

# RADFORD SEMELE PARISH COUNCIL

2024/2

## APPROVED MINUTES

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.30 pm in the Community Hall, Lewis Road, Radford Semele.

**Participants:** Cllr S Sabin (in the chair), Cllr A J Dempsey, Cllr D Carter and Cllr Mrs J P Malin,

**In attendance:** Ms K Pittel and two representatives from Ufton Parish Council opposed to the proposed solar farm development, also four residents wishing to speak regarding RSS&SC.

### 1. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

There were apologies from Cllr B Friar, Cllr R Munn, Cllr S Roe and Cllr Mrs J Sanderson together with WCC Cllr Redford. There were no Declarations of Interest apart from Cllr Carter's ongoing declaration in respect of 50 Southam Road.

2. A number of items of correspondence had been received by the Council in respect of a proposed application for planning consent by the promoters of a large solar panel complex on land to the west of the Fosse Way (i.e. within the remit of WDC Planning Dept). The Council heard representations from Ms Pittel representing an action group and two representatives from Ufton Parish Council. A glossy brochure issued by the promoters is believed to have been sent to every household in the area. The Chairman explained that currently the Council was not in a position to make representations in respect of the proposal as a planning application had not yet been lodged. It would be keenly monitored by Cllr Carter as Chairman of this Council's Planning Committee – it is believed that the planning application may be lodged in June 2024.

3. The Council heard representations from two sets of neighbours to the RSS&SC. They had been invited by the Clerk at the Annual Parish Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> May to attend this meeting of the Council. They made strong representations concerning noise and disturbance being regularly created by members of the Club, arising from the use of the open area outside the Club. Whilst the Liquor Licence granted by WDC provides for music, dancing and associated noise to be carried on inside the Club, there is overspill of noise and disturbance from inside the Club as well as unseemly behaviour of members using the outside area. For many years, this Council has granted a licence for the use of this outside area and in 2021, the format of the licence was revised. This licence (not a lease) is determinable by this Council at short notice. The Chairman and the Clerk outlined the option of the complainants to refer matters to the Environmental Health Dept of WDC and/or the Licencing Dept there. It was decided that in view of the low number of Cllrs present at this meeting, the matter would be seriously reviewed in the near future by the Council when more Councillors were present. At an appropriate stage arrangements would be made to give written notice to the Club that a review is to take place.

### 4. Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Subject to some clerical amendments, the Minutes of the meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024 were approved, proposed by Cllr Dempsey and seconded by Cllr Mrs Malin.

### 5. Matters arising from the Minutes of the Council meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024

- a. The Clerk confirmed that written confirmation had now been received from Rugby Pest Control confirming a change in their contract terms to a 'call out basis' instead of routine attendance. A quoted charge of £85 + VAT for an initial survey on call out and setting of traps followed by £30 + VAT for follow-up calls from that particular infestation. This was APPROVED by Council.
- b. A notice had been received from WCC that there will be road closure in School Lane between 22<sup>nd</sup> July and 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024. The information given is that this is for the benefit of Severn Trent Water to carry out installation of a water pipe. Direct access to STW for information has not received any response. It was AGREED that a follow-up note will be sent to STW to obtain more information.
- c. Cllr Dempsey reported that following the request from a resident to install a bench at her own expense in a convenient location, he had agreed with the resident that she would respond to him once she had made progress with an enquiry as to ownership of the land where she proposed installation.

## **6. Update on SpeedWatch**

In the absence of Cllr Munn, there was no tabled report for this meeting but it was AGREED that his annual report, submitted to the Annual Parish Assembly on 18<sup>th</sup> May, should be accepted for this meeting.

## **7. Update on traffic management issues**

Neither the Chairman nor the Clerk had heard anything recently from WCC Senior Engineer, Jessica Consolaro, concerning the outstanding matters on the road installations on the A425; the Chairman will pursue matters with her.

## **8. Update on Section 106 and CIL issues**

The Clerk had recently received from Helen Hancox at the Communities Dept of WDC a fresh draft of the proposed Funding Letter, in relation to the Cricketers S106 contribution. She stated that she had prepared this in conjunction with reviewing submissions made by A C Lloyd in November 2023. The Clerk had advised her that some time was now required for the Chairman (who had been away) and himself to review the draft before responding.

## **9. Warwickshire County Council and Warwick District Council – update**

In the absence of WCC Cllr Redford, and WDC Cllr Mrs Noonan there were no reports.

## **10. Financial Matters**

- 1) The Clerk referred to the bank reconciliation statement which he had circulated; the balance on the investment account is currently approx. £103,000 and the balance on the operating account is approx. £2,700. He had recently effected a transfer in order to give that account liquidity in respect of the payments to be approved at this meeting.
- 2) A number of payments identified on the list which had been circulated were approved, proposed by Cllr Carter and seconded by Cllr Dempsey.
- 3) The Council had received the report of the Internal Auditor, Mrs Louise Best, which approved this Council's records and accounting documents for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. She had applied her certificate to the current AGAR form (without any reservations). Accordingly, the Council APPROVED the contents of the AGAR form, copies of which have been circulated by the Clerk/RFO for the meeting. It was AGREED that the Chairman and the Clerk should sign the document appropriately. This is to be submitted to the External Auditor in the usual way.

## **11. Correspondence**

- a. It was noted that Cllr Friar had been in correspondence with Katy Wild at WDC concerning finalisation of arrangements for the replacement dog bins; Cllr Dempsey said that installation had been completed.
- b. The Clerk reported that he had still had no response from the Club with their insurance details regarding their Open Day in August, despite assurance from the Club Management that he would receive the details shortly.

## **12. Current Planning Matters**

- 1) W/23/0471 & W/23/1574 – (ongoing)
- 2) W/24/0092 – Planning permission in respect of 61 Lewis Road has been granted.
- 3) W/24/0259 – The planning application in respect of 24 Bloxham Way is still pending.
- 4) W/24/0325 – From a preliminary view, the Planning Dept have determined that the occupiers of 108 Lewis Road have started development unlawfully without planning permission. It is for them now to apply properly for planning consent.
- 5) Cllr Carter confirmed his interest in 50 Southam Road but advised that the matter was to be considered by the Planning Committee the following day and the likelihood is that permission will be granted.

Cllr Carter outlined the information revealed at the recent online session of SWLP; and there are now four options on the table instead of the original five but the restructuring of the options still leaves our Parish at risk of further development. He will continue to monitor the position.

**13. Playing Field update**

Cllr Dempsey outlined arrangements are in hand for the Radford Semele Sports & Social Club Football Club (RSSSCFC) to start training on a Wednesday and play matches on Sunday mornings to commence in August. The manager, Terry Davidson, is sourcing nets and a white line machine.

We (PC) are in the process of ensuring that the goalposts and goalmouth areas are in good order, asking Paul Rawlings to quote for their refurbishment. A separate young peoples' football team have asked to use the pitch but there may be a clash with RSS&SC FC; confirmation to follow. A C Lloyd had not shown any interest in recovering the now obsolete bollard which is lying by the footpath; the Clerk to enquire of them as to its removal or disposal. Cllr Dempsey is looking at the possibility of constructive disposal of the now obsolete dog bins as it could be that other parish councils could make use of them rather than them being consigned to scrap. He confirmed that the gym area surfacing project is currently on hold.

**14. Report from the Community Hall**

Cllr Mrs Malin reported that activities at the Hall are progressing satisfactorily but she was very disappointed at the number of people who stated that they would attend the Annual Parish Assembly but failed to attend. She asked to be noted a vote of thanks to Cllr Friar for his support in putting the Assembly together, in particular the continuous video presentation by PowerPoint demonstrating the work of this Council.

**15. Report from the Sports & Social Club**

In the absence of Cllr Roe, there was no report.

**16. Environmental Matters**

In the absence of Cllr Mrs Sanderson, it was proposed by the Clerk and agreed that her compendious report which she had prepared for the Annual Parish Assembly on 18<sup>th</sup> May be accepted for the purposes of this meeting.

It was noted that Cllr Mrs Sanderson was seeking to have a discussion with farmer Sam Gibbs over clearance of the ditch in The Valley but this had not so far been achieved.

**17. Telephone Box**

In the absence of Cllr Friar, it was noted that matters were in hand.

**18. Emergency Planning**

Cllr Mrs Malin said there was nothing to report at this stage.

**19. Footpath W123**

There was nothing to report.

**20. Report on the Annual Parish Assembly on 18<sup>th</sup> May**

The Chairman outlined events on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May; the view was expressed that it was a success, that the format was satisfactory but it was disappointing that there were not more attendees. The Clerk said that individual attendees had said to him that they thought the Assembly was a good idea, it was well run and they appreciated the formal part of the proceedings (i.e. the Annual Parish Meeting) from which they learnt how the Council is run.

**20. Any other business - none**

**21. Date of next Council meeting**

The next meeting will be on the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024. This meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

Signed.....

Date ..... June 2024

**Chairman of the Parish Council**

Counter signed.....  
**Clerk**

Date ..... June 2024