

REDMARLEY PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Redmarley Parish Council was held on Wednesday 7 May 2014 at 7.30 pm. in the Village Hall

Present:	Mrs B Cullimore	Chairman
	Mr D Berrisford	Vice Chairman
	Mrs V Claybourn	
	Mr M Phillips	
	Mr D Rogers	
	Mrs D Waring	
	Mr C Williams	
Mrs M A Diss	Clerk	

1. **APOLOGIES:** None.

2. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5 March 2014 as circulated were taken as read, approved and signed.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.

4. **MATTERS ARISING**

(a) **Post Boxes:** The post boxes at Hyde Park Corner and Playley Green had been repainted. D Waring was asked to check that the Lowbands box at also been done.

(b) **Standing Orders:** These were reviewed at the Annual General Meeting and a new copy given to each councillor.

(c) **VAT Consultation:** The Clerk had responded to the European Commission's consultation on existing VAT legislation on public bodies stating that Redmarley Parish Council opposed the removal of the ability to reclaim VAT. This would have a detrimental affect on Parish Councils when requesting grants for projects and could make the difference between obtaining a grant and being refused, as the amount requested would have to be greater.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) **GAPTC Annual General Meeting 16.7.14.:** Resolutions requested. The Parish Council did not have any resolutions to put forward to this year's Meeting.

The response from Government to the Parish Council's resolution put forward at the 2013 AGM regarding the gradual encroachment of polytunnels over the landscape was that the Local Authorities were well placed to assess the merits of development on a case by case basis.

(b) **War Memorial:** The Clerk had received a letter from Redmarley Church saying that it very much appreciated the work done on the War Memorial and that her own contribution was much valued.

(c) **Fields in Trust:** The membership fee for this organisation was increasing from £25 to £50 per year. However, if we paid next year's fee by 31 May 2014 it will remain at the current price of £25 for 2015/2016.. The subscription is usually paid around February/March each year. The Council agreed that next year's subscription should be paid in advance.

(d) **GPFA :** The Association were offering all members a completely free and independent assessment and inspection of the facilities of the playing field and games area. It was agreed that this offer should be taken up.

(e) **Consultation on the operation of the National Planning Policy Framework:** The Council did not feel able to respond to this consultation.

(d) **Proposal from Sevenoaks Town Council re. Business Rates:** This Town Council had put forward a

resolution to Government under the Sustainable Communities Act 'that the government takes the necessary action to allow a percentage of Business Rates to be paid direct to Parish and Town Councils for the benefit of local economic growth'. After discussion the Council agreed to support this resolution although Redmarley Parish Council would probably not benefit should this happen because it had very few, if any, businesses in its area.

6. **ANY URGENT BUSINESS:** None.

7. **FINANCE**

(a) **Audit:** The accounts were audited by the Independent Auditor on 22 April 2014. His assessment of the Council's position was read to Councillors. There were no queries but he did comment that he would like the Council to continue to gradually increase its working capital base.

The Council then completed the Annual Return and it was signed by the Chairman and Clerk. This would be sent to the External Auditors on the 6 June 2014. A Notice giving the times and venue should any elector wish to inspect the accounts had been posted on the Noticeboards.

The balance taken forward from 13/14 to 14/15 was £1992.37. £846.20 of this balance was the residue from the Heritage Lottery Grant which was to be used for the booklet on the War Memorial project. The actual balance was therefore £1146.17.

(b) **New Financial regulations:** These had been drafted and would need consideration by the Parish Council at the July Meeting. There was also an updated version of the 'Governance and Accountability in England 2010' about to be published.

(c) **Various new topics from Government:** There were changes to Statutory sick pay, a new employment allowance, all tax paid to HMRC to be carried out electronically and that Clerks' pay would be subjected to pension contribution in the future. These measures did not affect the current Clerk but would have to be looked at when a new Clerk was appointed.

(d) **Receipts & Payments:**

Receipts:

Tennis Club rent	£ 130. 00
HMRC VAT refund to March 2014	£ 292. 01
GCC reimbursement of footpath maintenance costs in 13/14	£ 110. 00
Precept paid in two separate amounts	£9518. 03
	<u>£ 478. 97</u>
	£9997. 00

Payments:

K Hodson - bus shelter cleaning	£ 20. 00
Village Hall hire	£ 55. 00
M A Diss - Telephone, internet, email October 2013 to March 2014	£ 110. 85
Zurich Municipal insurance 2014/2015	£ 853. 89
I Selkirk - Independent Audit	£ 115. 00
Playsafety Ltd - ROSPA Playing Field inspection	£ 78. 00
GAPTC yearly subscription	£ 161. 48
Tim Sharpe - War Memorial grass	£ 81. 00
Redmarley Village Hall yearly donation	£1000.00
Redmarley Church - donation	£ 250.00
Petty Cash	£ 20. 00

Heritage Lottery Fund: Nil

Petty Cash: 5.3.14. to 7.5.14. - £14. 00 (Photocopying Standing Orders)

8. **HIGHWAYS**

(a) **Speed Limit Rock Pitch:** The Clerk had had another meeting with Richard Waters and Alan Smith of GCC Highways. The site was visited and it was decided that Richard would look at the question again when

the houses were near completion and would also arrange for the Police to be involved.

(b) **Flooding on Red Ditch Lane:** D Parsons was objecting to the decision to only clear the ditch every other year. After discussion it was agreed that work on the ditch would be carried out in the Autumn of 2014 and that subsequently the ditch would be inspected every year. If thought necessary the ditch would then be cleared.

(c) **Fallen wall on The Green:** This had now been repaired.

(d) **Flooding on roads:** The Clerk had visited the area at the village end of Drury Lane prone to flooding with Highways and it was agreed that the adjacent drain cover would be cleared of soil and debris and the drain cleared. Marlpool flooding had been reported and Highways had carried out work in the area. Mill Lane at Lowbands had been reported and work had also been carried out there. Potholes continued to be reported and the majority of these had been done.

(e) **Vehicles parked on A417 verge at the Pendock Turn:** This was a continuing problem. The recent white vans had been reported to the Street Warden and he was investigating.

(f) **Streetlight in village:** Streetlight No.2 had been reported to GCC Streetlighting as the lamp was obscured by conifer fronds. This should be dealt with by 19 May 2014 at the latest.

(g) **Wyndbrook Lane road closure:** This Lane would be closed from 3 June to 4 June 2014 to allow for inspection of the M50 motorway bridge which runs over it. Pedestrian access was to be maintained and it would be open overnight.

(h) **Hedgecuttings on A417:** The Chairman reported that hedgecuttings alongside the A417 had still not been cleared although she had spoken to the landowner. It was hoped that they would be cleared in the near future.

9. PLANNING

Previous applications:

Redhill Farm Bromesberrow Road: Erection of polytunnels, sedimentation pond, two reservoirs and the movement of existing footpath: Strongly objected to by RPC. The FODDC Planning Committee refused this application on Tuesday 11 March 2014. This was a decision welcomed by many. The Parish Council was indebted to the Friends of Dymock Poets for their support and backing in the months before the application's hearing at the Planning Committee. It was not known if the application would go to Appeal.

Wyevale Transplants Russells End: Retrospective application for six mobile homes. The Parish Council had been asked to support Bromesberrow PC in its objections to this application. A letter had been sent to FODDC objecting to it. An agricultural assessment had been undertaken in May 2013 and this recommended that there was a need for the mobile homes to accommodate foreign seasonal labour. Still pending. The Planning Officer had put this forward to the FODDC vetting panel again and hoped to be able to give feedback in a week or so.

Smith Durbridge Bungalow Durbridge Road: Erection of two-storey detached dwelling (Demolition of existing detached dwelling). Erection of detached double garage with first floor accommodation and attached single storey lean-to store. Construction of new vehicular access. No objections from RPC. Passed.

Voyce Wyndbrook Farm Pendock Road: Compliance with Planning conditions 03, 05, 09, 11, 12 of Planning Permission P1416/13/FUL. One councillor objected to the use of agricultural land to improve the driveway, otherwise no objections from RPC. Passed.

Hardman Farm Mill Lane Lowbands: Change of use of redundant water mill and erection of single storey extension to provide holiday let with ancillary works. Removal of single storey lean to structure. No objections from RPC. Pending.

Lloyd The Lake Cooks Lane: Alterations and two storey extension to dwelling. No objections from RPC. Pending.

