

Radway Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Radway Parish Council Held at Radway Village Hall, Radway, Warwickshire On Tuesday 21st November 2019 At 8.00pm

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: CLLR SMITH-VINCENT (Chair), CLLR RANKIN, and CLLR WILKINS.

IN ATTENDANCE: Three members of the public, CLLR J FEILDING (Stratford District Council (SDC)), and MR I WILSON (Clerk).

1 Apologies

Apologies had been received from CLLR GARDNER, CLLR STEPHENS and CLLR C WILLIAMS (Warwickshire County Council (WCC))

2 Declarations of interests and consideration of dispensation requests

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.

3 Acceptance of Minutes

The minutes of the September OGM and Public Mid-Year Assembly (previously circulated) were agreed and accepted by the Council.

4 Matters Arising

Any highway emergency repairs should be reported to Warwickshire County Highways via the fix my street link on the County Council website. Any photographs of damage should be sent to County Highways, the key contacts are Jeff Morris and Patch Byrne. The Parish Council would be looking to put in a further application to CLLR WILLIAMS grant fund in the new year.

5 Public Participation

The meeting noted that Kompan were the playground contractors. Residents enquired as to the plans for the old playground equipment and about the height of the new equipment. It was noted that CLLR STEPHENS would be able to answer these questions. Residents also asked that contractors repair any damage to the grass around the playground and it was confirmed that the playground contractor would be asked to make good any damage on completion of the project. It was also noted that Orbit housing had recently cut the grass they were responsible for cutting.

6 Parish Council Reports

(a) Budget - CLLR SMITH-VINCENT reported no changes in planned income and expenditure from that noted at the last meeting. The budget for 2020/21 would be considered at the January meeting of the Parish Council.

(b) Traffic Calming - CLLR SMITH-VINCENT reported that he was waiting for a response from Warwickshire County Highways regarding the proposals and costs for any schemes.

(c) Website – nothing to report

Radway Parish Council

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- (d) Playground – CLLR STEPHENS report is attached to these minutes. It was noted that the overall cost of the playground project would be £32,000 and the spend would be front loaded by the parish council prior to reclaiming VAT.
- (e) Trees and Hedges – nothing to report
- (f) Street furniture – CLLR WILKINS reported that he had now spoken with a builder in the village regarding the replacement bench by the cricket field. CLLR SMITH-VINCENT has met with residents and Warwickshire County Highways and agreed the location.

A catalogue of benches had been circulated to parish councillors. It had been agreed to install a recycled plastic bench on a concrete base, this would be low maintenance as well as being environmentally friendly. The bench would cost £320 plus VAT and there would also be the cost of the concrete base. The parish council **agreed** to go ahead with installing this bench in brown, which would blend into the surroundings. There was a suggestion to include a memorial on the bench and it was **agreed** that this could be added at a later date, perhaps in memory of VE day 75 in 2020 and also in discussion with local undertakers.

- (g) Streetlighting – nothing to report
- (h) Footpaths and Rights of Way – CLLR RANKIN reported no outstanding footpath problems. She had worked with local landlords to correct issues previously identified.

CLLR RANKIN **agreed** to look at the Jacob's ladder, in response to issues raised by Ratley residents, ahead of their next Parish Council meeting. The clerk would also forward this correspondence to CLLR WILLIAMS and CLLR FIELDING.

It was also **agreed** that CLLR RANKIN would also represent the parish council at the next WALC area committee meeting.

- (i) Policies – Noted that CLLR GARDNER was currently reviewing these and this included drafting planning policy for the parish council
- (j) Green Issues – CLLR SMITH-VINCENT reported that he had responded to SDC Green Waste Consultation on behalf of the Parish Council in consultation with villagers through the Parish Magazine. Concerns had been raised over the process of the consultation, particularly that this should have been added to the council tax and also the detail, including:

- excessive cost of the charge
- potential for fly tipping
- quality of service

Radway Parish Council

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- continuing kitchen waste collection in the caddies would be inadequate

CLLR SMITH-VINCENT would share a copy of the Parish Council response and any response from SDC with any resident requesting to see this.

The meeting also noted composting workshops organised by Warwickshire County Council and the clerk would seek to find out more details

CLLR FIELDING reported that most parish councils were opposing the planned charge. However, SDC would weigh this response against a need to make savings in the 2020/21 budget.

(k) Precept 2020/21 – Councillors were reminded that they would need to set the precept for 2020/21 in January. Councillors discussed the principle of increasing the precept, particularly as unallocated reserves were being reduced during 2019/20, and considered a 1% or 2% increase should be factored into budget proposals to be considered at the next meeting.

7 District and County Council Reports

CLLR FEILDING reported that Orbit housing and their agents were looking to review their estates management and he had recently met with Orbit to look at the estate in Radway. He asked that any problems with Orbit be directed to him and he would contact residents directly to ensure tha complaints and issues were directed to him. There was little else to report from SDC due to the upcoming general election.

The meeting discussed public transport in Radway, with reference to the e-wheels scheme in Harbury, which was beneficial for getting residents to hospital appointments. The meeting was reminded of UBUS and VASA schemes run by SDC and CLLR FIELDING would be able to circulate more details to any residents with queries. In the meantime it was agreed that CLLR GARDNER could be tasked with finding out more about the Harbury scheme.

CLLR WILLIAMS had sent apologies and there was no report from WCC at thjis meeting.

8 Planning

The following application had been received for comment

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Consultation Expiry Date</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
19/03140/TREE	27/11/2019	Castle Inn Edge Hill Lane Edgehill Banbury OX15 6DJ	-G1, Mixed species - Coppice, retaining all standard trees.

Parish Councillors **agreed** that no representation should be made on this application.

Radway Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Radway Parish Council Held at Radway Village Hall, Radway, Warwickshire On Tuesday 21st November 2019 At 8.00pm

It was noted that the Langdon Lane application 19/01841/FUL had been refused since the last meeting. CLLR SMITH-VINCENT reported that there was a six month period for the applicant to appeal. In the meantime SDC had advised that there was little that they or the PC could do regarding the site.

9 Old Graveyard

CLLR SMITH-VINCENT reported that following the mid-year public meeting he had contacted SDC to discuss arrangements to cut the old graveyard and had also asked for volunteers to take forward possible schemes for grant funding of improvements to the graveyard through the newsletter.

SDC had reported that they were responsible for this and stipulated two cuts per annum. However, they were happy to contract this responsibility to the Parish Council for a minimum of 12 months, with the only stipulation being that we maintained the two cuts per annum. SDC had also confirmed that the Parish Council would only be responsible for grass cutting and not trees or grave stones.

CLLR SMITH-VINCENT had contacted the Parish Council mowing contractor, who had confirmed that he would be willing to cut the graveyard three to four times per annum with the contribution that SDC were willing to provide the Parish Council with. It was **agreed** to proceed with entering into the 12 month contract with SDC for grass cutting of the old graveyard.

10 Village Christmas Tree and Lights

Noted that a Christmas Tree was being donated for the village and it was therefore **agreed** that the Parish Council would purchase new lights for the village tree costing approximately £40 and donate a tree for the church.

11 Flooding

CLLR WILKINS thanked the Grange for all their help during the recent floods and reported that the warning signs had proved effective. However, the existing signs were not easy to put up and it was suggested that new signs could be purchased for around £26 and stored with the sand bags. The meeting discussed the provision of sand bags and it was agreed as the number should be reviewed to identify if any further should be ordered.

It was **agreed** to order the necessary new flood signs and any additional sand bags required and fund from the flood prevention reserve.

The meeting discussed additional measures which the parish council could facilitate. CLLR FIELDING would contact SDC street scene to clear leaves which could block drains and run off and CLLR SMITH-VINCENT had contacted WCC to arrange to jet the drains. The Parish Council would also ask residents through the Parish Magazine to take responsibility for clearing grids etc.

Radway Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Radway Parish Council Held at Radway Village Hall, Radway, Warwickshire On Tuesday 21st November 2019 At 8.00pm

12 Road Closure

Residents had been informed of the planned road closure at West End on 11th December 2019, with anticipated completion 13th December.

13 Financial Administration

The following accounts were **agreed** for payment:

Thursday Club	£ 160.00
Walton Stone	£ 3017.05
Kompan	£14453.40
VH Heaters	£ 528.00
Wellan Ltd	£ 150.00
VH Cooker	£ 1056.50
Assembly Expenses	£ 18.00
I Wilson Salary and Expenses (September and October)	£ 433.00
James Stephens (Playground Expense)	£ 16.69
E-On (Streetlighting)	£ 402.20
Complete Weed Control	£ 120.00
Mr R W Manwaring	£ 159.52

The meeting noted Parish Council balances carried forward were now £44845.42

14 Correspondence

The following were noted as having been received since the last meeting:

WALC – Letter from Chair of Stratford Area Committee
Thomas Fox – Landscape and Maintenance Quote
SDC – Old Graveyard grass cutting
SDC – Green Waste Charging Consultation
SDC – West End Radway Road Closures
WRC – Radway Housing Needs
SDC – Dog Fouling and Pest Control leaflets

The clerk was asked to order some more of the dog fouling and pest control leaflets from the County Council.

15 Any Other Business

The meeting discussed the possibility of purchasing a further notice board, though the cost of this seemed prohibitive and it was suggested that notices for general village issues could be put in the bus shelter. It was also agreed to ask for volunteers to clean and maintain through the parish magazine.

Radway Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Radway Parish Council Held at Radway Village Hall, Radway, Warwickshire On Tuesday 21st November 2019 At 8.00pm

The meeting also discussed whether the parish council should fund a village skip. However, it was **agreed** that this wasn't appropriate as it was difficult to police usage and ensure that this would be to the benefit of the whole village.

16 Next Meeting

The next meeting is planned for 16th January 2020

MEETING CLOSED 21:45

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