

REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Parish Hall
on 14 April 2015 starting at 8.00pm and concluding at 9.20pm

PRESENT: Cllrs John Halsall (Chairman)
Richard Fletcher (RF; Deputy Chairman of RPC),
Alison Barraclough (AB)
Peter Grace (PG)
Sue Laing (SL)
John Merkel (JM)
Darrel Poulos (DP)
Clerk: Paul Sermon

In attendance
Linda Ashwell (LA)
Felicity Rutland (FR)

46/15: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

47/15: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest. It was AGREED that consideration of a new draft DoI was deferred to the next meeting.

48/15: MINUTES OF THE MEETING

It was AGREED that the Deputy Chairman be authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2015 as a true record of that meeting.

49/15: MATTERS ARISING

There were no other Matters Arising, other than those appearing in the agenda of this meeting

50/15: NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (NP)

The Chairman recommended that RPC continued with NP revision, noting that its status might change in the light of the General Election. FR described a survey that might be used to help inform and refine the NP. RF wondered whether the survey asked for too much personal information. The Clerk asked whether the survey would be sent to households or individuals. SL said she could enquire about external help with survey analysis. DP asked if this was available electronically, although appreciating that not everyone was connected to the internet. The Chairman said the survey cost should be born in mind. He also added that HRR/Sir Steve Redgrave had asked for a meeting to discuss the NP. It was AGREED that a small working party consisting of The Chairman, SL, RF, FR and Nigel/Charlotte would take the matter forward. It was noted that there had still been no response from those responsible for the Joint Henley and Harpsden NP as to why RPC's comments on it were not listed in the compilation of comments made.

51/15: PLANNING

It was noted that two new applications (C/2015/0642 and 0646) had just appeared on the WBC Planning website relating to materials to be used in work on Bird Place Cottage, Henley Bridge. It was AGREED that RPC was happy to leave this in the hands of the Planning Officer.

Signed..........Chairman

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Again concern was expressed that RPC had not heard from WBC about the Green Isle planning application (F/2014/2784). It was AGREED that The Clerk should enquire of WBC Planning of the status of this application.

52/15: WEBSITE

SL indicated that there had been over 2158 visitors to the website in the last month, with 19th March 2015 as the busiest day.

53/15: LICENSING

There was nothing to report.

54/15: TRAFFIC AND HIGHWAYS;

AB reported that potholes in roads had been repaired by WBC in two sessions. PG asked why traffic was queuing more on the A4130 towards Henley and there was discussion about whether traffic lights on the Henley side of the bridge had been rephased. PG asked if the Chairman could ask WBC to check on roadside trees, noting that one was down in the layby on Remenham Hill/White Hill. This was AGREED. PG raised the issue of the installation of a bus stop near the stables on Remenham Hill and The Chairman AGREED to enquire into the matter. The Chairman also AGREED to ask for a check on traffic speeds on Remenham Hill/White Hill/A4130 in the 30mph section. SL asked if double yellow lines on Remenham Lane could be repainted.

There was concern that the Henley Standard had wrongly suggested that The Chairman could initiate action in the light of a cat being unfortunately killed in Remenham.

55/15: HENLEY ISSUES

There was concern expressed about the proposed reduction in the number of beds in the new Townlands Hospital.

56/15: FOOTPATHS

AB highlighted issues with the use of footpaths across HRR land.

57/15: WOKINGHAM ISSUES

There was nothing to report.

58/15: FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reported that an RPC cheque book had been received and that an internal pre-audit on RPC accounts/expenditure/income had been carried out successfully.

The Chairman/RF signed NatWest forms adding JM to the list of signatories for RPC cheques (with JM providing a specimen signature) and asking for and requested cheque books and regular statement of RPC's accounts to be sent to The Clerk at RPC's PO Box.

Cheques were signed by The Chairman/RF:

- (a) 0601 Nigel Jeffries Landscaping £578.40
- (b) 0602 WBC (uncontested election charge) £292.57
- (c) 0603 BALC subscription £99.10
- (d) 0604 CPRE subscription £36.00
- (e) 0605 Clerk's expenses for Jan-Mar 2015 £131.31
- (f) 0606 SSE electricity charge for street lights £257.74

59/15: MATTERS OF REPORT/AOB

From the floor LA raised the issue of the Remenham Hill Residents Association. The Chairman AGREED to enquire about the current/future status.

Signed..........Chairman

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It was AGREED that an Annual Parish Meeting (APM) would take place immediately after the May 2015 meeting, but that coming so soon after the General Election, this should be low-key, but that it should flag-up a bigger meeting in September. There was discussion about whether the APM might be at the Cricket Club.

45/15: DATE OF NEXT MEETING; 12 May 2015 at 7pm in the Parish Hall (to be followed by the APM at 8pm).

ACTIONS REQUESTED

The Chairman to:

bring forward new draft DoI to the next meeting
set up a small working party (Chairman, SL, RF, FR and Nigel/Charlotte) to take the NP survey forward
to ask
(a) WBC to check on roadside trees
(b) about the bus-stop installation near the stables on Remenham Hill
(c) for a check on traffic speeds on Remenham Hill/A4130 in the 30mph section
(d) about the repainting of double yellow lines on Remenham Lane
to enquire about the current/future status of the Remenham Hill Residents Association

The Clerk to:

write to WBC planning in relation to C/2015/0642` and 0646 (Bird Place Cottage, Henley Bridge) indicating that RPC was happy to leave this in the hands of the Planning Officer and to enquire again about the status of the Green Isle application
complete the audit template/paperwork received from Mazars for May RPC meeting
send in NatWest form to initiate signatory/cheque book/statement changes

Signed..........Chairman

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