

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

## **Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 7.30 PM in the village hall**

### **Present:**

Cllr Mick Wells, Cllr Pauline Lewis, Cllr Tom Chaplin and Cllr Ken Wood. Cllr James Poland, PSCO Matthew Harburt, 1 member of the public and the clerk.

### **417/2019 - Resolution to receive apologies for absence**

- Cllr Emily Le Gros

### **418/2019 - Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items of the agenda and completion of acceptance of office forms**

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.

- A member of the parish reported that work on the trees in the churchyard will take place in August and will take a couple of weeks.

### **419/2019 – County Council/Police reports**

- PSCO Matthew Harburt attended the meeting and reported the following crime between the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018 and the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019;
  - Burglary other than dwelling July 2018
  - Burglary other than dwelling Dec 2018
  - Vehicle crime – Theft of number plates Dec 2018
  - Theft from unlocked motor vehicle Jan 2019
  - Burglary dwelling Jan 2019
  - Burglary dwelling Feb 2019
  - Burglary dwelling May 2019
- PSCO Mattew Harburt commented that the police service are trying to use the Neighbourhood Link to provide information to parishioners.
- The Chair suggested that he should write to the Chief Commissioner to see whether it would be possible to have a marked car sat in Church Lane to take vehicle speed recordings. It was suggested that we could look at a community speed watch event.
- Cllr Poland reported that residents can shape our future plans and priorities by getting involved in a major consultation launched in June. People are urged to have their say by [completing a short questionnaire](#) and can also use an interactive, online tool to try balancing the council's £370m revenue budget. Despite saving £200m since 2010, rising demand for services pushing up costs and uncertainty over Government funding mean the council still faces a significant financial challenge. The council needs to save another £75m over the next four years and is running a three-month consultation asking residents, businesses and partner organisations for their views on the significant financial challenge. The 12-week exercise runs until 8 September and includes:
  - a questionnaire - sent to households in a special edition of residents' newsletter Leicestershire Matters from 17 June
  - an online, interactive tool enabling people to explore the council's budget in more detail
  - residents focus groups
  - workshops with parish councils, NHS bodies, the police, businesses and other stakeholders
  - workshops with council staff and managers
  - stands at events across the county

- Cllr Poland reported that Charnwood will be introducing charges for the collection of bulky waste from October this year – the charge will be £20 for the collection of up to three items. This decision comes on the back of the financial position the Council is faced with, having to reduce the deficit in the years ahead. Charging for bulky waste is the norm for local authorities across the country (only a very few continue to collect for free) but the price is designed to still be affordable for the public (Charnwood’s price will be the second cheapest in Leicestershire. The charges will still not cover the cost of the service, but will help reduce the expenditure to the Council. This will be subject to a review in 12 months time where the effect the charge has had on issues like fly tipping will be assessed.
- Cllr Poland reported Charnwood residents are being urged to stay connected with the borough council by signing up to new email alerts. The Council has introduced the alerts to help keep people informed about Council services and news. There are a range of topics including general news, business, planning, events, recycling and refuse and news for tenants. Charnwood BC is committed to having open and honest communication with residents and these new email alerts are a great way to get information to people. Residents can choose which notifications to receive and we want to make it as easy as possible for people to access information which may be relevant to them. This is not just broadcasting our news. We want to have meaningful conversations with people and that can take place either face to face, on the phone, on social media and we still happily receive letters. Your views are important to us and essential in shaping our services.” To sign up to the Council’s new email alerts, please visit [www.charnwood.gov.uk/alerts](http://www.charnwood.gov.uk/alerts)

#### **420/2019 - 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.

- N/A

#### **421/2019 – Resolution to approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

The minutes of the meetings were circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting for them to be reviewed. The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed and will be uploaded onto the website.

#### **422/2019 - Resolution to approve payment of outstanding accounts**

The clerk reported that the total of the current account as £734.40 and the total of reserve account as £5,390.07. The clerk presented the following payments for authorisation. Cllr Wells proposed the approval of all payments and this was seconded by Cllr.

|       |   |                |
|-------|---|----------------|
| 00439 | • 2Communce Ltd, website contract                     | £330.00        |
| 00437 | • Helen Chadwick, clerks salary, expenses & hall hire | £247.97        |
|       | <b>Total outgoing cheques:</b>                        | <b>£577.97</b> |

#### **423/2019 – Update on the Church Lane project and agree any actions**

Cllr Chaplin reported that he has been strimming the area and that the plants are growing well. It was noted that the clerk has been chasing Highways with regards to the edge of the parking area onto Church Lane.

#### **424/2019 – To receive an update on progress made with the speed camera and agree actions**

The Chair reported that he had been in contact with the local MP and Cllr James Poland and he has been told that Highways are very short staffed and that our request is low priority. The Chair commented that we have two options, one is to insist that highways repair the sign that they installed so that the village has at least one speed sign working, the other option is for Highways to give the parish council permission to install their own sign and take over the electricity supply. It was agreed that the clerk would forward all her communication from Highways to Cllr Poland and

that he would raise this with the County Council. The Chair also agreed that the would write to the head of Highways Anne Carruthers about the situation.

**425/2019 – To discuss and agree the installation of a light to the front of the village hall porch**

Cllr Chaplin reported that he has spoken with the village hall committee and they have not met to make a decision on the light. He will report back at a future meeting.

**426/2019 – To discuss and agree the purchase of stakes for trees on Thrussington Road**

The Chair reported that he has received a quote of £120 for a contractor to supply and install ten 8 foot large tree stakes against the trees on Thrussington Road. Cllr Chaplin proposed that we accept the quote, this was seconded by Cllr Wood and all councillors were in agreement. The chair confirmed that he will instruct the contractor to proceed with the work.

**427/2019 – To discuss planning application P/19/1133/2 – erection of 1.8m high fence including entrance gates to the north, east and southern boundaries and formation of a new vehicular site access at The Old Pumping station and agree actions**

The clerk reported that a copy of the planning application had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors reviewed the application and agreed that they had no comments.

**428/2019 – Parish Councillor Updates**

- Cllr Prior commented that as a parish council we should be looking to provide a defibrillator for the village, it was suggested that the clerk councillors raised the issue of a defibrillator in the village and agreed that
- Name of highways to

**429/2019 – Date of next meeting**

The date of the next parish council meeting was confirmed as Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019 commencing at 7.30 PM

**The Chair closed the meeting at 20:20 PM.**

**Signed:**

**Date:**