

# **RATCLIFFE ON THE WREAKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 at 7.30 PM in the village hall

## **Present:**

Cllr Tom Chaplin, Cllr Pauline Lewis, Cllr Andrew Wright and Cllr Mick Wells

The clerk

3 members of the public were present

## **223/2016 - Resolution to receive apologies for absence**

- Cllr Emily Les Gros
- Cllr James Poland & Cllr David Houseman

## **224/2016 - Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items of the agenda**

As agreed Declarations of Interest would be recorded at the start of each meeting. Councillors declaring an interest would still be entitled to take part in discussions unless the item is prejudicial, councillors would not be allowed to vote on the item or add opinion.

- All Cllrs declared an interest on item 235/2016 as residents of Church Lane
- Cllr Lewis declared an interest on item 229/2016 as a relation to the owner of the land

## **225/2016 – County Council/Police reports**

- Reports were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

## **226/2016 - Public Questions**

Members of the public were asked to declare their name when addressing the Chairman if they wished for their name to be minuted in this section of the meeting, if they did not want their name mentioned they need not declare it.

- A member of the public asked about the works being carried out at Ratcliffe Hall and the Chair confirmed that the original plans are available online and more detailed information is available.

## **227/2016 – Resolution to approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

The minutes of the meetings were circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting for them to be reviewed.

**Resolved:** The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed.

## **228/2016 - Resolution to approve payment of outstanding accounts**

- Current account balance = £3,576.47
- Reserve account balance = £9,376.79

The following cheque was agreed:

|      |   |                |
|------|---|----------------|
| 0313 | • Ratcliffe Village Hall, hall hire                         | £13.00         |
| 0314 | • Grant Thornton, annual audit                              | £30.00         |
| 0315 | • Mrs Preston, poppy wreath                                 | £28.00         |
| 0316 | • St. Botolph's Church, churchyard maintenance and lighting | £230.00        |
| 0317 | • Garden Care, strimming to side and rear of garages        | £60.00         |
| 0318 | • Helen Chadwick, clerks salary and expenses                | £232.40        |
|      | <b>Total outgoing cheques:</b>                              | <b>£593.40</b> |

**Resolved:** Cheques will be processed and posted out at the earliest convenience.

### **229/2016 – To discuss and agree handover process of the Boathouse to previous owner**

The Chair reminded parishioners that the original plan had been to apply for grants so that we could refurbish the Boathouse, unfortunately no access was granted to the site and during the process of trying to secure access the costs of refurbishment have increased from £25k to £65k and because there is no access to the site grants cannot be applied for.

It was reported that members of the parish had raised an interest in looking for grants and a way of generating income, however, no formal plan was submitted to the Parish Council.

Councillors agreed that every effort had been made to try to secure access to the site so that funding could be applied but agreed that no further action could be taken and according to the original document the original landowner is to be given first refusal if the Parish Council no longer wish to pursue action with the Boathouse.

Cllr Chaplin proposed that we start the process to hand the Boathouse back to the previous owner because no further action is going to be taken by the Parish Council and this was seconded by Cllr Wells. Councillors were all in agreement and it was suggested that the clerk liaise with the solicitor to start the process and agree costs.

**Resolution:** That the clerk would liaise with the solicitor to start the process of handing back the Boathouse to the previous owner, arrange documentation and agree costs.

### **230/2016 – To discuss Leicestershire Highways traffic safety review and agree actions**

The Chair reported that a site visit had taken place with Stuart Bullen from LCC Highways to look at the traffic calming options in the village and following a safety review it was agreed that dragons teeth would be installed and the Parish Council would investigate the cost of vehicle activated speed signs.

### **231/2016 – Update on Charnwood Borough Council lease agreement and planning application**

The clerk reported that following a recent conversation with the legal department at Charnwood Borough Council, the update lease agreement was being drawn up and once planning permission had been granted for the additional works the documents could be signed.

The clerk reported that following the submission of the pre-planning documentation she had received a communication from the planning department asking for more details on the proposal. It was agreed that the clerk would submit the additional information required and that a site visit would be scheduled for the new year so that the plans could be discussed and amendments made prior to official submission.

### **232/2016 – Update on the replacement of Millennium trees in the village**

The clerk reported that she had been in contact with LCC and unfortunately they are not in a position to fund the replacement of the three trees missing. Councillors agreed that the trees should be replaced and it was suggested the Cllr Wells research a cost for the purchase of the trees and the installation so that consideration could be given to the purchase of the trees at a future meeting.

### **233/2016 – To discuss possible use for the phone box**

The Chair reported that the phone box in the village is no longer in use and suggested that we look to adopt it and perhaps use it to house a defibrillator. Councillors were in agreement and requested that the clerk look at the process of adoption and costs for a defibrillator.

### **234/2016 – To review street lighting and agree actions**

The Chair reported that following a review of the street lighting by LCC some of the lights in the village are on permanently and have limited effectiveness. It was suggested that the clerk contact LCC Highways to request that the street lights are switched off at midnight.

### **235/2016 – To discuss precept request for 2017/2018**

The clerk circulated a copy of the precept for the current year, spend to date and the proposed precept for 2017/2018. Councillors discussed the draft budget for the year and agreed to the proposed expenditure. Cllr Lewis proposed the precept request of £2,000 and this was seconded by Cllr Wells.

**Resolved:** The clerk will submit the council's precept request prior to the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016 deadline.

**236/2016 – Parish Councillor Updates**

Cllr Wells reported by email that:

- It might be useful to purchase some 'private land' signs for the land on Church Lane so that people are aware that it is not a public space. The Chair reported that until the lease is signed we are not in a position to do that.

**237/2016 – To discuss and agree 2017 meeting dates**

The clerk circulated draft meeting dates for 2017 to councillors prior to the meeting and the following dates were approved. All meetings will commence at 7.30 PM in the village hall.

- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May – AGM
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December

**The Chair closed the meeting at 9.10 PM.**

**Signed:**

**Date:**