

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 6 September 2018
Main Hall, Rickinghall Village Hall

Present: Cllr Robin Brown
Cllr Dominic Ebert
Cllr Nic Joubert
Cllr Sally Smith

Cllr Gillian Crossley-Holland
Cllr Rosemary Jones
Cllr Geoff Short

Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve
District Councillor Derek Osbourne
3 Members of the public

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

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Nick Free and William Maskell.
2. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 5 July 2018:** The minutes of the meetings were agreed and signed.
3. **Magazine Input:** Cllr Smith.
4. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None.
5. **Public Forum:** Cllr Fleming had submitted a report in her absence saying that Suffolk Highways had reviewed grit bin and grit heap provision and details of the new system would be sent to parish councils shortly. Grit heaps would no longer be restocked due to pollution concerns. Any parish which had a grit heap was encouraged to apply for a new grit bin in line with the guidance. She also reported that the existing Ipswich and Stowmarket waste recycling sites were severely constrained, with limited expansion opportunities, and money had been earmarked for replacement sites. Construction of a new site in Stowmarket was expected to get underway in 2019/20. It was reported that tourism had seen its biggest boom for a decade with the visitor economy reaching £2 billion for the first time. The number of jobs in this sector rose by 6% to 42,428, i.e. 13.6% of all employment in Suffolk was in the tourism sector. Lastly, Suffolk residents were invited to come and meet the Leader of the Council, other county councillors and senior managers about their concerns and ideas for the County of Suffolk. The following events were scheduled from 11am to 1pm, unless otherwise stated, for the remainder of 2018: Framlingham: Tuesday 18 September; Bury St Edmunds: Wednesday 26 September (2-4pm); Haverhill: Friday 12 October; and Ipswich: Thursday 25 October.

The Neighbourhood Watch head reported that the NHW co-ordinators had met the new Police Community Engagement Officer, Stefan Henrikson.

Two overgrown hedges were reported and the Clerk would add them to a list to write to landowners.

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 **Rikenderley, The Street.** Ref. DC/18/02654. T1 (Walnut) Reduce by 15-20%, reshape and lift canopy. NO OBJECTION.
 - 6.3.2 **Maplestead House, Bury Road.** Ref. DC/18/02708. T1 (Oak) - Propose crown lift approximately 2m, reduce diameter of tree approximately 4m by removing 2m off tips of lowest laterals and remove two lower laterals. NO OBJECTION.
 - 6.3.3 **Bridge House, Bury Road.** Ref. DC/18/02851. Application for Listed Building Consent - Repair/replacement of barge boards on the East and West sections of the house. Listed Building Consent GRANTED.

- 6.3.4 **The Newsagent, Bell Hill Cottage, The Street.** Ref. DC/18/01380. Application for Listed Building Consent. Works to facilitate change of use of rear of building to hot food takeaway, retention of existing front room for retail use, extract equipment internally and flue through roof, internal alterations as per Schedule of Works. Listed Building Consent GRANTED.
- 6.3.5 **The Newsagent, Bell Hill Cottage, The Street.** Ref. DC/18/01379. Planning Application. Change of use of rear of building to A5 Hot Food Takeaway. Retention of existing front room for retail use, installation of extract equipment internally, flue through roof and internal alterations to provide sound and fire proofing to party wall. Planning Permission REFUSED.
- 6.3.6 **Chenderit, Garden House Lane.** Ref. DC/18/03329. Discharge of Conditions for Application 0276/17- Conditions 3 (Archaeological Works Prior to Commencement) and 4 (Archaeological Works Prior to Occupation). Discharge of Conditions GRANTED.
- 6.4 **Neighbourhood Plan:** It was reported that the draft was currently being reviewed by Steering Group members and would shortly receive an informal review from Mid Suffolk District Council. It would subsequently be circulated to councillors, provisionally in late September for review, to be considered for approval by the Parish Councils in October.

7. **Progress Reports:**

- 7.1 **Chairman:** The Chairman reported that he and Gordon Lawrence had been working to revive the car show at the village hall. It was to be held alongside a craft fair on 5 May 2019.
- 7.2 **Clerk:** The Clerk had a list of landowners to write to about overgrown hedges.

