

REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Parish Hall on 9 June 2015 starting at 8:00pm and
Concluding at 9:45pm

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

76/15: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted from Alison Barraclough and John Merkel

77/15: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

DP declared an interest in one planning matter. A new Declarations of Interest document that was consistent with WBC documents was circulated by the Chairman (RPC minute 47/15). It was AGREED that The Clerk would revise and circulate the DOI to councillors for consideration and signing and then in due course after redacting signatures upload to the website.

78/15: MINUTES OF THE MEETING

It was AGREED that the Chairman be authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2015 (and also the following Annual Parish Meeting (APM) held on the same day) as a true record.

79/15: MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman sought advice on whether he should pursue possible bottle bank sites. The Clerk said that one quote for the noticeboard renewal/repair had been received; it was AGREED that PG and The Clerk would obtain 2 further quotes. PG mentioned that the noticeboard was in a conservation area, but The Chairman suggested that it might be exempt if part of Church property. SL suggested that the improved noticeboard might now mention the website. The Clerk had e-mailed Shiplake College indicating that RPC agreed to their filming near Leander Club in June, but had not heard whether a small donation to a suitable charity or Remenham Church was made. It was AGREED that The Clerk would enquire about whether the donation had been made. There were no other Matters Arising, other than those appearing in the agenda of this meeting

80/15: NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (NP)

The Chairman noted that comments had been received from Copas, Culden Faw and HRR. There appeared some differences of opinion on the focus of the NP. SL thought it would need to be a source of cohesion in the whole of Remenham. It was AGREED that The Clerk would write to Sir Steve Redgrave/HRR and Charlotte Geeves (Henley Festival) to invite them to speak in September (when refreshments would be provided) giving them a series of possible dates, when the delayed questionnaire might be circulated (having been promoted in the Fete (PG/DP)). It was AGREED that The Clerk would incorporate the feedback received from Copas, Culden Faw and HRR into the summary of comments for consideration in NP amendment.

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

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81/15: PLANNING

Current applications			Deadline
CON/2015/1230	Danesfield House Hotel	Demolition of spa; build of woodland juice bar	Consultation with Wycombe DC
CLE/2015/1086	Ondine, Wargrave Road	Application for certificate of lawful use of leisure cabin	17 June 2015
F/2015/0863	Bird Place Cottage	Relates to demolition/building of a boathouse next to the HRR building in a conservation area.	17 June 2015 (RPC comments sent as agreed in RPC minute 66/15)
To note			
LB/2015/0712	Bird Place Cottage	Relating to installation of fitted wardrobes, etc	WBC approved (RPC comments sent as agreed in RPC minute 66/15)

On CON/2015/1230 it was AGREED that on behalf of RPC The Clerk should indicate to WBC that it had no concerns.

RF/DP discussed the status of leisure cabins. While it was AGREED that The Clerk would write to WBC to indicate that they had no comments on CLE/2015/1086 (Ondine, Wargrave Road), it was AGREED that The Clerk would enquire about the number of plots along the Wargrave Road that had 'leisure cabin' status.

PG told the meeting of seeing a sign to Zenga(?) animal petting farm; The Chairman said he would contact WBC's planning enforcement staff.

82/15: WEBSITE

SL indicated that there had been approximately 1963 visitors to the website in May, with more pages used. There was discussion about a blog option. SL suggested that it would be useful to include more up-to-date information for example on road closures. The Chairman suggested a WBC Highways link.

83/15: LICENSING

PG mentioned the congestion caused by 3 recent events; The Chairman said that they did not require a licence.

84/15: TRAFFIC AND HIGHWAYS;

There was discussion about WBC/Oxfordshire contact over roads and a WBC roads group led by The Chairman. It was suggested by The Chairman that a group be formed to consider ways in which the traffic flow on White Hill/Remenham Hill, Wargrave Road and Remenham Lane might be improved. SL offered to host an informal coffee meeting of those interested. This kind offer was ACCEPTED. The Chairman reminded the meeting about the need to move ahead with tree planting on Remenham Hill; this was AGREED by DP, although PG reminded the meeting of the legal position on planting.

85/15: HENLEY ISSUES

RF offered to go the Save Townlands meeting this week.

86/15: FOOTPATHS

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

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There was consideration of footpaths near Leander Club and across HRR land. It was AGREED that RPC should ask for all such footpaths to continue to exist. The matter was deferred to the next meeting when AB would be present.

87/15: WOKINGHAM ISSUES

The circulation of WBC's request for GLTC feedback that was now on our noticeboard was noted.

88/15: FINANCIAL MATTERS

The internally audited accounts, the Audit Commission Accounting Statements and the Annual Governance statement for 2014-2015 were circulated and agreed to be accurate. These were ACCEPTED by RPC and signed by The Chairman and The Clerk. It was AGREED that these were to be submitted for external audit by 30 June.

It was noted that RPC now had assets of a seat which might need to be entered on the audit form next time and insured.

It was AGREED that the Internal Auditor (Pat Sly) should be paid £100 for this task. This was thought to be particularly appropriate since in future smaller Parish Councils (budgets <£25,000) may not need external auditing of their accounts.

The Clerk reported that NatWest statements were still not being received and was not sure that JM was yet approved as an RPC account signatory. The Chairman asked about the options for on-line banking. The Clerk AGREED to look into this and report back.

There was discussion about the phone box. Three quotes were considered. It was AGREED that The Clerk would obtain a further quote.

No cheques were signed.

89/15: MATTERS OF REPORT/AOB

There were no matters from the floor.

90/15: DATE OF NEXT MEETING; 14 July 2015 at 8pm in the Parish Hall.

ACTIONS REQUESTED

The Chairman to:

contact WBC's Enforcement staff with regard to the Zenga(?) animal petting farm

PG to:

*obtain another noticeboard quote
find best way to promote the NP at the Fete*

SL to:

host an informal coffee meeting of those interested in actions to improve traffic flows on White Hill/Remenham Hill, Wargrave Road and Remenham Lane

DP to:

Bring together the group to consider tree planting on Remenham Hill

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

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The Clerk to:

revise and circulate the DOI to councillors for consideration and signing and then in due course after redacting signatures upload to the website.

obtain 1 further quote each for the noticeboard and phonebox

enquire about whether the Shiplake donation had been made

write to Sir Steve Redgrave/HRR and Charlotte Geeves (Henley Festival) to invite them to speak in September (when refreshments would be provided) giving them a series of possible dates

incorporate the feedback received from Copas, Culden Faw and HRR into the summary of comments for consideration in NP amendment


email WBC Planning on CON/2015/1230 to indicate RPC had no concerns

email WBC Planning on CLE/2015/1086 (Ondine, Wargrave Road) to enquire about the number of plots along the Wargrave Road that had 'leisure cabin' status, but also to say that RPC had no comments

send off the accounts (passed under RPC minute 89/15) for external auditing

bring a cheque for signing for £100 for the Internal Auditor to the July RPC meeting

look into the options for on-line RPC banking

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

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