

# RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 2 November 2017

Main Hall, Rickinghall Village Hall

**Present:** Cllr Robin Brown  
Cllr Nick Free  
Cllr Geoff Short

Cllr Gillian Crossley-Holland  
Cllr Rosemary Jones  
Cllr Sally Smith

Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve  
District Cllr Derek Osborne  
5 Members of the public

7.30pm The Chairman welcomed those present and opened the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Dominic Ebert, Nic Joubert and William Maskell.
2. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 5 October 2017:** The minutes of the meetings were agreed and signed.
3. **Magazine Input:** Cllr Short.
4. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None.
5. **Public Forum:** A member of the public requested that the Council report the narrow pavement in front of the Village Hall and in front of the churchyard. Peter Beck, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Peter Beck advised that he had been informed of cars parked in Ryders Way without MOT or insurance, and the police had passed on news that the theft of lead from church roofs was still a current problem. District Cllr Osborne advised that the recent planning application for the newsagents/post office had been officially 'called in', meaning it would have to be discussed by the full planning committee, and not just determined by Planning Department officers. The Council had now moved into Endeavour House in Ipswich.
6. **Planning:**
  - 6.1 **Planning Applications:** None.
  - 6.2 **Notice of Intent works to tree(s) in the Conservation Area:**
    - 6.2.1 **Oakdale Cottage, Bury Road.** Ref. DC/17/05222. Oak (T1) Crown lift to 15'. It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to have no objection.
    - 6.2.2 **Kenleen, Bury Road.** Ref. DC/17/05425. Reduce crown by 2m on 1 no. Prunus tree. It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to have no objection.
  - 6.3 **Notification of Planning Decisions by Mid Suffolk DC:**
    - 6.3.1 **Park Lodge, Rectory Hill.** Ref. DC/17/04733. Application for works to tree protected by Tree Preservation Order TPO ES83/T5 - Dead head, cut/back/re-shaping. NO OBJECTION.
  - 6.4 **Neighbourhood Plan:** The next stage would be the Landscape Appraisal, which was being done by Alison Farmer, a landscape architect in Cambridge. This was covered by a grant. Data from the Village Survey was still being analysed. The Steering Group had met officers from MSDC to discuss where the plan would fit into the MSDC Local Plan.
  - 6.5 **Local Plan Consultation:** It was noted that the Plan would probably be finished in the first or second quarter of 2019. The settlement boundaries presented in the draft plan were likely to be redrawn, but not take the whole plots of land being proposed for development. Councillors considered the draft response from Botesdale and Rickinghall PCs and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group which had been prepared by William Sargeant, Botesdale Chairman. It was felt that additional protection for Conservation Areas should be sought and there should be a greater focus on the protection and improvement of local infrastructure,

consideration of specified local flood risk areas, protection of the local character of the village and suggestions to encourage weighting of development towards existing large towns, not small villages. Otherwise, the PC agreed that the response was a sterling effort.

7. **Progress Reports:**

7.1 **Chairman:** The chairman raised the issue of the VAS, which was out of battery power. It was agreed that it would be easier to move locations if there were spare batteries on charge. The Clerk would arrange the purchase of the necessary batteries and a spare bracket at a cost of around £200 per council.

7.2 **Clerk:** None.

8. **Correspondence:**

8.1 **Boundary Commission:** The consultation on new electoral arrangements was noted.

8.2 **RBR Parochial Church Council:** The request for funding for churchyard maintenance was noted and would be considered as part of budget discussions.

9. **General Items:**

9.1 **Magazine Rota for 2018:** This was deferred to December.

9.2 **Pensions:** The Clerk had not yet received all the information necessary to make a decision, so this would be deferred to the January meeting.

10. **Finance:**

10.1 **Account Balance:** £42,035.45  
**Income:** £ 0.00

10.2 **Accounts for Payment:**

L Jackson-Eve (£847.98)	£ 646.97	Sal/Exps Oct 17
	£ 201.01	Additional Hours/Exps (NH Plan)
T Gaddis	£ 143.32	St Clean Oct 17
SALC	£ 8.80	Data Protection Briefing
Botesdale PC	£ 75.18	War Memorial Insurance
Community Action Suffolk	£ 60.00	Website Hosting

RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve payment of the accounts above.

10.3 **Budget:** This was deferred to the December meeting pending further information.

11. **Highways Issues:** None.

12. **Welcome Pack:** None.

13. **Councillors' Reports:**

- **Local Charities:** There had been no applications at the meeting on 11 October.
- **Public Rights of Way:** Cllr Free agreed to take over as Footpaths Officer.
- **Parish Liaison:** The Chairman would attend the meeting on 9 November.
- **Street Lighting:** The light in front of Jubilee House was too close to the pavement and the light on Rectory Hill still wasn't on.

14. **Items for the next meeting:** None.

15. **Next Meeting:** 7 December 2017

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.