

# RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 21 April 2016  
Main Hall, Rickinghall Village Hall

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

Cllr Dominic Ebert  
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:** Cllr Gillian Crossley-Holland and Cllr Rosemary Jones.
2. **Casual Vacancies in the Office of Parish Councillor:** None.
3. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 3 March 2016:** The minutes of the meeting were agreed and signed.
4. **Magazine Input:** Cllr Smith.
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. *There were no members of the public who wished to speak.* The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 7.35pm.
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:**
    - 7.3.1 **Willowmere, Garden House Lane, Rickinghall Superior.** Ref: 4116/15.  
**Jubilee House, The Street, Rickinghall Inferior.** Ref: 0009/16. Proposed residential development of 3 houses with detached 3 bay cart-lodge, construction of new site access and cart-lodge to existing dwelling. WITHDRAWN.
    - 7.3.2 **Suggen Hall Farm, Church Lane, Rickinghall Superior.** Ref: 0189/16. Retention of static caravan on site for occupation by the owner's family during the major restoration of house. Planning Permission GRANTED.
    - 7.3.3 **The Walk, Garden House Lane, Rickinghall Superior.** Ref: 0538/16. Erection of detached 3 bedroom dwelling with integrated garage following demolition of existing garage with associated vehicular access to serve The Walk and proposed dwelling. Planning Permission GRANTED.
8. **Progress Reports:**
  - 8.1 **Chairman:** The Chairman would write to local councils to introduce the new community bus arrangements and discuss funding.
  - 8.2 **Clerk:** The Clerk reported that the full report from the traffic survey would be available online by early May.
9. **Correspondence:**
  - 9.1 **Suffolk Constabulary:** It was noted that Suffolk Constabulary had undertaken a review of local policing and changes had been made. There would no longer be a regular police presence at parish council meetings but they would attend where there was a specific issue that required discussion and would attend Annual Parish Meetings where possible. There would be a new form of monthly reports which would cover the whole of the SNT area (Stowmarket) rather than just the parish, and would be available on the Constabulary website, [www.suffolk.police.uk](http://www.suffolk.police.uk).
  - 9.2 **MSDC:** The Town and Parish Council Newsletter was noted.

9.3 **UK Power Networks:** It was noted that UK Power Networks provided a free Priority Services Register for those who needed more support in the event of a power cut, e.g. residents with a disability, were blind or visually impaired, were chronically sick, dependent on medical equipment or had young babies. It was agreed to put contact information in the parish magazine.

10. **General Items:**

10.1 **Street Lighting:** The PC considered the cost of replacing of aging lights, totalling over £23,000 and received advice to replace light no. 57 as it had not been working for several months. The options were to replace it in (£995) or out (£1,994) of G39 (within 1.5m of live cable) and it was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to replace it out of G39 in case future contractors were not able to work with G39 equipment. It was agreed to write to Jubilee House to notify them that the replacement post would have be on the other side of their drive.

10.2 **Payment of Grant funding:** The Council RESOLVED, with all agreed, to make the following payments from its 2016/17 budget, leaving a balance of £205:

RBR PCC	£ 600	Churchyard Maint s214(6) LGA 1972
Rickingham Day Centre	£ 300	s137 LGA 1972
Royal British Legion	£ 65	s137 LGA 1972 (wreath)
Botesdale & Rickingham NHW	£ 30	s137 LGA 1972

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

10.3 **Byelaws and Public Nuisance:** The PC noted the report from the Clerk on tools for dealing with inconsiderate behaviour such as dog fouling and parking issues. A long article on dog fouling would be in the next parish magazine.

10.4 **Neighbourhood Plan:** Botesdale PC had contacted the PC concerning the possibility of drafting a joint Plan as there were new sources of funding and advice available now. Councillors questioned whether it was a good time to start given the current push for devolution and the uncertainty of future local government. It was also noted that the Plan was a significant amount of work and there was a requirement for it to be community led. It was agreed to make people generally aware of the demand for new housing in the community and see if the upcoming results of the land bid would generate interest in a Plan.

10.5 **Dog Bin:** The PC considered putting a dog bin near the church on the south side of the bypass but deferred a decision pending further investigation of need.

11. **Finance:**

11.1	<b>Account Balances:</b>	£22,423.07	
	<b>Income:</b>	£ .67	Bank Credit Interest
		£ 374.40	MSDC Cleansing Grant
		£ 190.00	Botesdale PC - Notice Board Installation

11.2 **Accounts for Payment:**

L Jackson-Eve	£ 1,017.85	Sal/Exps Mar 16
T Gaddis	£ 140.05	St Clean Apr 16
G C Joinery	£ 220.00	Remove & refit notice board
Redgrave Parish Magazine	£ 130.00	Ad in Parish Mag for 12 months
Society of Local Council Clerks	£ 49.67	Annual Subscription 2016-17

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

11.3 **Quarterly Budget Report:** The report for Jan – Mar 2016 was noted.

12. **Highways Issues:** The Litter Pick had been successful and a quantity of rubbish had also been collected along the bypass, including some red diesel. There was a missing drain cover in the lay-by on the north side of the A143 between Rectory Hill and Mill Road North.

13. **Councillors' Reports:**

- **Parish Liaison Meeting:** The next meeting was on 9 June and the Chairman would attend. Cllr Brown might also attend.

- **Public Rights of Way:** The Clerk reported that the side clearance programme had been completed.
- **Village Hall:** The Hall would be fundraising soon with a Model Railway exhibition.

14. **Items for the next meeting:** Traffic Survey / Dog Bin / Relocation of Litter Bin and bench.

15. **Next Meeting:** 12 May 2016

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm.