

RADFORD SEMELE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Community Hall, Lewis Road, Radford Semele, on Monday 18th May 2015 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr M Doody, Cllr B Follett, Cllr Mr A Hitchcox, Cllr A J Malin, Cllr Mrs J P Malin and Cllr S Sabin

In attendance: Mr B Friar and WCC Cllr W Redford

1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

1.1 It was proposed and seconded that Cllr Doody be elected Chairman for the forthcoming year. All were in favour.

1.2 It was proposed and seconded that Cllr David Chater be elected Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year. All were in favour.

2. Apologies for Absence: Apologies from Cllr Chater and Councillor Marriott were accepted (on holiday).

3. Minutes of the Council meeting on 27th April 2015

The Minutes of the last Council meeting on 27th April were approved.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes of the 27th April 2015

4.1 The Minute 13 (a) – the Chairman reported that the WDC Planning Committee meeting scheduled for the 26th May 2015 was now to be on 27th May 2015. The Planning Committee will consider detailed planning approval for the Southam Road Bovis development and it is intended that Cllr Chater will attend with interested residents (the Chairman will be on holiday then).

4.2 The Clerk reported that he had written to the Head of Planning (Ms Darke) to ask for acceptable fencing to be installed on the perimeter of the Spring Lane site (as previously discussed by this Council). The matter is to be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

5. WCC Matters

5.1 WCC Cllr Redford reported that Conservative councillors had been returned for Cubbington and Stoneleigh ward (adjacent to the area of this Council) – namely Cllr Nick Harrington and Cllr Mrs P Redford.

5.2 He had nothing else to report as there had been minimal activity pending the Elections.

6. WDC Matters

The Chairman reported that so far as he is aware there had been a 73% turn out of the electorate at the polls in the Parish. 63% of whom had voted for the Chairman in his capacity of WDC Cllr.

7. Finance and Accounts

- 7.1 The Clerk reported that the balance in the operating account is approximately £20,400 and the balance in the investment account is approximately £19,200. The overall change in the balances since the last Council meeting was due to a transfer of £5,000 which he had made between accounts to ensure liquidity and receipt at the end of April of the first payment from WDC of £13,755, being the first instalment of the Precept and the Concurrent Services sum.
- 7.2 The Clerk had circulated copies of the Precept application which had been submitted in January as the Chairman wished to speak briefly to it. The Chairman said he would like to see more precise budgetary analysis and forward planning by the Council as to potential projects taking into account available resources. It was agreed that further attention would be given to this. **Action: Chairman**
- 7.3 The Clerk reported that the Annual Return had now been approved by the Internal Auditor (Mrs Best). IT WAS RESOLVED that the Annual Return be approved and submitted to the External Auditor; the Chairman and Clerk signed it accordingly.
- 7.4 The Council approved a number of payments as per the filed schedule. In particular, payments of £1,227.92 for renewal of Public Liability Insurance (the Clerk confirmed that the insurance renewal policy for the forthcoming year had been received) and £95 in respect of the fee of the Internal Auditor had been made.
- 7.5 The Clerk confirmed that usual application for a refund of VAT for the past year had recently been submitted.

8. Correspondence

There was none except an email from a resident at The Greswoldes facing issues about the Southam Road Bovis development (it was proposed that the residents would attend the meeting of the WDC Planning Committee on 27th May 2015 to make representations in that respect).

9. Planning Matters

- 9.1 The Clerk reminded the Council that three planning applications had recently been received which he had passed on to members of this Council concerned with planning matters. The view of the meeting was that they did not raise any issues which the Council might wish to take up.
- 9.2 Matters affecting the Southam Road Bovis development are dealt with elsewhere in these Minutes.

10. Report from the Playing Field Committee

- 10.1 The Chairman, with reference to the budget/Precept figures referred to above, considered briefly expenditure on the play equipment. He pointed out that if sufficient funds were raised by the residents working party connected with the Sunny Dillon Trust and a grant could be obtained from WDC then a balancing sum for a smaller amount could be provided by the Parish Council in order to bring the total amount up to the quoted contractors costs. These were estimated to be approximately £27,000. In the absence of Cllr Chater, the Clerk pointed out that at the previous Council meeting Cllr Chater had suggested that the refurbishment of the play equipment could be carried out

on an instalment basis under which the Council were committing part funds for the project from year to year as opposed to outlaying the total sum required all at once. It was agreed that this be given further consideration when Cllr Chater was present.

10.2 The Clerk confirmed that he had written to Mr Michael Pearson concerning rubbish clearance (as discussed at the previous Council meeting).

11. **The Sports and Social Club matters**

Cllr A Malin reported that there was nothing to report.

12. **Matters concerning the Community Hall Committee**

In the absence of Cllr Chater, there was nothing to report. It was anticipated that Mrs Jean Loveridge will return to become a member of the Council then hopefully she will be able to represent the interest of the Community Hall Committee as in the past.

13. **Matters concerning the Village School**

It was noted that the Council was no longer entitled to have a representative on the School Governing Body but it is hoped that former councillor, Rev K Pickford will act as a liaison officer between the Body and the Council.

14. **Any Other Business**

a) The Chairman reported that following the Elections, for the purposes of considering the options of the Council, there were three candidates for two existing vacancies. Ballot papers had been prepared with all three names and these were distributed by the Chairman; the completed ballot papers were collected by the Clerk who announced the outcome by secret ballot.

It was declared that Mr Brian Friar and Mrs Jean Loveridge were co-opted Councillors to fill the two vacancies. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the third candidate, Mr O Aries, to advise him that he had been unsuccessful.

Action: Clerk

b) The draft list of Committees for 2014/2015 had been distributed by the Clerk at an earlier meeting. The following nominations were made:-

Planning Committee	Cllr A E Malin (chairman) Cllr Mrs J Malin Cllr S Sabin
--------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------

Playing Field Committee	Cllr H E J Marriott (Chairman) Cllr B Follett Cllr A E Malin
-------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------

Finance Committee	Cllr D E Chater (Chairman) Cllr B Friar Cllr A Hitchcox Cllr H E J Marriott
-------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Representative on the Community Hall Committee	
---------------------------------------------------	--

Cllr Mrs J Loveridge

Representative on the Sports & Social Club Committee	Cllr A E Malin
Local charity body representatives	Cllr A E Malin Cllr H E J Marriott

(Elected for a four year period expiring in May 2019)

- c) (i) There was discussion about the defibrillator. The Clerk reported that he had recently given an advisory talk to Henley Parish Council as a result of which he had made contact a lady who was a former councillor there. It transpired that she had connections with the administration of defibrillators and she had offered to see if the defibrillator financed by this Council which had apparently been removed from the Village could be recovered.
- (ii) The Clerk advised that this lady had asked him to suspend activity pending her enquiry which he had done.
- (iii) Discussion ranged over the question of whether the Council should support/finance two defibrillators for use in the Village. It appears that one has already been installed in the Village Shop but it requires a suitable exterior casing in order to be fixed to the outside of the building.
- (iv) The Clerk reported that he had received representations from the action group who had previously made a presentation to the Council; the action group was seeking an early decision from the Council and he had told them to make a further presentation at the Council meeting on 29th June 2015. The Council approved the Clerk's action in inviting this group to that date.
- (v) It was agreed the Clerk would continue enquiries with the lady concerned and report back. The matter is to be put on the Agenda for the next meeting.
Action: Clerk
- d) The Chairman highlighted the fact that presentation of the Parish Plan at the recent planning enquiries underpinned the need for putting in place a completed Neighbourhood Plan. This required a lot of work and needed a working party to put it together. It was agreed that this would be further discussed at the next meeting and the item should be put on the Agenda.
Action: Clerk

15. Date of next meeting: 29th June 2015

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Signed..... Date.....

Chairman of the Parish Council

Signed..... Date.....

Clerk to the Parish Council