Lloyd The Lake Cooks Lane: Change of use, alterations and conversion of existing barns into residential accommodation. No objections from RPC. Pending.

Wyatt May Farm Pendock Road: Application under Section 191 Certificate of Lawfulness (non-compliance with annexe occupancy condition (b) of planning consent reference DF2672/D). No objections from RPC. Passed.

Jackie Hopkins and Matthew Hodges Cinderford Glos: Application for grant of Street Trading Consent on A417 layby near Rose & Crown Public House for a mobile catering trailer. Objection from RPC. Street Trading consent granted.

Kiely The Green: Reduce x 3 Leylandii trees to a height of 1.5m from the ground. No objections from RPC. Passed.

P0339/14/FUL Poole The Grain Store Durbridge Road: Erection of livestock building. Discussed at March Meeting and as the barns were not fully on view due to the topography of the land no objections were raised by RPC. Passed.

P0340/14/FUL Poole The Grain Store Durbridge Road: Erection of livestock building. Discussed at March Meeting and as the barns were not fully on view due to the topography of the land no objections were raised by RPC. Passed.

New applications:

Poole The Grain Store Durbridge Road: Submission of details of a dwelling approved in outline under reference P0701/13/OUT for approval. No objections from RPC. Passed.

Wood Ashcroft Hyde Park Corner: Pollard x 1 ash tree to a height of approximately 4.5 metres. Application withdrawn.

Smith Durbridge Bungalow Durbridge Road: Discharge of conditions of planning permission P1672/13/FUL - biodiversity and enhancement, drainage, materials, targeted emission rates and landscaping. No objections from RPC. Passed.

Cohn Playley Green Farm: Alterations to existing stables incorporating the re-roofing and partial re-cladding with render to walls. No objections from RPC. Passed.

Poole The Grain Store Durbridge Road: Erection of a car port and plant room to serve new dwelling including the change of use of land to residential curtilage. No objections from RPC. Passed.

Voyce Lowbands Barn Chartist Lane Lowbands: Discharge of conditions - hard landscaping, floodlighting/external illumination, repair schedule and boundary treatment. No objections from RPC. Pending.

Pendock Environmental Eldersfield: Variation of planning conditions 2 & 4 and removal of planning condition 3 on planning permission 13/000058/CM. This was discussed at the Meeting and it was agreed to support Eldersfield and Pendock Parish Councils in their objection to the removal of these conditions as it would create additional traffic problems.

Arrowsmith Harts Farm Stud Chapel Lane Redmarley: Erection of new detached agricultural building for storage of hay and occasional use by lambs. This was discussed at the Meeting and it was agreed to object to this application on the grounds that the building was large, too near the road and was separated from the main complex of buildings that comprised Harts Farm Stud.

Powell Treasmill Mill Lane Lowbands: Erection of agricultural general purpose building. This was discussed at the Meeting and it was agreed to object to this application on the grounds that it was too large and too high and therefore out of place in an area which mainly comprised single storey properties.

Davis The Old Stable Kings Green Berrow: Rear extension to provide two new bedrooms. No objections from RPC. Pending.

(b) **New housing visibility splay:** This area was currently partially tarmacked. Landscaping plans show that it was to be grassed when the development was completed. When in use this would obviously become a pull in for passing cars and would be degraded. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Severnvalle Housing and request that this splay should be tarmacked.

10. PLAYING FIELD

(a) **ROSPA inspection of playing field:** The Games Area was inspected. It was reported that some bolts needed tightening and that a warning notice should be fitted with the words "Do not climb on the framework or nets'. Do not hang on the ring' and 'Do not wear rings or other jewellery as these can get caught and cause injury'. Terry Diss would be tightening the bolts and the Clerk would investigate the costs for providing a warning notice.

(b) **Use of pitch by Staunton and Corse Football Club:** Staunton & Corse Football Club wanted to rent the football pitch for ten games next season as their pitch was undergoing drainage work. The Clerk had contacted Aaron Smith of Redmarley Football Club to see if Staunton could be fitted in when Redmarley was away from home. Redmarley FC was not happy about this because it felt that the pitch would get over used, particularly as it was to be used on a Sunday as well. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would ask the two teams to liaise and see if some agreement could be reached. However, it was agreed that the Redmarley Football Club decision would be binding.

(c) **Fencing and gate Allotment Field:** This had now been repaired.

(d) **Tennis Club Pavilion:** The Tennis Club wished to have a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss the hedge along the boundary which, under planning conditions, needed to be enhanced. It would also like to discuss drainage and disabled access. It was agreed that David Rogers and the Clerk would arrange to meet with the Tennis Club on Saturday 10 May 2014 at the Tennis Club Huts to discuss these issues.

11. REDMARLEY ANNUAL PARISH FORUM

The Forest of Dean Community Transport Partnership had agreed to send a representative to the Forum to talk about transport issues. D Berrisford agreed to give the Redmarley Academy report. Wine and nibbles would be served as in the past.

12. FOOTPATHS

(a) **Redhill Farm footpath GRA31/1:** This had been churned up by tractors. Suzanne Hopes, PROW, did not think that the path had been ruined and that the tractor ruts were easy to negotiate! The Clerk had replied saying that she did not agree. PROW does not feel that action against the landowner can reasonably be taken on this occasion. Those councillors who had walked the path agreed that the path was in a very poor state and difficult to navigate. Clerk to write to PROW again.

Flooding at lower part of GRA31/1: PROW had written to Mr Chinn of Cobrey Farms about this and what action was intended to clear the flooded area..

GDY74 Geopark Way: Lack of waymarking. Queried with Mr Chinn.

GRA73: Footpath through Lintridge Farm: PROW walked this path and found no significant problems other than some shallow potholes. Access for walkers was straightforward although the route needed extra waymarking. Vehicles were allowed on public footpaths if they were there with the landowner's permission.

GDY80: Footpath through Lintridge Farm: The top part of the bridleway, closest to the road, was badly eroded in places and needs repairs. Technically the wide track that walkers/riders use does not follow the legal line of the bridleway. This had been pointed out to Mr Chinn but as it does not cause inconvenience it was not considered a high priority to deal with.

PROW has written to Mr Chinn about all these various problems but had yet to receive a reply.

GRA32: The tree that was blocking this path had been removed.

GRA46 Scar Farm: The electric fence had been removed.

GRA42: Chain on gate. PROW had inspected but reported that the chain was on the post and hanging free. The gate was therefore usable. She would contact the owner should further problems be reported.

(d) **Footpaths GRA49/2, GRA49/1 AND GRA48/3:** Stiles and footbridge on these footpaths in need of repair. Amey was still to appoint contractors and until that is done no work can be carried out on the footpaths. Once contractors had been appointed the repairs would be done.

13. **ACADEMY/VILLAGE HALL REPORTS**

(a) **Academy:** The plans to create a Forest School had floundered due to insurance problems for both the Academy and the Cobhill Wood leaseholder. Alternative areas were being investigated. The Academy allocation of places had been announced and it was full with six on the waiting list. It is thought there could be some Appeals.

(b) **Village Hall:** There was to be a Race Night Evening on Friday 6 June 2014.

14. **District Councillor report:** Nothing to report.

15. Date of next Meeting: Redmarley Annual Parish Forum 28 May 2014. Parish Council Meeting 2nd July 2014.

There being no further business the Meeting finished at 9.05 pm.

Date: _____

Signature: _____

FOR REFERENCE:

AONB Area of outstanding natural beauty
CCTV Closed circuit television
FIT Fields in Trust (National Playing Fields Association)
FODDC Forest of Dean District Council
GAPTC Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils
GCC Gloucestershire County Council
GET Gloucestershire Environmental Trust
GPFA Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association
GRCC Gloucestershire Rural Community Council
GSP Gloucestershire Strategic Partnership
GTP Gloucestershire Training Partnership
GWT Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust
HLF Heritage Lottery Fund
LBC Listed Building Consent
LDF Local Development Framework
MUGA Multi Use Games Area
NALC National Association of Local Councils
PFM Parish Forum Meetings
PPF Parish Planning Forum
PROW Public Rights of Way
RAPF Redmarley Annual Parish Forum
RPC Redmarley Parish Council
SLCC Society of Local Council Clerks
SSSi Site of special scientific interest
WMT War Memorials Trust