

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday, 7 November 2019
Main Hall, Rickinghall Village Hall

Present: Cllr Robin Brown
Cllr Lesley Free
Cllr Geoff Short

Cllr Gillian Crossley-Holland
Cllr William Maskell
Cllr Sally Smith

Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve
District/County Cllr Jessica Fleming
4 Members of the public

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

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Nick Free.
2. **Casual Vacancies:** There were no applications.
3. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 3 October 2019:** The minutes of the meeting were agreed and signed.
4. **Magazine Input:** Cllr Maskell.
5. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** Cllr L Free declared an interest in item 7.1.1 as owner of the property.
6. **Public Forum:** County Cllr Jessica Fleming reported that there had been several Cabinet changes. A new public recycling centre was due to open at Fornham Road in Bury St Edmunds at the end of November, replacing the centre at Rougham Hill which would close. A charity Reuse shop would also be opening on site towards the end of the year. SCC was undertaking a review of school transport policy. This was being led by Chief Fire Officer Mark Hardingham in an independent review and would be delivered in two phases. Phase one would include evidence gathering and in phase two the evidence would be reviewed, and any changes recommended. This might lead to changes to the current School Travel Policy, or to elements of the Policy, to ensure it ran more efficiently and was consistent with DfE's Guidance (a review of which had been completed recently).

As District Cllr, Jessica reported that Mid Suffolk was extending its free swims offer during the Christmas holidays from 20 December 2019 to 5 January 2020 inclusive at Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre and Stradbroke Swimming Pool. Suffolk's Recycling Centres were offering free 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle' sessions to interested parties to learn more about ways to reduce waste and recycling, also available at www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk. Neighbours, parish or community groups were invited to set up a session by emailing sharon.lockhart@fccenvironment.co.uk. Babergh and Mid Suffolk continued to offer all families a tree to mark the arrival of every new child. The 2019 scheme was open to any family living in the districts which had celebrated a new arrival, born or adopted, during 2019. Memorial trees were available to parents who lost a child during the same period. Details could be found on the website at <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/tree-for-life/>

A councillor enquired about the travellers at Snape Hill and Cllr Fleming reported that they were due to leave by Monday, 11 November. They would be subject to a court eviction if they did not. She reassured the PC that she was working with Highways on getting better security following their departure.

Ed Deakin spoke about the recent Little Ouse Fayre held on 23/24 September in the fields between Botesdale, Rickinghall, Redgrave and Hinderclay. He had responded to comments from residents about the events, both positive and negative, and felt that the positive feedback hugely outweighed the negative. There had been concerns initially that it was an illegal rave, but he assured the Parish Council that the correct licenses had been obtained, with live amp music permitted up to 11pm and pre-recorded music to 1am. However, the music had been louder, and the noise had travelled further than intended despite measures

to mitigate this, and it would be dealt with differently next year. The aim was to make it an inclusive event for the local area with creative workshops, local produce, outdoor activities, circus skill sharing and face painting. He felt the organisers had learned a lot from putting on the Fayre this year. The PC agreed that it was important to support events for the community where appropriate and noted that proposals for next year's Fayre would be provided earlier in the year. It was suggested that an organising committee could be set up to include local residents.

7. **Planning:**

7.1 **Planning Applications:**

7.1.1 **Park Lodge, Rectory Hill.** Ref. DC/19/05153. Householder Planning Application - Erection of 4 Bay Cart Lodge/Garage block within side garden, with an Annex above. Having declared an interest, Cllr L Free left the meeting during the discussion. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to have no objection.

7.2 **Notice of Intent to prune/remove tree(s) in the Conservation Area:** None.

7.2.1 **Bradgate House, The Street.** Ref. DC/19/05069. Notification Of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - T1 (Cherry) - Pollard, T2 (Sycamore) - Remedial pruning, T3 - T6 (Poplar) - Fell and replace. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to have no objection.

7.2.2 **Ash Tree House, Fen Lane.** Ref. DC/19/05141. Notification Of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Crown reduce 1No Ash Tree. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to have no objection.

7.2.3 **Jessamine House, The Street.** Ref. DC/19/05171. Notification Of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - T1 (Acacia) - Fell to ground level. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to have no objection.

7.2.4 **Newholme, Bury Road.** Ref. DC/19/05148. Notification Of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Walnut (T1) reduce by 1/3 and shape. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to have no objection.

7.3 **Notification of Planning Decisions by Mid Suffolk DC:**

7.3.1 **Jubilee House, The Street.** Ref. DC/19/03514. Planning Application. Erection of 1no detached dwelling and 2no semi-detached dwellings. Creation of vehicular access. Planning Permission REFUSED.

7.3.2 **Inglenook Cottage, The Street.** Ref. DC/19/04456. Notification Of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Fell 3no. Ash trees and 3no. Hawthorn trees. NO OBJECTION.

7.4 **Notification of Planning Appeals by Mid Suffolk DC:** None.

7.5 **Neighbourhood Plan:** A referendum would be held by Mid Suffolk District Council on 28 November asking the question: "Do you want Mid Suffolk District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Botesdale & Rickingham to help it decide planning applications in the Neighbourhood Plan area?" The result would be decided by a simple majority.

8. **Progress Reports:**

8.1 **Chairman:** None.

8.2 **Clerk:** The Village Hall was now available on 5 November 2020 and it was agreed to move that PC meeting from 12 November back to the usual first week of the month.

9. **Correspondence:**

9.1 **Parochial Church Council:** The annual request for funding for churchyard maintenance was discussed and it was agreed to increase funding by £100 per church, leading to a total of £800 for both churches.

10. **General Items:**

10.1 **GDPR Policies:** Councillors reviewed the Information Protection Policy and Information Security Incident Policy. It was agreed to make some minor changes to the first document to clarify a few points and it was RESOLVED, with all agreed to accept the documents with those amendments.

10.2 **Defibrillator:** Councillors considered the proposal to install a defibrillator in the phone box at The Street / Fen Lane. The Clerk had enquired about adoption of the

phone box and BT had confirmed that this would require consultation with stakeholders which would take 90 days, until approximately 20 January 2020. The Clerk had also put together a rough estimate of £2,362.32 for adoption, refurbishment and installation of a defibrillator, not including labour for the refurbishment work. It was agreed to look further into the proposal, including enquiring about whether listed building consent would be needed.

10.3 **Streams & Footpaths Project:** The PC considered the request for funding for a 2-day mini-digger hire to continue clearance of the streams at the bottom of Fen Lane. The project had been supported by Botesdale PC for several years. However, most of the streams they worked on were in Rickingham, so it was proposed that each PC contribute £300 to the digger hire. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to support the project.

10.4 **Magazine Rota for 2020:** The rota was agreed with a swap for Jan/Feb.

10.5 **Village Hall Skate Park:** The bid for Community Infrastructure funds had been submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council. District/County Cllr Jessica Fleming had offered £1,000 from each of her Locality budgets. The next step was to obtain formal quotes for the installation.

11. Finance:

11.1 **Account Balance:** £42,371.28
Income: £ 0.00

11.2 Accounts for Payment:

Admin Payments	£ 1,123.63	Not itemised due to GDPR
Street Sweeping etc.	£ 176.35	St Clean/VAS Oct 19
Botesdale Parish Council	£ 65.15	War Memorial Insurance contrib
MSDC	£ 94.80	Litter/Dog Bin Add Fees (+ VAT)
One Suffolk	£ 60.00	Website Hosting 2019-20
Rickingham Village Hall	£ 252.00	Hall Hire Fees 2020
Peter Frizzell Ltd	£ 117.00	Low Meadow – Grass cut
Places4People	£ 509.04	Local Plan Consultation Support
R Brown	£ 31.99	Neigh Plan Banner Installation

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

11.3 **Draft Budget 2020-21:** The draft budget would be updated and considered further at the next meeting.

12. **Highways Issues:** None.

13. **Welcome Pack:** 1 each to Cllr L Free, Cllr Brown, Cllr Short and Cllr Crossley-Holland.

14. Councillors' Reports:

- **Local Charities:** A meeting had been held in the previous week at which Cllr Smith had joined the trustees. The group was looking for six single pensioners who would appreciate a Christmas boost of £50 each.
- **Local Transport:** Cllr N Free had collated some information about late buses and it was agreed to send it to Simonds.
- **Street Lighting:** The new light outside Jubilee House was still not working. The Clerk would follow up.

15. **Matters to be brought to attention of the Council:** The PC noted the complaint about parking on pavements.

16. **Next Meeting:** 5 December 2019

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.16 pm.