

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 6 April 2017
Main Hall, Rickinghall Village Hall

Present: Cllr Robin Brown
Cllr Dominic Ebert
Cllr Geoff Short

Cllr Gillian Crossley-Holland
Cllr Rosemary Jones

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

8.10pm Directly following the Annual Parish Meeting, the Chairman welcomed those present and opened the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Sally Smith.
2. **Casual Vacancies in the Office of Parish Councillor:** None.
3. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 2 March 2017:** The minutes of the meetings were agreed and signed.
4. **Magazine Input:** Cllr Ebert.
5. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None.
6. **Public Forum:** None.
7. **Planning:**
 - 7.1 **Planning Applications:**
 - 7.1.1 **Poultry Unit, West Street Farm, West Street, Rickinghall.** Ref. 1057/17. Formal request for an Environmental Impact Assessment – Scoping Opinion under Part IV Section 13(1) of the Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011 (as amended) for improvements to poultry unit as it will potentially exceed the Schedule 1 threshold of 85,000 broilers. The PC noted that the scoping opinion would determine what was included in the Environmental Impact Assessment and the PC would get the chance to comment on that in due course.
 - 7.2 **Notice of Intent works to tree(s) in the Conservation Area:** None.
 - 7.3 **Notification of Planning Decisions by Mid Suffolk DC:**
 - 7.3.1 **9 Rectory Hill, Rickinghall.** Ref. 4520/16. Installation of a dropped kerb of 12.5m and drop path by 100m in front of the above property. Planning Permission GRANTED.
 - 7.3.2 **Rickinghall Village Hall, Hinderclay Road, Rickinghall.** Ref. 4718/16. Replacement of existing wooden windows, barge boards, fascias with UPVC. Planning Permission GRANTED.
 - 7.3.3 **Chenderit, Garden House Lane, Rickinghall.** Ref. 0276/17. Erection of 2 pairs of semi detached two storey dwellings following demolition of existing dwelling and garage. Planning Permission GRANTED.
 - 7.3.4 **Jubilee House, The Street, Rickinghall.** Ref. 0280/17. Conversion of out-building to "granny" annexe. Planning Permission GRANTED.
 - 7.3.5 **Beaumont Cottage, The Street, Rickinghall.** Ref. 0553/17. Erection of single storey rear extension, double garage and re-painting of render and woodwork. Planning Permission GRANTED.
 - 7.3.6 **Beaumont Cottage, The Street, Rickinghall.** Ref. 0554/17. Erection of single storey rear extension, double garage and re-painting of render and woodwork. Listed Building Consent GRANTED.

7.4 **Neighbourhood Plan:** Cllr Brown reported that several meetings of the Steering Group had taken place as well as another Forum meeting. The SG had hosted information stands at the Farmers' Market and the Co-op and names of interested residents were collected. The NHP now had a logo courtesy of Jordan Fox, who was a member of the SG, and had chosen a consultant to advise on the process and provide some expertise. The application for the designated area of the NP was submitted to the District Council last month and was in the consultation period now, ending 28 April. The Steering Group would soon start gathering information to go in the NP, including a Housing Needs survey.

8. **Progress Reports:**

8.1 **Chairman:** None.

8.2 **Clerk:** None.

9. **Correspondence:**

9.1 **Post Office:** A letter from the PO confirmed that they considered the lack of post office facilities in Botesdale/Rickinghall to be a temporary situation. A mobile post office run by outreach services was suggested (where an established Postmaster will travel to, or oversee service at, another community). The vacancy in Rickinghall had been advertised on the Post Office website and they were trying to find a Postmaster who might be interested in running an outreach service in the villages. It was agreed to write informing the Post Office that both the Village Hall and The Bell Inn had expressed interest as locations for the mobile PO.

9.2 **MSDC:** The Town and Parish Newsletter was noted.

9.3 **SALC:** The training available for councillors was noted.

9.4 **SALC:** The PC agreed the new recommendation for public participation in PC meetings – to not close the meeting for the public forum and to allow attendees to speak within reason during the meeting.

10. **General Items:**

10.1 **Traffic Restriction Order:** It was noted that SCC required a copy of the minute agreeing the quote for the work before placing the order.

10.2 **Vehicle Activated Sign:** The sign had been ordered and a delivery date was to be confirmed. The results of the post site application had not yet been received.

10.3 **Payment of Grant funding:** The Council RESOLVED, with all agreed, to make the following payments from its 2017/18 budget, leaving a balance of £30:

RBR PCC	£ 600	Churchyard Maint s214(6) LGA 1972
Rickinghall Day Centre	£ 300	s137 LGA 1972
RBGNS Community Bus	£ 100	s137 LGA 1972
Royal British Legion	£ 60	s137 LGA 1972 (wreath)
Methodist Chapel	£ 50	s137 LGA 1972 (new furnishings)
Diss CAB	£ 30	s137 LGA 1972
Botesdale & Rickinghall NHW	£ 30	s137 LGA 1972

It was noted that funding for the Remembrance Ceremony/wreath would be paid closer to the date and other grants paid in May.

10.4 **Street Sweeping and Grass Cutting Contract:** The PC considered the level of hourly rate in 2017/18 (currently £8.08/hour) and noted that a 2.5% increase (in line with state pension increase for 2017) would be £8.28/hour. It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to accept the proposed increase to £8.28.

11. **Finance:**

11.1 **Account Balance:** £27,420.32
Income: £ 374.40 MSDC Cleansing Grant 4th quarter

11.2 **Accounts for Payment:**

L Jackson-Eve	£ 577.62	Sal/Exps Mar 17
	£ 300.00	Additional Hours (Neigh Plan)
T Gaddis	£ 200.05	St Clean Apr 17
HMRC	£ 134.60	PAYE for LJE – 4 th quarter
Redgrave Parish Magazine	£ 130.00	Ad in Parish Mag for 12 months
Peter Frizzell	£ 894.00	Wherry Land Hedge Cut
SALC	£ 90.00	Planning for All Conf (RB)

It was noted that the figures on the agenda for the Clerk's pay did not have PAYE subtracted from them. The correct figures are recorded above. RESOLVED, with all in favour, to approve payment of the accounts above.

11.3 **Quarterly Budget Report:** The report for Jan – Mar 2017 was noted. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve the increase in the amount of earmarked funds by £3,640 to £25,680, including unspent funds for road improvements and a sum for the neighbourhood plan.

12. **Highways Issues:** The hedge on the plot next to Tudor House was encroaching on the footway.

13. **Councillors' Reports:**

- **Allotments:** Cllrs Brown and Jones had met members of the Allotments Committee to discuss a path connecting Wherry Land and Northfield Wood above the allotments but the Committee had not been keen. They were, however, interested in creating some additional plots from Wherry Land and it was agreed that they would need to make a formal request. It was agreed to ask allotment holders not to burn plastic in bonfires.
- **Barwoods:** It was agreed to ask Tim Gaddis to mow the parking area outside of Northfield Wood as well as the path (Cllr Jones to give the Clerk a sketch to show where to mow). Barwoods found it difficult to keep up maintenance of the Wood with only eight members, around half of which could attend each working party. It was agreed to ask the Allotments Committee whether allotment holders could commit to a morning each year to help out.
- **Parish Assets:** The Clerk would bring in the book for the PC to see.
- **Parish Liaison:** The Clerk and the Chairman would attend the next meeting in May.
- **Village Hall:** The model railway exhibition was coming up soon and the May Farmer's Market would be the 200th. The VH was planning a refurbishment of the outside loos at an approximate cost of £20k and would be making a request for funding.

14. **Items for the next meeting:** Black bags were needed for the Litter Pick and possibly some new grabbers for next year.

15. **Next Meeting:** 11 May 2017

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.26pm.