

RATCLIFFE ON THE WREAKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Thursday 18th March 2021 at 7.30 PM via Zoom

Present:

Cllr Tom Chaplin, Cllr Pauline Lewis, Cllr Ken Wood, 2 members of the public and the clerk.

473/2021 – Resolution to receive apologies for absence

- Cllr Emily Le Gros and Cllr James Poland

474/2021 – Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda

- N/A

475/2021 – County/Borough Councillor & Police reports.

- The clerk reported that PCSO 6098 has emailed to confirm that there have been no crimes reported in the village over the past 30 days. There is a new Sergeant starting with the team this month, his name is PS 3002 Fabrizzio Smargiassi.
- Cllr Poland submitted the following report by email, he was unable to attend the meeting due to a cabinet meeting.

Plan for covid-19 memorial in Charnwood

A plan has been unveiled for a lasting memorial in Loughborough to mark the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on local communities. The Hope Bell would commemorate the lives lost to Covid-19, honour key workers who have helped battle the pandemic and be a symbol of hope for the future.

The Hope Bell would be part of a clock chime installation with four smaller bells, all made by Taylor's Bell Foundry in the town, the last major bell foundry in the country. Queen's Park is currently earmarked as a possible location. The pandemic has had a devastating impact on our community and the plans propose to create something that could act as a focal point for remembrance and reflection while also being a symbol of hope.

Various options are being considered but the Hope Bell could weigh up to a tonne and it is not anticipated it would be installed until 2022. It would be paid for by government grants and through public subscription.

Refreshed energy plan supports carbon pledge

Leicestershire County Council is to set out its plans for further energy saving over the next decade as it moves closer towards its target of being carbon neutral by 2030. The authority has saved hundreds of thousands of pounds in recent years by reducing energy consumption throughout its buildings, using a variety of energy-efficient measures such as installing solar panels and LED lighting.

The revised Strategic Property Energy Strategy will support a green covid recovery and will involve tailoring energy upgrades with new digital ways of working in mind. The next targets are to make a 30-to-50 per cent further reduction in energy consumption from council buildings, compared with last year, along with a 50 per cent increase in onsite renewable or zero-carbon energy generation.

Among the projects planned for the next year are increasing the amount of solar panels and LED lighting at County Hall, introducing solar panels and electric vehicle chargers at Snibston Colliery Park and investigating low carbon heating solutions at other council-owned properties. It is also hoped to install large scale energy generation schemes such as solar farms on council land.

Saving energy and generating renewable energy are at the core of the council's plan to achieve net zero carbon and council construction projects are already carried out in a sustainable manner.

476/2021 - Public Questions

- A member of the public asked whether any action has been taken in connection with the EMA flight path. The clerk reported that all concerns raised have been submitted to the team and that a response has been received. It was noted that the response was not read out at the meeting but it was agreed that it would be included in the minutes, see below:

We are in regular contact with the team at East Midlands Airport and have been notified recently that aircraft departing from East Midlands Airport are required to follow one of six initial flight paths, known as Noise Preferential Routes (NPRs) until they reach the minimum altitude of 5,000ft. It is at this point that the aircraft is released from the NPR for onward vectoring by National Air Traffic Services (NATS). We have +/- 1200m swathes on all of our NPRs, to allow dispersion with conventional procedures.

They have confirmed that village may be affected by departures when the airport is operating on Runway 09 (easterly). East Midlands Airport has one runway but will operate at one of two ends and this is entirely dependent on wind direction. In general, it is Runway 27 that is in use for most of the year (around 80% of the time), with Runway 09 only in use roughly 20% of the time. They are working with their airlines collaboratively with ATC, to improve track keeping performance on all departure routes, and we report all instances of non-compliance.

The Government has set out its policy on the future of UK airspace. As such East Midlands, like other UK Airports, is in the process of reviewing their airspace. Part of this project will move them from ground based navigation to GNSS, enabling aircraft to fly much more accurately. The future airspace programme is a significant project and will be running for some time - all local stakeholders, including residents, are able to sign up to updates and future engagement events and we encourage you to do so. You can sign up here: <https://www.eastmidlandsairport.com/community/future-airspace/>.

- A member of the public asked about the situation with regards to the work at Ratcliffe Hall. The chair reported that the parish council have submitted their concerns to the enforcement team at Charnwood Borough Council and they are looking into this.
- A member of the public asked about the non compostable items that have been added to the bonfire. The Chair commented that this private property and the landowner is entitled to store whatever they like on it.

477/2021 – Resolution to approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 3rd December 2020

The minutes of the meetings were circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting for them to be reviewed. Cllr Chaplin proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, this was seconded Cllr Lewis and all councillors were in agreement.

- The clerk reported that she has spoken with highways regarding to the training for the speed cameras and it was noted that this cannot be carried out until social distancing measures have been removed. It was noted that the purpose of the sign is to gather evidence about regarding the volume and speed of vehicles so that a request can be submitted to have the camera car in the village. The long term aim is to have the speed limit in the village reduced..

478/2021 - Resolution to approve payment of outstanding accounts

The clerk represented the following payments for approval. Cllr le Gros proposed the approval of all payments and this was seconded by Cllr Wood, all councillors were in agreement.

The Chair reported that we have applied for online banking again and if successful the financial orders will be updated to reflect the change in payments.

• LCC, street lighting	£92.59
• PKF, external audit	£240.00
• Helen Chadwick, clerks salary	£150.00
Total outgoing cheques:	£482.59

479/2021 – Resolution to co-opt a parish councillor

The clerk reported that following the advert for councillor co-option several applications had been received. It was noted that there was one councillor seat vacant. A copy of the applications had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting so that they could review the application independently. The clerk confirmed that she had taken advice from LRALC regarding the most appropriate way for councillors to vote whilst using zoom and it had been confirmed that councillors should use the private chat facility or text the clerk with their vote. Councillors were asked to vote on seat 1, the outcome was that applicant B was co-opted. The clerk confirmed that the successful applicant would be notified via email along with those unsuccessful applicants.

480/2021 – Planning

- a. Planning notifications, including P/20/1360/2
 - *The clerk confirmed that there has been a delay in posting the site notice for this application. Steve Holmes the case officer has confirmed he is visiting the site this week and will put up the notice whilst he is there. A member of the public commented that they had written to the planning department and commented that the application was based on false information. Councillors agreed that they did have concerns about the way the applications for Ratcliffe Hall have been dealt with and these concerns have also been raised with the enforcement team.*
- b. P/20/0882/2 – change of use of land to provide riding school, including alterations and extensions to an existing stable block outbuilding, the erection of a storage outbuilding, the creation of an outdoor equestrian menage and storage area and the creation of a vehicle parking area at North Lodge Farm, Thrussington Road, Ratcliffe on the Wreake
 - *A copy of the planning application was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors discussed the application and it was noted that the application has been already been decided. It was noted that a condition of the application was that all hedges removed would be replaced.*
- c. P/21/0079/2 – change of use of agricultural building to dwelling house (class C3) prior notification at former heliport building, land off Main Street, Ratcliffe on the Wreake
 - *The clerk reported that following a communication from Charnwood Borough Council Prior Notification for an agricultural access doesn't require a notice. The Chair reported that the parish council have already submitted their concerns and are happy to ensure those of residents.*

481/2021 – To discuss the condition of the footpath at the end of Church Lane and agree actions

The Chair reported that the footpath at the end of Church Lane is extremely muddy and dangerous to walk on when the ground is wet. It was noted that if a footpath goes across a piece of privately owned land then it must be kept clear and not obstructed, this footpath does meet those requirements. The Chair commented that he has spoken with the landowner and they are going to look at what can be done to ensure it is safe to use. Councillors agreed that our concerns should also be raised with highways so that the footpath can be inspected.

482/2021 – To discuss the ongoing issues with the drains in the village and agree actions

The Chair reported that there have been numerous complaints regarding the drains and the pumping station activity in the village. It was noted that the drains are obviously failing and last year Seven Trent spent almost 5 months at the pumping station to remove excrement while drains were repaired, but the problem is on-going. The problem may be widespread but impacts on the drains at the lower end of the village. In times of heavy rain this drain continues to overflow and sewage effluent flows out of the drains and often into the small tributary of the wreck.

Councillors agreed that the work done to date is not sufficient and agreed to submit a complaint to LCC highways, Charnwood Borough Council and Severn Trent. It was suggested that we request that an independent survey is carried out.

483/2021 – Parish Councillor Updates

It was noted that there is a lot of HGV activity in the village and that this should be reported to highways because it may be works vehicles that are taking a short cut to the football site off the A46.

484/2021 – Date of next parish council meeting

- The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 20th May 2021 at 7.30 PM – annual village meeting

The Chair closed the meeting at 20:45

Signed:

Date: