

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 7 June 2018
Main Hall, Rickinghall Village Hall

Present: Cllr Robin Brown
Cllr Rosemary Jones
Cllr William Maskell
Cllr Dominic Ebert
Cllr Nic Joubert
Cllr Geoff Short

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

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

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Gillian Crossley-Holland, Nick Free and Sally Smith.
2. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 3 May 2018:** The minutes of the meetings were agreed and signed.
3. **Magazine Input:** Cllr Short.
4. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None.
5. **Public Forum:** County Councillor Jessica Fleming reported there was a new Leader of SCC, Matthew Hicks, a new Deputy Leader, Mary Evans, and a new CEO, Nicola Beech. The cabinet decision for the controversial school transport arrangements would be made on the 19 June, and it was likely that arrangements would change from a catchment basis to nearest school by distance.
Cllr Derek Osbourne advised that many people thought Mid Suffolk had merged with Babergh, but they had not. Although, many departments now worked together, there were still two leaders and two councils.
Peter Beck reported for Neighbourhood Watch that no crimes had been reported in the previous month.
There were concerns about the number of overgrown hedges and this would be highlighted in the parish magazine.
6. **Planning:**
 - 6.1 **Planning Applications:** None.
 - 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 **Pine Trees, Warrens Lane.** Ref. DC/18/01700. T1 Ash - Remove as growing through wires and roots are affecting ancient orangery wall. NO OBJECTION
 - 6.3.2 **Land North East of Sumlan Place, New Delight Road.** DC/18/01274. Prior Approval Application under Part 3, Class Q (A) and (B) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 - Conversion of existing pig shed into a 1No. three-bedroom dwelling and a 2No. two-bedroom dwellings with garage/store to remain amenity space. Prior Approval REFUSED.
 - 6.4 **Neighbourhood Plan:** The draft Neighbourhood Plan timeline had been updated. It would be consulted on publicly for six weeks from the beginning of September and was likely to be submitted to MSDC in November.
7. **Progress Reports:**
 - 7.1 **Chairman:** None.
 - 7.2 **Clerk:** The double-yellow lines had been agreed by SCC to be installed at the junction of The Drift and Back Hills, as well as the Co-op entrance and Gardenhouse Lane in Rickinghall, but the PC had been informed that there would be a cost of £698 to paint the lines. However, County Cllr Fleming had agreed to pay for the lines out of her Local Highways budget.

8. **Correspondence:**
- 8.1 **Suffolk Police:** The PC noted the information about the new Community Engagement Officer, PC Stefan Henriksen.
9. **General Items:**
- 9.1 **Highways Issues:** The PC noted the information from a recent briefing about Highways matters.
- 9.2 **Vehicle Activated Sign Report:** The May VAS report from Bury Road showed that speeds had improved slightly.
10. **Finance:**
- 10.1 **Account Balance:** £31,247.81
- Income:** £ 408.20 MSDC Street Sweep 4th qtr 17-18
£ 2,250.00 Botesdale PC Neigh Plan Contrib
- 10.2 **Accounts for Payment:**
- | | | |
|----------------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| Admin Payments | £ 1,244.79 | Not itemised due to GDPR |
| Street Sweeping etc. | £ 328.15 | St Clean/Paths/VAS Jun 18 |
| LCPAS | £ 200.00 | Internal Audit Fees |
| LCPAS | £ 40.00 | Training Course – Cllr Joubert |
- RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve payment of the accounts above.
- 10.3 **Inspection of the Financial Statement for Year Ending 31st March 2018.** The Clerk presented the Financial Statement and supporting documents for the year ending 31st March 2018. The Council RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve and sign the accounts submitted, including the Annual Governance Statement.
- 10.4 **To note the Internal Audit Report for Year Ending 31st March 2018.** The PC noted that the internal audit report, prepared by the Local Council Public Advisory Service, was very positive with one minor recommendation.
- 10.5 **To approve the signing of the Annual Return Year Ending 31st March 2018.** The Annual Return for the Year Ending 31st March 2018 was then presented for approval. The Council RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve the signing of the Accounting Statements.
The Council noted that the accounts were due with the external auditor, PKF Littlejohn, on 11 June 2018 and the period during which the accounts would be open to public inspection was between 06 June – 17 July. A notice to this effect would be posted on the parish notice board by 5 June.
- 10.6 **Annual Review of the Council’s Risk Assessment Policy.** The PC noted that this would take place in October along with review of the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.
11. **Highways Issues:** None.
12. **Welcome Pack:** None.
13. **Councillors’ Reports:**
- **Barwoods:** Cllr Jones requested that the Clerk arrange for the “D” path at Low Meadow to be cut. A grass snake had been spotted at Northfield Wood.
14. **Matters to be brought to attention of the Council:** Councillors asked the Clerk to follow up on whether the caravan at Snape Hill had been fully dealt with.
15. **Next Meeting:** 5 July 2018

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.29pm.