

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 3 September 2015

Small Meeting Room, Rickinghall Village Hall

Present: Cllr Rosemary Jones Cllr David Lister
Cllr Sally Smith Cllr Geoff Short

Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve
3 Members of the public

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

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllr Gillian Crossley-Holland
2. **Casual Vacancies in the Office of Parish Councillor:** One prospective candidate, Dominic Ebert, was considered by the Council. It was RESOLVED unanimously to co-opt Mr Ebert, who was invited to take his seat on the Council.
3. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 2 July 2015.** The minutes of the meeting were agreed and signed.
4. **Magazine Input:** Cllr Jones.
5. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations.** Cllr Lister declared an interest in item 9.4.
6. **Public Forum:** 7.36pm RESOLVED, with all in favour, to adjourn the meeting for the public forum. The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 7.45pm.
7. **Planning:**
 - 7.1 **Planning Applications:** None.
 - 7.2 **Notice of Intent works to tree(s) in the Conservation Area:** None.
 - 7.3 **Notification of Planning Decisions by Mid Suffolk DC:** None.
8. **Progress Reports:**
 - 8.1 **Chairman:** Had attended a course for councillors held by SALC and had come away with a number of suggestions which the Parish Council noted. It was agreed to adopt the publication of income on the agenda.
 - 8.2 **Clerk:** Had completed the transfer of the bank account from Lloyds to the Co-operative Bank. The Clerk had also written to all riparian owners on Bury Road regarding clearing the watercourse to prevent flooding.
9. **Correspondence:**
 - 9.1 **MSDC:** The Gambling Act Consultation was noted.
 - 9.2 **MSDC:** The Licensing Act Consultation was noted.
 - 9.3 **MSDC:** The Affordable Housing Newsletter was noted.
 - 9.4 **Bowls Club:** Cllr Lister left the room during this discussion. The PC noted the request for support for a new mower and works to make the clubhouse more eco-friendly. It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to make a s137 grant of £50 towards the projects. It was also RESOLVED, with all in favour to support the Bowls Club's application to MSDC for section 106 funding.
10. **General Items:**
 - 10.1 **Hedge in front of Jubilee House:** It was agreed to write to SCC asking for funding for the PC to carry out cutting more than once a year.
 - 10.2 **Walks Leaflets:** It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to accept the offer of support from SCC for the redesign of the walks leaflets to bring them into line with others in the Suffolk series. The Clerk would ask SCC more about the expense and the possibility of bringing Redgrave and Hinderclay into the project.

- 10.3 **Footpath Maintenance:** Some complaints had been received concerning the state of paths as side-growth had been rampant in the past two seasons and some paths were now partially blocked. It was noted that side-growth was the responsibility of the landowner and if landowners refused to cut back their hedges, SCC could serve notice on them but preferred to do it by co-operation. The Clerk had been in contact with the SCC Rights of Way team and reported that SCC had put additional money into a programme of side clearance to be carried out over the Autumn/winter period.
- 10.4 **Notice Board at The Chestnuts:** The Clerk would get quotes for this notice board and the one at the churchyard.

11. **Finance:**

- 11.1 **Account Balances:** £ 23,306.63
Income: £ 10.69 Lloyds closing account interest

11.2 **Accounts for Payment (July):**

L Jackson-Eve	£	460.47	Sal/Exps Sept 15
T Gaddis	£	228.19	St Clean / Path Clearance Sept 15
G Lawrence	£	106.53	Insurance for RBGNS volunteer drivers (1/2 with Botesdale)
Realise Futures	£	327.60	Rickinghall News Printing
BDO	£	120.00	External Audit Fees
Harry Stebbing	£	758.40	Notice Board (1/2 with Botesdale)

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

- 11.3 **Internal Audit Report:** The report was noted.

- 11.4 **External Audit Report:** The report was noted.

12. **Highways Issues:** The Clerk would report stones coming loose near Northdean House.

13. **Councillors' Reports:**

- **Barwoods:** Cllr Jones would follow up on the signs for Northfield Wood and Maypole Meadow.

14. **Matters to be brought to attention of the Council / Matters for the next meeting:**

- The Clerk would write to Dr Bennett's solicitor about Maypole Meadow.

15. **Next Meeting:** 1 October 2015

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.