

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council Alice Charlwood c/o Council Office, Memorial Hall, High Street, Ramsbury, Wilts SN8 2PB
Telephone: 01672 520045 (ansaphone) e-mail parishcouncil@ramsbury.org

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 15th April at 7.45pm in Ramsbury Memorial Hall

1879

Present:

S Glass – Chair (SG)
D Barnett - Vice Chair (DB)
D Edwards (DE)
R Greasley (RG)
B Murray (BM)
M Tester (MT)

H Lloyd (HL)
A Foale (AF)
G Hawes (GH)
M. Waugh (MW)
E Hodgson (EH)
A Charlwood (AC) – Clerk

Wiltshire County Councillor James Sheppard (JS) was also present

- APOLOGIES** – were received from Lynn Jauncey, Dawn Gill and Chris Morgan. **Approved**
- DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST** – None.
- THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**
The minutes were approved and signed as a true record. **Proposed HL; Seconded GH. Approved.**
- MATTERS ARISING** –
SG explained that the 20 bags of compost that she'd assumed must have been stolen were, in fact, not delivered with the first consignment at all, but arrived a couple of weeks later. Good news!
- NEW CORRESPONDENCE** – Items for discussion*

Ref. No	Date Received	March-April 2024 Correspondence	Subject *Highlighted for Discussion
*A7684	14 March	Wiltshire Search & Rescue	Appeal for a donation to their Search & Rescue Team. After some discussion it was unanimously agreed to make a donation of £100.

*A7685	14 March	Resident	Drainage ditches near Lamplands. Fwd to Emergency Committee. SG summarised the background to this issue and, after discussion, she was asked to write again to the landowner. ACTION – SG.
*A7691	18 March	Emma Painter, Traffic Surveys, Wilts C.C.(i)	Acknowledging request for traffic survey on Whittonditch Road. Fwd. to Cllrs. For info.
*A7693	19 March	Emma Painter, Traffic Surveys, Wilts C.C. (ii)	Timescale for traffic survey likely to be commissioned in May. Fwd to Cllrs. For info.
*A7694	19 March	Resident	To express appreciation for PC's support and assistance in moving and re-erecting the war memorial in time for 80 th anniversary of the crash. Fwd. to Cllrs. For info.
*A7698	25 March	Resident	Request to improve road marking of school crossing on Back Lane. The Clerk was asked to reply. ACTION – CLERK. See also Item 14.
*A7699	25 March	Emma Painter, Traffic Surveys, Wilts C.C. (iii)	Traffic Survey Request on High Street. Fwd. to Cllrs. For info.
*A7701	28 March	Melissa Camilleri, Police Community Support Officer	Quarterly parish police report. Fwd. to Cllrs. For info.
*A7702	28 March	Head, Ramsbury Primary School	Arrangements for school to take part in village spring clean after Easter holidays. ACTION - CLERK
*A7705	28 March	Resident	Multiple blocked drains on High Street. Fwd. to Cllrs. It was acknowledged that attempts to clear these may well be thwarted by the number of parked cars getting in the way of the work being carried out. However, we will list them as part of the gulley clearance tasks to be done in May. ACTION - CLERK
*A7707	28 March	Resident	Query about the bike jumps proposal at Whittonditch. The Clerk has responded.
*A7708	28 March	Resident	Long-term flooding on Swan's Close a potential health hazard. SG is in discussion with JS and Northern Highways about getting identifying who is responsible for remedying this matter. ACTION - SG
*A7712	02 April	Cake van company	Enquiry about selling cakes and icecreams at village events. For info.
*A7713	02 April	Resident	Reporting blocked drain on Whittonditch Road. ACTION - CLERK
*A7717	05 April	Resident	Potholes on High Street. ACTION - CLERK

*A7718	05 April	Resident	Re. impassable footpaths/bridleways/byways. Fwd. to Rights of Way Committee. LJ has been to take a look and will respond. ACTION - LJ
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*The full list of incoming correspondence from 11th March – 8th April can be viewed on the parish council website

6. Committee Reports:

6 (i) Planning

Diann Barnett

PLANNING REPORT RAMSBURY AND AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL – April 2024

Planning Applications Processed since March 2024 Report

New applications-

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---|
| • PL/2024/02414 | N&S Blocks, Whittonditch | Variation of conditions - fenestration. |
| • PL/2024/02733 | Doorstep Cott, Hilldrop | Extension, resub. of PL/2024/01188 |
| • PL/2024/02912 | Isles Court, Ramsbury | Treework |

