

# RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 1 December 2016

Main Hall, Rickinghall Village Hall

**Present:** Cllr Robin Brown  
Cllr Dominic Ebert  
Cllr Geoff Short  
Cllr Gillian Crossley-Holland  
Cllr Rosemary Jones  
Cllr Sally Smith  
Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve  
4 Members of the public

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

1. **Apologies for absence:** None.
2. **Casual Vacancies in the Office of Parish Councillor:** It was agreed to advertise vacancies again in the parish magazine and on posters in January.
3. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 3 November 2016:** The minutes of the meetings were agreed and signed.
4. **Magazine Input:** Cllr Short.
5. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None.
6. **Public Forum:** 7.34pm RESOLVED, with all in favour, to adjourn the meeting for the public forum. *Sue Coe spoke about local support for initiating a Neighbourhood Plan for Botesdale and Rickinghall to provide some context for development in the villages. A public meeting would be held on 18 January at 7.30pm in the Rickinghall Village Hall. It was noted that a new defibrillator, which had been funded by the WI and the Village Hall, had been installed outside the Village Hall and was available for use.* The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 7.49pm.
7. **Planning:**
  - 7.1 **Planning Applications:**
    - 7.1.1 **Stone Cottage, The Street, Rickinghall.** Ref. 3994/16. Conversion and extension of garage to form holiday accommodation and annexe. Erection of outbuilding. There were no details available on the outbuilding but the Chairman had received some information that it was a 3-bay cartlodge located at the bottom of the garden. It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to have no objection to the proposals on that basis.
    - 7.1.2 **White Horse Inn, Bury Road, Rickinghall.** Ref. 4112/16. Application to remove public house signage and front steps and erect new front steps. It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to have no objection to the proposals.
    - 7.1.3 **Newholme, The Street, Rickinghall.** Ref. 4549/16. Erection of a single storey front extension, first floor side extension, new pitched roof to the existing front dormer and the replacement of the existing roof tiles with new. It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to have no objection to the proposals.
  - 7.2 **Notice of Intent works to tree(s) in the Conservation Area:**
    - 7.2.1 **St Georges House, 3 St Georges Drive, Rickinghall.** Ref. 4662/16. T15 and T16 Beech trees. Reduce crowns diameter by 20' and balance Reduce height by 20'. It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to have no objection to the proposals.
  - 7.3 **Notification of Planning Decisions by Mid Suffolk DC:** None.
8. **Progress Reports:**
  - 8.1 **Chairman:** The Chairman reported that he had received a negative reply from Stanton to the request for funding for the community bus service. Gordon Lawrence continued to send in monthly account reports. The Chairman also reported that he had attended the Parish Liaison meeting at Mid Suffolk District Council where devolution was discussed. The Suffolk/Norfolk alliance was looking rather unlikely after so much of Norfolk dropped out. However, a Suffolk Plus area was possible, meaning areas like South Norfolk might join Suffolk in forming a

suitable area. It would mean considerable funding being available from the Government – around £130 million for infrastructure and £225 million for transport – and a mayor would be elected in May 2017. If it did not succeed the Government would look to outside East Anglia for the next Devolution Area. Another topic was the movement of Mid Suffolk District Council into the Suffolk County Council building – Endeavour House – in Ipswich. This would happen in May-Sept 2017 and would provide cost savings for MSDC. It was the intention to provide a local contact office so that people could still access services in Stowmarket or Needham Market, rather than travel to Ipswich. A final topic had been the new Local Plan consultation in spring 2017. Support for parishes would be “redesigned” and MSDC might start charging for pre-application advice for bigger developments.

8.2 **Clerk:** None.

9. **Correspondence:**

9.1 **MSDC:** The PC received the consultation on street naming methods and a proposal for parish councils to each send in a list of potential street names to streamline the process. The PC agreed that names were often very local in nature and there were unlikely to be any which would be appropriate for all locations. It was noted that parish councils could continue to offer names on an ad hoc basis if they wished.

9.2 **Suffolk Police:** The PC noted that a review of the service was underway.

10. **General Items:**

10.1 **Wherry Land:** The PC RESOLVED, with all in favour, to accept a quote for £980 for significant work to reduce the hedge at roadside and adjoining residential gardens and remove the arisings. It was agreed to ask the allotments committee about connecting Wherry Land with Northfield Wood to make a circular walk.

10.2 **Footpath Map Display:** The PC considered a quote for a map lectern-style display but agreed that this would be a temptation to sit on. The Clerk would get quotes for an upright display board.

10.3 **Neighbourhood Plan:** The proposal from residents to develop a plan was noted and it was agreed that PC members would try to attend the open meeting about the Plan on 18 January.

11. **Finance:**

11.1	<b>Account Balance:</b>	£ 31,504.45	
	<b>Income:</b>	£ 1.69	Credit Interest
		£ 374.40	MSDC – Street Sweep Grant

11.2	<b>Accounts for Payment:</b>		
	L Jackson-Eve	£ 635.96	Sal/Exps Nov 16
	T Gaddis	£ 140.05	St Clean Dec 16
	Botesdale PC	£ 54.67	War Memorial Insurance
	SALC	£ 24.00	Clerk Training – Councils Online
	Redgrave Parish Magazine	£ 35.00	NHP Mtg Flyer in Mag

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

12. **Highways Issues:** None.

13. **Councillors’ Reports:**

- **Barwoods:** The design for a sign for Low Meadow was received and the Clerk would place the order.
- **Public Rights of Way:** It was noted that there were horses in the field crossed by a footpath near Snape Hill and they were very friendly possibly due to being fed by walkers. It was agreed to revisit the country code for walkers in the next parish magazine.
- **Street Lighting:** It was noted that SCC were keeping their lights on all night on the night of the 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December (mornings of the 25<sup>th</sup> Dec and 1<sup>st</sup> Jan). The PC agreed to follow the same schedule with the parish-owned lights.

14. **Items for the next meeting:** Litter Pick.

15. **Next Meeting:** 5 January 2017

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm.