

RADFORD SEMELE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Community Hall, Lewis Road, Radford Semele, on Monday 27th February 2012 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr J M Whitehead (in the Chair), Cllr D E Chater, Cllr Mrs J A Edwards, Cllr Mrs J Loveridge, Cllr A J Malin, Cllr Mrs J P Malin, Cllr H E Marriott, Cllr K Pickford and Cllr F Walsh

1. Apologies for Absence: none

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

3. Police Matters

Some newsletters had been received by email for January and February but there was no police report and no police attendance.

4. WCC & WDC Matters

4.1 In the absence of WDC Cllr Doody, there was no report for WDC or WCC.

4.2 A circular had been received from WCC concerning the mobile library service. This gives the criteria for the mobile library. It was agreed that the schedule of stopping times will be put on the Notice board. **Action: Clerk**

5. Matters Arising

Cllr Marriott reported that demolition of the bus shelter would start in about a week's time followed by the construction of the new one. It was agreed that the Clerk would monitor the progress of the work so that adequate funds were available in the operating account to pay for parts of the shelter and ancillary equipment. A copy of the estimate for the works is to be put on the Clerk's file for matching with the invoice which will arrive in the near future. **Action: Clerk & Cllr Marriott**

6. Finance and Accounts

6.1 The Clerk reported that the investment account held currently approximately £37,200 and the operating account held currently approximately £3,200

6.2 A number of payments were approved.

6.3 A year end certificate will be issued by Mrs Michelle Johnson for the Clerk's PAYE process (as previously discussed).

7. Correspondence

- 7.1 A nice letter had been received from David Bishop, Treasurer to the Baptist Church, confirming receipt of the Council's cheque for £6,000. The Church wished to express their thanks to the Council for their support.
- 7.2 The Clerk reported that he had written to Stagecoach concerning the demolition and reconstruction of the bus shelter and had received a pleasant acknowledgement – bus drivers will be alerted to the position.
- 7.3 The Clerk had received further circular material by suppliers wishing to sell memorabilia for the Jubilee celebrations. Cllr Chater will consider these. **Action: Cllr Chater**
- 7.4 A letter had been received from former councillor, David Evans, offering advice and counsel on how to organise the forthcoming Jubilee celebrations. He was not willing to undertake organising them as 10 years ago he had undertaken that role on a different occasion. The letter was noted and Cllr Chater pointed out that there is funding put aside by WDC to support activities during the Jubilee programme and he will look into it to see what is available.
- 7.5 It appears that there are proposed street parties in three locations in the Village which are planned at present. The Jubilee period is from 2nd – 5th June inclusive. Sunday evening is the occasion when beacons across the UK will be lit and it would appear that Monday is the main night for parties.
- 7.6 It was agreed to enquire of WDC what funding is available and what function WDC is taking in respect of the Jubilee, if any. This would influence Council's further deliberations. **Action: Clerk**
- 7.7 A letter had been received from Ms Northey concerning the condition of some of the play equipment. The issue had been raised by her in the past. It was agreed that Cllr Whitehead would consult with her and invite her and her group to put forward proposals for replacement equipment. **Action: Cllr Whitehead**

8. Notice Board

Cllr Whitehead reported that he had placed an order for delivery of a new notice board with Green Barns as per their previous quotation. They are established suppliers of these items. An invoice will be issued by them and sent to the Clerk and then dealt with in due course. **Action: Clerk & Cllr Whitehead**

9. Bus Shelter

- 9.1 Cllr Whitehead had had a meeting with engineers from BT who had identified to him the location of underground cables in the area of the bus shelter (some of these still serve the telephone box).
- 9.2 Cllr Marriott explained that there will be new tiles placed on the roof of the new building as it is not possible to rely on the old ones being serviceable. Preparation of the fabrication is about to begin by Shires Oak Buildings of Ufton and it is hoped that the project will be completed in March.
- 9.3 A letter had been tabled from Julie Law which had been handed in by Cllr Pickford. This was lobbying for a bus shelter at the other end of Southam Road to facilitate the

school children waiting for the bus to Southam School. It was agreed that should be discussed at a later Council meeting.

- 9.4 Cllr Chater reminded the Council that £2,000 had been allocated in by the Eastern Neighbourhood Forum to subsidise the cost of the bus shelter. That had been approved and the funds should be placed in the Council's bank account in the near future. The Clerk is to look out for it. **Action: Clerk**

10. Telephone box

There was nothing to report on the telephone box.

11. St Nicholas' Church

- 11.1 It was agreed that further instalment of £6,000 should now be paid to St Nicholas' Church for the restoration. **Action: Clerk**
- 11.2 Cllr Loveridge said that the Church administration felt they did not need a graveyard grant at this stage (the traditional sum has been £700) as the state of the graveyard is such that it cannot be usefully spent.
- 11.3 It was agreed that the question of a donation be deferred and possibly a double payment be made in the following financial year. This item be put on the Agenda at a suitable date. **Action: Clerk**

12. Report from the Planning Committee

- 12.1 Cllr Walsh reported an application in respect of 14 Cedar Tree Farm.
- 12.2 The Clerk had prepared a revised draft of the notice to go on the notice board concerning meetings of the Planning Committee; it was agreed that Cllr Walsh would review this, make amendments and then issue a final version to the Clerk to forestall further debating time being spent on this item. **Action: Cllr Walsh & Clerk**

13. Report from the Playing Field Committee

- 13.1 Cllr Whitehead reported that he had ordered timber units to repair the play equipment. An invoice from Batsford Timber Ltd would be shortly received by the Clerk and the necessary payment needed up-front. Cllr Marriot will be undertaking the repairs on the aerial slide. **Action: Cllr Whitehead & Clerk**
- 13.2 There was debate about the continuing rubbish problem at The Lodge. Despite the Clerk's earlier letter to A C Lloyd, the question of the rubbish has not been addressed. It may be an issue with WDC. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Environmental Health Department to see if something could be resolved at that end. It appears that the occupiers of The Lodge are not having their rubbish bags picked up by WDC's contractors. **Action: Clerk**

14. Report from the Finance Committee

The Clerk reported that he had been in discussion with Mrs Michelle Johnson, the PAYE specialist for the Council. She will be submitting her invoice before the next meeting. Meanwhile she had provided up to date payslips on a monthly basis to the Clerk which would give the Clerk's total salary for the current year. The question then arose as to an increase in salary for the following year. He said he had not been able to obtain any information from WALC so far and it was agreed he would go back to WALC to get the relevant information for the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

15. Report from the Sports and Social Club Committee

Cllr A. Malin had attended a recent Committee meeting of the Sports & Social Committee. He said they seemed more business-like but there was a serious problem with the roof leaking. This may fall back on the trustees of the Community Hall. It was agreed that Cllr Chater would look into that. **Action: Cllr Chater**

16. Report from the Village Emergency Committee

Cllr Edwards reported that there was nothing to report.

17. Report from the Community Hall Committee

Cllr Loveridge said that bookings were up and there was plenty of activity. In passing, Mrs Pat Follett is organising a gnome Olympics in the summer in support of the church restoration fund. She is looking for sponsors at the rate of £10 per gnome. The event is likely to be held on the 14th July 2012. There will be a prize or medal for the first three gnomes to win.

18. Report from the School Governors

Cllr Pickford reported that there had not been a recent meeting of School Governors and therefore she had nothing to report.

19. Any Other Business

- (a) Cllr Whitehead said he was still considering the issues arising from the consultation document on social housing and this will be further reviewed. This item is to be put on the Agenda for next month. **Action: Cllr Whitehead & Clerk**
- (b) Cllr Whitehead emphasised that he was not prepared under any circumstances to take up chairmanship of the Council for a further period of office. He would definitely retire from the chair after the March meeting. David Chater was prepared to put his name forward if nominated, as the current chairman no longer wished to stand.

20. Date of next meeting: Monday 26th March 2012

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman of the Parish Council