Still awaiting-

- | | | |
|-----------------|--|---|
| • PL/2023/06108 | Land NE Lamplands | Siting of mobile home OBJ |
| • PL/2024/00515 | Preston Barn | Certificate of lawfulness |
| • PL/2024/10639 | Hilldrop Farm | Extension to pool house (retro) change shoot lodge |
| | (retro) change lodge to carers accommodation | |
| • PL/2024/00708 | Preston Barn | Rethatching barn + dormers listed |
| • PL/2024/01028 | Preston Barn | Rethatching barn + dormers |
| • PL/2024/01516 | Gilwell House, 19a High St | Rear single storey extension and glazed link OBJ |
| • PL/2024/01684 | 61, High St | Rooflight, single storey ext, garden studio CM |
| • PL/2024/01665 | House on the Hill, Hilldrop | Oak frame garage, incl. workshop on site of existing outbuilding |
| • PL/2024/01687 | Snellswood Dairy, Whittonditch | New agricultural building next to existing |
| • PL/2024/02014 | Poultry Farm, Darrells. | Consultation on whether prior permission necessary to put solar panels on chicken houses. |

Decisions -

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--|
| • PL/2024/00936 | Holy Cross | Treework AP |
| • PL/2024/10423 | Park Farm, Ramsbury | Maintenance yd., veg garden & driveway + listed. AP |
| • PL/2024/01907 | 2 Peach Tree Cott, Lamplands | 2 storey side ext., replacing lea- to and partly over existing single storey extension. AP |
| • PL/2023/10297 | Coach House, Preston | Cert' of Lawfulness, existing/historic residence WD |

DB reported that there had been no changes to the above report since it was published. She updated the meeting about the applications regarding Preston Barn and the windows at Whittonditch.

6(ii) Finance

Erica Hodgson

- The internal audit is scheduled to take place on 3rd May and we are aiming to seek approval of the 2023/24 Accounts at the May PC meeting. **ACTION - CLERK**
- The Clerk confirmed that the 2023/24 VAT reclaim had been paid on 19th March : £10,285.32
- EH summarised the figures contained in the Q4 report (circulated). There being no questions, the Q4 report was approved. **Prop. EH; Sec. DB**
- In answer to a query about a Community Infrastructure Levy payment received recently, SG summarised the rules governing what the PC is allowed to spend such money on.
- EH confirmed that the completed contract with Carty's had been posted on Wilts C.C. Contract Finder.

6(iii) Rights of Way

Lynn Jauncey

- LJ was not present at the meeting, so her report was read by SG.
- Preparations for the 2024 Boundary Walk continue to go well. The first recce walk was completed recently, with no issues as regards access. A second recce walk will be carried out on 20th April. SG reminded everyone that this year's finishing point will be the British Legion where teas and other refreshments will be available. The walk will start in The Square.
- LJ has checked RAMS25 footpath (Ref. a resident's query – see A7718 above) and could find no obvious issues. She will get back in touch with the resident for clarification. **ACTION - LJ**
- DE was asked to post information about the first monthly circular walk scheduled for Sunday 2nd June and that cream teas will be available in The Square afterwards. **ACTION - DE**

6(iv) Play Areas and Seats

Denise Edwards

- DE reported that she had been in discussion with Pewsey PC recently about their playground equipment suppliers and is awaiting their feedback. She had nothing further to report about an approach she made to Red Lynch.
- DE inspected Knowledge Crescent play area on 11th April and observed four children playing on site while she was there. She noted that Aster had cut the grass.
- DE is still awaiting quotes from Nick Waite re. snagging items.
- We are still awaiting a reply from parents about arranging a site meeting with them to discuss the bike jump project which was first brought to a PC meeting last November.

6(v) Emergency Committee

Alison Foale

- AF reported that she and SG had met with Camella Town from Wiltshire & Swindon Prepared. At that meeting it was confirmed that the Memorial Hall in Ramsbury and the Village Hall in Axford will both be registered as Community Hubs in the event of a future emergency.
- The Emergency Committee will be meeting on Monday 29th April to discuss the Emergency Hubs, recent flooding events, any interest that has been expressed in the role of Flood Warden/s, and the Emergency Wardens' WhatsApp group.
- The Trustees of Ramsbury Manor have suggested SG and AF meet them later this summer to discuss their flood plans, at the same time as a general progress meeting at which they will also be briefed about the various ongoing projects at the Manor.
- SG will write to the Emergency Wardens to request that they check for blocked drains/gullies in their patch and report any problems back to us without delay so we can inform the WCC people coming to clear in May. **ACTION – SG/EMERGENCY WARDENS**
- MT queried whether the PC Fixed Assets list included a specific list of emergency supplies we hold, as it would be good to know what we have. **ACTION - ???**
- A discussion ensued about walkie-talkies and EH undertook to return these to the PC office after the Boundary Walk. **ACTION - EH**

6(vi) Environment Committee*Maggie Waugh*

- There was some discussion about potential locations for a community orchard, for which funding is being made available. This will be discussed further at May's meeting.
- Having given the matter some further thought, SG and MW both said they had reservations about the wisdom of holding a possible pre-election hustings in the village (as proposed by the Wiltshire Climate Alliance) as they wished to avoid involving the PC in something that they felt was bound to become political. It was therefore agreed that this idea should not be pursued.
- BM asked for a further discussion with SG outside this meeting about how the Environment Committee's policy document appears on the website.

ACTION – BM/SG**Public Forum - Parish Council Standing Orders were temporarily suspended for this item**

No members of the public were present

7. AXFORD*Diann Barnett*

- Having had no response to earlier email requests for more information, DB said that she would have to visit the resident who had reported a 30mph repeater sign in a ditch, as she had searched and hadn't been able to find it.
- DB is taking steps to source some timber to refurbish the seat near the war memorial.

ACTION - DB**ACTION - DB****8. CO-OPTION OF A NEW COUNCILLOR***Sheila Glass*

No applications so far. SG will advertise the vacancy again in the Village Diary and in Whitton Ways and will also talk to people coming to the Freshers' Fair.

ACTION - SG**9. LOCAL HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS IMPROVEMENT GROUP***Sheila Glass*

SG reported that cost of the dropped kerbs at the entrance of Isles Court was discussed at the meeting held on 25th March.

10. 20mph SPEED LIMIT IN THE VILLAGE*Sheila Glass*

SG reported that we expect the traffic surveys to be carried out in Whittonditch Road and the High Street sometime in May. The results of those will determine if/how we are able to progress this matter.

11. MARLBOROUGH AREA BOARD*Sheila Glass*

Nothing to report.

12. ALLOTMENTS*Denise Edwards*

DE reported that some new plots have been allocated and she is still going through the waitlist.

ACTION-DE

The entrance way into the allotments is not as bad as it has been recently, and some volunteers are working on a general tidy-up of the site. Some help with this is expected to come soon from DoE and we look forward to that.

13. WEBSITE

SG has been in touch with TEEC (the webhosts) about reinstating our site data and we can now access our monthly website traffic stats.

14. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- (i) **Best Kept Village Competition 2024** – No-one has come forward to take this on in response to SG's appeal for a volunteer; nevertheless SG will enter the village for the BKVC this week.

ACTION – SG

- (ii) **Next Large Project** – it was agreed that the pavement between the old post office and the first station should be re-asphalted this year, and the Back Lane walkway as well as the school crossing should also be refurbished. SG was asked to get three quotes for this work. **ACTION - SG**
- (iii) **The Great British Spring Clean** – The Clerk was asked to liaise between the scouts and the school and Idverde to coordinate this work. **ACTION – Clerk**
- (iv) **Freshers' Day/Volunteer Event** – SG asked who could come along to the Freshers' Day event for newcomers from 10.00-12.30pm on 20th April but unfortunately most people were unavailable. DE mentioned that there were no Freshers' Day posters on the website yet.
All volunteers in the village had been invited to attend an evening event (to say thank you) starting at 6pm that same day, and SG expects between 80-100 people to attend.
- (v) **Gully cleaning in May** – SG will write to Emergency Wardens to ask them to inspect the gullies in their patch and report back immediately about any blockages. **ACTION - SG**

15. MEMORIAL GARDEN

SG said that the bedding plants will go in soon.

16. D-DAY 80

Denise Edwards

- DE reported that the D-Day posters will be delivered on Friday (19th April). She is in talks with Ramsbury Flyer about transport arrangements for the many and various events taking place in the village between 31st May and 8th June. (www.ramsburydday80.com).
- Ticket sales for the talks are going very well.
- Donations for the tombola would be most welcome.

17. PARISH STEWARD'S ROTA

We had been advised that the April visit had been cancelled as the steward would be on annual leave, and they do not come in May because they are busy grass-cutting. We therefore do not expect another visit until 5th June.

18. LIBRARY

Nothing to report.

19. MEMORIAL HALL

Sheila Glass/George Hawes

There had been no meeting.

20. NATURE RESERVE

Chris Morgan

No report.

21. POLICE CONSULTATION

MT followed up on SG's undertaking to contact our community police officers for advice about what steps the PC might take to deter drivers from parking illegally too close to junctions and endangering other road users. He pointed out that two emails had come in from residents very recently, expressing concern about this, and with particular regard to the places where such parking constituted a danger to other drivers, or might cause an accident. A wider discussion ensued about the general lack of understanding about the unenforceability of yellow lines in a village such as ours, whether leafletting would be effective, and if village residents could be encouraged to think before they drive and perhaps walk rather than drive if they are visiting the High Street and thereby reduce the occasions when their vehicles might be depriving the High Street residents of their much-needed parking places. SG was asked to take up these concerns with Melissa Camillieri and see what remedies she might come up with.

ACTION – SG

22. RECREATION CENTRE*George Hawes*

GH said that the hedges along the boundary of the Rec. Centre with the footpath to Ramsbury Manor had been clipped.

23. RAMSBURY SCHOOL*Roger Greasley*

No change. The school roll still stands at 194. Summer term started today. Reception Class is expected to be full, with 30 children, in September.

24. VANDALISM/CRIME

Nothing reported.

25. PATIENTS' REPRESENTATIVE*George Hawes*

GH said that two Covid booster clinics were scheduled for 27th April and 11th May. The surgery's new phone system is up and running. The data it provides showed that the surgery had 600 incoming calls on the Tuesday following the Easter bank holiday weekend.

26. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT IN APRIL

Inv. No	Payments to Suppliers – April 2024	Amount	Net	VAT	Paid By	S137
I4012	Castle Water Public loo water charges to 29 th Feb. Paid in March	57.39	57.39	0.00	BACS	No
I4013	Amazon – 4 airpots for Boundary Walk. Paid in March	99.80	83.16	16.64	VisaDebit	No
I4014	SignMax – Signs for loo and dog bins. Paid in March	44.52	37.10	7.42	VisaDebit	No
I4015	The Plastic People – Polycarbonate glazing for noticeboard. Paid in March	59.40	49.50	9.90	VisaDebit	No
I4016	HP Instant Ink – 28 th March – 27 th April	11.99	9.99	2.00	VisaDebit	No
I4017	Ab-Fab Loos – Boundary Walk	768.00	640.00	128.00	BACS	No
I4018	Galleon Hygiene Products – Bulk pack toilet tissue	48.00	40.00	8.00	VisaDebit	No
I4019	Coral Westall – Public loo cleaning in April	180.00	180.00	0.00	BACS	No
I4020	Idverde Ltd – bin emptying in March	15.00	12.50	2.50	BACS	No
I4021	M J Baker Accountancy – Payroll fee for March	11.25	11.25	0.00	DD	No
I4022	JRB Enterprises – dog poo bags	100.74	83.95	16.79	VisaDebit	No
I4023	Aster Communities – playground rent	5.00	5.00	0.00	BACS	No
I4024	Castle Water – public loo water charges 1 st -31 st March	23.02	23.02	0.00	BACS	No
I4025	Erica Hodgson – Boundary Walk posters : Print costs	33.60	28.00	5.60	BACS	No
	TOTAL TO PAY (excluding Clerk's salary I4025)	£1,457.71	£1,260.86	£196.85		
	TOTAL AMOUNT ON DEPOSIT*	£86,585.62				
	incl. gross interest earned to 31st March 2024	£2,585.62				
	MONIES RECEIVED					
	Charity shop rent	300.00				
	HMRC VAT reclaim 2023-24 (received in March)	10,285.32				

	Wiltshire Council - CIL (tranche 1 of 3 re. Ramsbury Methodist Church development)	1,670.41				
	Amazon credit for returned video doorbell (I3995)	29.99	29.99	0.00		
	TOTAL INCOME	£12,285.72				
	Current A/c at 31st March 2024 – £13,553.94					

*This includes monies held in reserve for parish initiatives such as the Ramsbury Flyer, defibrillators, provision of play equipment, pavement and road repairs, etc.

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 20th MAY at 7.45pm at Ramsbury Memorial Hall
ALL ARE WELCOME