8. **Correspondence:**

- 8.1 **Suffolk County Council:** The PC noted the information about the introduction of civil parking enforcement (CPE) in Suffolk, where the responsibility for enforcement against illegal parking would be transferred from the police to the local authority. In Rickinghall, this was likely to be West Suffolk District Council. It was thought that the changeover would take place in a few months. The Clerk would confirm that the TROs at the Co-op and Garden House Lane had been identified correctly.
- 8.2 **SCC:** The PC received the request to confirm the footpath cutting programme for 2019. It was agreed to consider it further in October.
- 8.3 **MSDC:** It was noted that there was now a more than five-year housing supply for the district. The previous lack of a five-year supply for deliverable housing land had forced the District Council to consider all planning applications in the context of the presumption in favour of sustainable development. The planning system would now return to considering applications against existing policies.
- 8.4 **MSDC:** The information about the Gambling Act Consultation was noted.
- 8.5 **Suffolk Police:** The PC noted the additional information about parish-funded PCSOs which confirmed the annual cost as £37,000. It was felt that it was harder to justify the high cost with the removal of parking enforcement from the police portfolio and it was agreed not to pursue it.
- 8.6 **Suffolk Police:** The September newsletter was noted.
- 8.7 **Unison:** The information about Suffolk Police proposed reduction of workforce was noted. The number of PCSOs was due to fall from 107 to 48 and only 38 of those posts had confirmed funding.
- 8.8 **Boundary Commission:** It was noted that final recommendations from the electoral review of Mid-Suffolk had been issued and Mid-Suffolk District Council would be reduced from 40 councillors to 34. Rickinghall Ward and Walsham Ward would now each have only one district councillor.
- 8.9 **Twinning Association:** The TA co-ordinator had sent information about reviving the TA following an invitation from Tinteniac to visit in November. This information would be put on the notice board and in the parish magazine.
- 8.10 **Resident:** The request for support for a lowered speed limit on Mill Lane was noted. Councillors would investigate and consider it further in October.

9. **General Items:**

- 9.1 **Vehicle Activated Sign Report:** The July speed data for Bury Road was noted. The Clerk would find out whether there was another format for the data which would be suitable to send to the police.
- 9.2 **Vehicle Activated Sign Report:** The August speed data for Bury Road was noted.
- 9.3 **Footpaths:** It was agreed that the PC could investigate levelling the entrance to Northfield Wood and changing the gate at Low Meadow to provide better access to walks for wheelchairs and mobility scooters. The Clerk would contact SCC about evaluating the path leading from Mill Lane to Fen Lane for accessibility.
- 9.4 **New Dog Bins:** The PC considered the request for new dog bins behind Ryders Way and on Mill Lane. It was felt that a bin located behind Ryders Way would be too close to the existing bin at the junction of that path with Garden House Lane. In addition, it seemed sensible to wait and see how the new development behind Ryders Way affected the level of dog mess in that area. The proposed locations on Mill Lane were also near an existing dog bin which was closer to Hinderclay Road. However, it was felt that moving it to a more central location would be more convenient for all the footpaths off Mill Lane and this was agreed.

10. **Finance:**

- 10.1 **Account Balance:** £28,879.89
Income: £ 408.20 MSDC 1st qtr Street Clean Grant
- 10.2 **Accounts for Payment (Aug):**
Admin Payments £ 1,040.96 Not itemised due to GDPR
Street Sweeping etc. £ 253.15 St Clean/Paths/VAS Aug 18
RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve payment of the accounts above.
- 10.3 **Accounts for Payment (Sept):**
Admin Payments £ 969.06 Not itemised due to GDPR
Street Sweeping etc. £ 478.15 St Clean/Paths/VAS Sept 18
Came & Company £ 532.46 Insurance Oct 2018 – Sept 2019
P Frizzell £ 90.00 Grass cut Low Meadow
Rickinghall VH £ 59.00 Hire hall for Neighbourhood Plan
RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve payment of the accounts above.
- 10.4 **Budget Report:** The amended 1st Quarter report was noted, the Clerk having adjusted the way pension payments were reported.

11. **Highways Issues:** None.

12. **Welcome Pack:** Two to Cllr Smith.

13. **Councillors' Reports:**

- **Barwoods:** Cllr Jones reported that there had been some discussion about the use of allotment water during the heatwave for the new trees, Barwoods having been under the misapprehension that this had been agreed. It had been suggested that Barwoods have a water tank of its own, but it was felt that it would not be necessary often enough to justify the expense.
- **Local Charities:** The next meeting was on 12 October.
- **Parish Assets:** It was noted that County Cllr Fleming had given £750 towards the cost of cleaning the war memorial, reducing Rickinghall's contribution to £500.
- **Street Lighting:** The Clerk had followed up on the street light outside the churchyard on Bury Road.
- **Tree Warden:** The Clerk had asked MSDC to survey the trees at the roadside outside the village hall after a nearby resident expressed concerns.

14. **Matters to be brought to attention of the Council:** None.

15. **Next Meeting:** 4 October 2018

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm.