

RATCLIFFE ON THE WREAKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on
Thursday 23rd March 2017 at 7.30 PM in the village hall

Present:

Cllr Tom Chaplin, Cllr Pauline Lewis, Cllr Emily Les Gros and Cllr Mick Wells

The clerk

3 members of the public were present

238/2017 - Resolution to receive apologies for absence

- Cllr Andy Cartwright
- Cllr David Houseman

239/2017 - 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 245/2017 as residents of Church Lane
- Cllr Lewis declared an interest on item 244/2017 as a relation to the owner of the land

240/2017 – County Council/Police reports

- Reports were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

241/2017 - 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 raised concerns about the condition of the hedges on Broome Lane near Priory Farm. *It was agreed that the clerk would contact Highways about this.*
- A member of the public asked who owns the Village Hall and whether any of the parish council budget could be used to update the heating. *The Chair reported that the Village Hall is owned by its Trustees and any request for funding should be directed to them initially and then they can submit a request to the parish council for consideration.*

242/2017 – Resolution to approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 1st December 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.

243/2017 - Resolution to approve payment of outstanding accounts and agree appointment of internal auditor for 2016/2017

- Current account balance = £2,353.07
- Reserve account balance = £9,377.17

The following cheque was agreed:

0320	• Moss Solicitors, fees for Boathouse transfer	£380.00
0321	• Helen Chadwick, clerks salary including expenses	£352.40
0322	• Ratcliffe Village Hall, hall hire	£13.00
	Total outgoing cheques:	£745.40

The clerk reminded councillors that the year end accounts for 2016/2017 will need to be audited before submitted to Grant Thornton in June and requested permission to use an LRALC recognised internal auditor to carry this process out.

Resolved: That Cllr Chaplin proposed that the payments reported be authorised and this was seconded by Cllr Les Gros. Councillors were in agreement for the clerk to appoint an internal auditor in order to meet the June deadline.

244/2017 – To receive an update on the handover of the Boathouse and agree costings

The clerk reported that she had received a confirmation from our solicitor that in order to proceed they need our formal instruction to proceed with the land transfer and agreement that we will pay the landowners costs as previously discussed.

Resolution: Cllr Wells proposed that we proceed with the transfer and agree to the costs of £380 and this was seconded by Cllr Chaplin. The clerk will instruct the solicitor to proceed with the transfer.

245/2017 – To receive an update on the pre-planning application for Church Lane

The clerk reported that we need to arrange a site visit with the planning officer to through some of the questions raised in our pre-planning application. The clerk commented that Charnwood Borough Council will also not release the lease on the land until planning has been resolved. Cllr Chaplin and Cllr Wells agreed to provide the clerk with meeting dates so that she can arrange the site visit.

246/2017 – To receive an update on the replacement trees in the village

Cllr Wells reported that he had ordered the replacement trees and it is likely that they will be delivered within the next few weeks and that parishioners had volunteered to help plant the trees

Resolved: Expenses due to Cllr Wells in relation to the purchase of the trees will made at the May meeting.

247/2017 – To receive an update on traffic calming and discuss purchase of speed response signs

The clerk reported that the dragons teeth have been completed by LCC Highways. The Chair commented as part of the ongoing discussions about traffic calming measures in the village it would be good to arrange to meet with a supplier of vehicle activation speed signs and asked the clerk to arrange this for a future meeting. It was also suggested that clerk should contact Highways to ensure that we can replace the signs they installed and to seek guidance on the most suitable locations for the new signs.

Resolved: The clerk will contact providers to arrange a presentation at a future meeting and contact Highways regarding the removal and relocation of signs.

248/2017 – To discuss format of annual parish meeting and annual parish council meeting

Councillors agreed that the format of the previous years' meeting was a success and agreed to hold the annual parish council meeting from 7.30 to 8.00 PM on the 18th May and that the annual parish meeting would follow at 8.00 PM. The clerk will prepare the required paperwork for the annual parish council meeting. The Chair will draft his annual report.

249/2017 – Parish Councillor Updates

Cllr Wells reported that:

- The condition of the triangle at the top of Ratcliffe Road/Broome Lane needs attention and asked the clerk to contact Highways to see if the surface can be levelled.

Cllr Les Gros reported that:

- There is a rather large pot hole outside number 15 Church Lane and asked the clerk to report this to Highways.

Cllr Chaplin reported that:

- Dog fouling remains an issue in the village and asked whether it would be possible for the clerk to get hold of some flyers that we distribute in the village and suggested that an item should be included in the newsletter.
- There are still concerns about when superfast broadband will be available in the village and asked the clerk to see what she could find out and report back as soon as possible so that this information can be shared with parishioners.

250/2017 – Date of next meeting

The clerk confirmed that the meeting on the 18th May will be the annual parish council meeting and will commence at 7.30 PM in the village hall with the annual parish meeting taking place immediately afterwards at 8.00 PM.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.10 PM.

Signed:

Date: