

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday, 7 March 2019
Main Hall, Rickinghall Village Hall

Present: Cllr Gillian Crossley-Holland Cllr Nick Free
Cllr Rosemary Jones Cllr William Maskell
Cllr Geoff Short Cllr Sally Smith

Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve
County Councillor Jessica Fleming
District Councillor Derek Osborne
4 Members of the public

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

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Robin Brown. It was noted that Cllr Jones had decided not to stand for election in May but would see out the end of her term. The PC thanked her for all her hard work as Footpaths Officer and Tree Warden.
2. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 7 February 2019:** The minutes of the meeting were agreed and signed.
3. **Magazine Input:** Cllr Free.
4. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None.
5. **Public Forum:**
6. **Planning:**
 - 6.1 **Planning Applications:**
 - 6.1.1 **Jubilee House, The Street.** Ref. DC/18/05460. Planning Application - Erection of 4no. dwellings. Councillors expressed concern about the tightness of the area assigned for parking and manoeuvring vehicles and insufficient provision for parking with fewer than two parking spaces per dwelling in an area where there is minimal on-street parking available. It was felt that the parking bay sizes were too small to allow pedestrian access to cars on both sides, particularly next to boundaries, and the area for manoeuvring was unlikely to meet requirements. It was difficult to tell due to the scale of the drawing provided. The result of adding an additional dwelling to the proposed development (compared to previous application 1128/16) meant that the ratio of living to sleeping space was unhealthy, with staircases encroaching on living space downstairs, and this was of particular concern in the 3-bed properties. It was therefore RESOLVED, with all agreed, to object to the application on the grounds of overdevelopment of the site.
 - 6.2 **Notice of Intent works to tree(s) in the Conservation Area:** None.
 - 6.3 **Notification of Planning Decisions by Mid Suffolk DC:**
 - 6.3.1 **4 Brook Park.** Ref. DC/18/05277. Householder Planning Application - Extension and conversion of garage to annexe repositioning of oil tank, erection of canopy and creation of patio. Planning Permission GRANTED.
 - 6.4 **Neighbourhood Plan:** The Neighbourhood Plan was still under consultation by MSDC and the deadline for comments was 4pm on Wednesday, 27 March 2019. After this the Parish Councils would be given an opportunity to consider and respond if they wished to any representations made, before the Plan is submitted for Examination.
 7. **Progress Reports:**
 - 7.1 **Chairman:** The Chairman had attended a Suffolk Design workshop where attendees had discussed improving design and communication between developers and local authorities. There was a meeting on 15 March to discuss the recent damage to the skate park by local youths as well as previous complaints about them.
 - 7.2 **Clerk:** The Clerk reported that SCC would be out the next day to fix unlit street lights in The Street. The one outside the Church had already been repaired.

8. **Correspondence:**

- 8.1 **SCC:** The PC noted that free bus passes would no longer be accepted on Connecting Communities bus services. This did not apply to regular commercial bus services.
- 8.2 **MSDC:** The PC received the information about the election process for councillors.
- 8.3 **MSDC:** The PC noted the information on pre-election restrictions (purdah).
- 8.4 **MSDC:** The PC noted that a new CIL Bid round (no 3) would open on 1st May and closing 31st May 2019 - Community Infrastructure Levy. The funding was open to community groups with eligible projects.
- 8.5 **RBR PCC:** The PC noted that the Parochial Church Council planned to close the churchyard at St Mary's, Rickinghall Superior (south of the A143) to further burial and requested that the Parish Council take on responsibility for the maintenance of the churchyard. It was noted that the PC could request that Mid Suffolk District Council take responsibility for the churchyard. The Clerk would investigate this.
- 8.6 **Mid Suffolk CAB:** It was noted that the Citizens Advice Bureau had secure funding for the next financial year. The County Council would still reduce its funding to Citizens Advice by half in 2019/2020, but two Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) would make up the shortfall. CCGs were the NHS bodies responsible for commissioning health care services in their local area.
- 8.7 **Age UK:** The PC noted the information about Age UK.
- 8.8 **MSDC Street Naming:** It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to accept the name "Hillside Meadow" for the new development on the west side of Rectory Hill.

9. **General Items:**

- 9.1 **Annual Newsletter:** The deadline of 15 April for councillor reports was noted.
- 9.2 **Internal Audit Review:** Cllrs Short and Smith had carried out the review based on the internal controls checklist provided by the Suffolk Association of Local Councils and had signed off on them. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to accept the review.
- 9.3 **Internal Auditor:** It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to appoint the Local Council Public Advisory Service to carry out the Internal Audit at a cost of £175.

10. **Finance:**

- 10.1 **Account Balance:** £28,949.19
- Income:** £ 408.20 MSDC Street Cleaning Grant
- 10.2 **Accounts for Payment:**
- | | | |
|----------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Admin Payments | £ 964.45 | Not itemised due to GDPR |
| Street Sweeping etc. | £ 652.85 | St Clean/VAS Mar 19 |
| SCC | £ 914.86 | St Light Energy/Maintenance |
- RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve payment of the accounts above.

11. **Highways Issues:** None.

12. **Welcome Pack:** None.

13. **Councillors' Reports:**

- **Barwoods:** A second path had been created in Northfield Wood.
- **Local Charities:** A meeting had been held on 5 March with no requests received. A local food bank had been alerted about the availability of the fund to Rickinghall residents.
- **Parish Assets:** The ROC Post at Micklewood Green had been broken into again and it was agreed that Michael Bryant would partially fill the shaft and re-cap it to prevent access. Cllr Maskell agreed to help with any welding.
- **PROW:** A new signpost had been erected on the Church Meadow footpath.

14. **Matters to be brought to attention of the Council:** It was noted that the mobile Post Office service would be starting on 8 March, 2:45-3:45pm at the Village Hall.

15. **Next Meeting:** 4 April 2019 – To note Annual Parish Meeting at 7.15pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.07 pm.