said he had been a supporter of the pre-school building from the beginning and has been impressed with the appearance of it and the build so far, but was disappointed with the latest application for solar panels, and he felt that the reasons given were not enough for permission to be granted. He felt strongly that the panels should have been included in the original application and the time is now too late. The application did not include any explanation as to why the panels weren't included before.

7. **PC Minutes – Item requested by CP**

A lengthy discussion followed CP's agenda request "to consider expectations, circulation and timing, legal status and requirements, and some practical suggestions for making the task of the Clerk easier."

During the discussion it was established that there is no legal time-scale for publication of minutes but approved minutes must be published to the public on a noticeboard or website in a timely manner.

After discussion CP proposed that draft minutes be sent to **councillors only** with no publication **to the public** until after the next council meeting when those minutes would be approved, at which point the minutes then changed from draft to final and could be published on the website and displayed on the notice boards.

The proposal was seconded by RY.

CP asked for a recorded vote ie that each councillor's vote should be noted.

For: CP, GH, RY, GF, CM (5)

Against: HL, DE, DB, TB, SG (5)

Since the votes were equal the Chairman exercised her casting vote against the proposal. The proposal was not carried.

The Clerk presented a proposal through the Chair that draft minutes be sent **to councillors only** giving councillors 7 days in which to respond to the clerk with any inaccuracies, after which time the **draft minutes** would be displayed on the notice boards, sent to parish plus, minute requesters and copies to the PO. At the next council meeting the draft minutes would be approved (**with any changes noted**) and then published on the website only.

The proposal was seconded by HL.

For: HL, TB, DE, DB, SG (5)

Against: RY, CP, GH (3)

Abstentions: GF, CM (2)

The proposal was carried.

The Chairman proposed and HL and DE seconded that the Clerk's proposal be for a trial period of 3 months.

For: HL, TB, DB, DE, CM, GH, GF, RY, SG (9)

Against: None

Abstentions: CP (1)

The proposal was carried.

8. **AXFORD:**

DB reported that the 12 week period for the Red Lion to appeal was due to expire on 29th January. Councillor Sheppard said that he had not heard anything but that he will find out what the situation is. BT is progressing with the broadband. There is to be a Beer Festival on 7th July – further details to follow. DB reported that there seemed to be a lot of broken glassware along the road last weekend.

Diann Barnett

9. **MARLBOROUGH AREA BOARD (MAB):**

Next meeting is on January 24th – DB will be attending.

Sheila Glass

10. **CATG MEETNG:**

Next meeting will be in February.

Sheila Glass

11. WW1 ANNIVERSARY 2018:

SG/HL/DB will meet soon to progress plans. DB reported that she can get the Memorial Wall for 30th June comprising of 5 panels. The Ravensbury Players have changed their dates to 23rd – 29th May to accommodate children in the event who have Year 10 exams.

12. PARISH STEWARD SCHEME:

SG reported that the new rota for 2018 had been received. Some grips clearing needs to be done, and potholes in Union Street and Hilldrop Lane. **Action: SG to report these problems.**

13. BINS IN STREETS:

Unfortunately despite an earlier indication, number 36 hadn't moved their bins after all. CP said he would have a friendly word with the owner again. Some thought could be given to having stickers which could be put on bins which are causing an obstacle. It was agreed that a differently worded letter could be sent and CP agreed to draw up a draft and circulate for approval. **Action: CP to circulate draft letter.**

14. BEST KEPT VILLAGE:

Nothing to report at this time.

15. PRE-SCHOOL:

SG had spoken to R. Copp about reducing the height of the hedge and that 1.2 m was the lowest it could go in order not to destroy the beech hedging. The length could be taken back approx.. 5 metres. **Action: SG to talk to R. Copp about this again.**

16. WEBSITE:

SG will update.

17. BRITISH LEGION BRANCH:

No money received to date although Charles Vere-Whiting has assured SG that it is in hand. **Action: Clerk to write to Mr Vere Whiting.**

18. ALLOTMENTS:

DE reported that the recent storms had caused a lot of damage including sheds blowing over, and fruit cages being swept away. There are 3 allotments available at the moment.

19. TELEPHONE KIOSKS:

Nothing to report at this time.

20. NATURE RESERVE:

CM stated that he had ordered the new brush cutter with payment to be made after delivery.

21. POLICE REPORT:

SG reported that 1 break-in in Ramsbury.

22. MEMORIAL HALL:

GH reported that the staining on the floor *does* now seem to be as a result of damp. Fine drilling is the next step to allow more air to circulate..

23. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES:

Nothing to report.

24. KENNET TRIANGLE:

It was noted that a few smaller trees had come down in the recent high winds..

25. PATIENTS' REP:

No meeting scheduled so nothing to report.

26. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT (document PC 15/01/18/03):

		TOTAL	Net	VAT	CQ/DD	S137	Incl in Budget
ACCOUNTS for January 2018							
12813	British Gas - electricity for Pub Convs - no actual inv yet but still in credit						
12814	1&1 Internet Ltd - Pro Windows (security) 1 year	28.79	23.99	4.80	DD	No	Yes
12815	Castle Water - water & waste 5 mths	63.74	63.74	0.00	DD	No	Yes
12816	G. Woodward - Clerk's Jan salary	465.36	465.36	0.00	CQ	No	Yes
12817	G. Woodward - Xmas mince pies	5.00	5.00	0.00	CQ	No	Yes
12818	R. A. Copp - 2017 grass cutting (various areas)	2356.00	2356.00	0.00	CQ	No	Yes
12819	Thusanish - papers for Library Oct/Nov/Dec	33.25	33.25	0.00	CQ	No	Yes
12820	1&1 Internet Ltd - WP Plus renewal 1 year	16.78	13.98	2.80	DD	No	Yes
12821	Namesco Ltd (domain renewal 2 years)	52.79	43.99	8.80	CQ	No	Yes
12822	Plusnet - Broadband service	9.99	8.33	1.66	DD	No	Yes
12823	Idverde - public loo cleaning Oct/Nov/Dec 2017	844.92	704.10	140.82	CQ	No	Yes
12824	R. A. Copp (War Memorial grass cutting)	150.00	150.00	0.00	CQ	No	Yes
	Total	4026.62	3867.74	158.88			
LATES							
12825	G. Woodward - copy paper and Canon print cartridge	39.70	33.09	6.61	CQ	No	Yes
12826	Four Seasons Garden Services (new wheeled trimmer) – payment to be made upon delivery.	540.00	450.00	90.00			
	Total	4606.32	4350.83	255.49			
Payments received:							
R471	Ramsbury Roxy (Inv B079)	600.00			CQ		
R472	Ramsbury Allotment Assoc (Inv B078)	600.00			CQ		
R473	Santander - interest on Business Savings a/c on 1st January 2018	7.87			Direct transfer		
Bank Balances as at 1st January 2018							
	Current account: £23,078.89						
	Savings account: £31,548.17						

Proposed by RY, seconded by CM. All in favour.

27. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday February 19th 2018 at Ramsbury Memorial Hall at 19.45

Members of the Public very welcome to attend.

The meeting closed at 21.55 pm

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