

REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Parish Hall on 14 June 2016 starting at 8:05pm
and finishing at 9:15pm (circulated 15 June 2016)

PRESENT: Cllrs Richard Fletcher (RF; Deputy Chairman)
Alison Barraclough (AB)
John Merkel (JM)
Darrel Poulos (DP)
Clerk: Paul Sermon

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

112/16: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

John Halsall (JH; Chairman); Peter Grace (PG) remains on sabbatical.

113/16: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

114/16: MINUTES OF THE MEETING

It was AGREED that the Deputy Chairman be authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2016 as a true record of that meeting.

115/16: MATTERS ARISING

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

116/16: NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

FR reported that she had received approximately 54 replies to the questionnaire and that a first inspection suggested that traffic was the main issue. DP suggested that relevant data might be recovered/collated through the use of hired hands/external agency. FR said she had received an offer to do this for £150. RF thought this represented good value. JM thought we should get 2 further quotes. It was AGREED that The Clerk would obtain these quotes as soon as possible, allowing the hiring of external help to be agreed at the July meeting, with the data extraction taking place before the end of August 2016.

117/16: PLANNING

RPC noted that tree work at Remenham Manor had been agreed by WBC.

RF commented on Warren House (161246). It was AGREED that the volume increase was small, any changes could not be seen from roads or footpaths and that The Clerk would write to WBC Planning to say that RPC had no comments to make.

There was discussion on two Bird Place Cottage retrospective applications (161417/161419). It was AGREED that The Clerk would write to WBC Planning indicating that RPC wished to object (*on the following grounds: (i) impact on the Green Belt, (ii) impact of the setting of a listed building in a conservation area and (iii) apparently a new dwelling in the Green Belt*) and that RPC recommend that a planning restriction is placed upon the Boat House/Garage to ensure it never becomes a separate dwelling from Bird Place Cottage.

JM asked about earthworks near the entrance to Happy Valley, off the Wargrave Road.

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

The Clerk reported that he had not heard from WBC Planning about the date of any discussion on the Hobb's Boatyard application (153483).

118/16: WEBSITE

The Clerk reported that over the last 30 days
857 actual people looked at the site
The most visited pages were Remenham Church, the
Parish Hall, RPC and Meet the Council
The busiest day was 10th May (the day of RPC's 2016 APM) with 428
visitors
199 people found the website via Google
RF commented that the website continued to be a successful project.

119/16: LICENSING;

The Clerk reported that the Thames swim on the last day the Henley Festival had been approved by WBC.

120/16: TRAFFIC AND HIGHWAYS

DP reported that there was progress on static monitors of atmospheric pollution and that data from Reading (and other locations) might be available via a website. AB asked that measurements be correlated with weather/wind/traffic density. The Clerk reported on particulate (PM_{0.1}) and NO_x measurements on Remenham Hill that would be repeated during June-July. LA asked whether WBC could provide signage/bollards when the next planting took place. It was AGREED that The Clerk would enquire of WBC Highways.

121/16: FOOTPATHS

AB mentioned the issue of mountain bike use on footpaths and safety issues for walkers.

122/16: FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reported that Pat Sly had audited RPC's accounts. The Audit Commission Statements were presented by RF and approved. The Annual Governance Statement was read and approved. RPC confirmed (when asked by RF) that all aspects of the accounts were in line with expectation. It was AGREED that The Deputy Chairman and The Clerk should sign the accounts and submit these for formal auditing as soon as possible.

The following cheques were signed

000631	£100.00	Pat Sly auditing
000632	£ 37.33	WBC for street light repair

It was AGREED that RPC should move £20,000 to its reserve account or (at DP's suggestion) a second reserve account. The Clerk reported that he had received the paperwork for NatWest telephone banking; he would report on this in July's meeting. It was also agreed that RAG could spend a similar sum in 2016-2017 on bulb planting to that in 2015-2016 (with £1000 as the upper limit).

123/16: CASUAL VACANCY

RF proposed and DP seconded the co-option of Franky Cookson to fill RPC's Casual Vacancy. It was AGREED that she be co-opted and that RF/JH would contact her to indicate this and invite her to the next meeting.

124/16: ANY OTHER BUSINESS;

There was no other business.

125/16: DATE OF NEXT MEETING

12 July 2016 at 8pm in the Parish Hall.

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