

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday, 3 February 2022
Rickinghall Village Hall

Present: Cllr Gillian Crossley-Holland (Vice-Chair) Cllr Andrew Gordon
Cllr Brian Rhodes Cllr Stephen Pattenden
Cllr Geoff Short (Chair) Cllr Sally Smith

Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve
District/County Cllr Jessica Fleming
No members of the public

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

1. **Apologies for absence:** None.
2. **Casual Vacancies:** There were no applications for seats on the Council.
3. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 11 January 2022:** Councillors who were not present at the last meeting queried the PC's decision to object to the Suggenhall Farm solar farm planning application and this was discussed at length. Following this, the minutes, circulated prior to the meeting, were agreed as a true record.
4. **Magazine Input:** Cllr Pattenden.
5. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None.
6. **Public Forum:**

Cllr Fleming reported that the Government had announced that Suffolk was to be included in its levelling up initiative and had invited the first nine areas to agree new county deals, extending devolution across England. She also reported that the County Council aimed to replace the current lamps in 43,400 streetlights in the County (including parish and district council lights) with LED lamps by the end of 2022. Finally, she reported that MSDC's Development and Regulation Committee had recommended that a modification order be made under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to add a claimed route to the definitive map as a public footpath. The footpath would run from near Candle Street to West Hall Road. This had originally been put forward in 2020 but had been delayed due to Covid-19.
7. **Planning:**
 - 7.1 **Planning Applications:** None.
 - 7.2 **Notice of Intent to prune/remove tree(s) in the Conservation Area:**
 - 7.2.1 **Jessamine House, The Street.** Ref. DC/22/00484. Application for works to a tree in a Conservation Area - Cut back trees on boundary line to previous pollard cuts. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to have no objection.
 - 7.2.2 **The Laurels, Rectory Hill.** Ref. DC/22/00529. Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area. To reduce 1no field maple by one third. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to have no objection.
 - 7.3 **Notification of Planning Decisions by Mid Suffolk DC:**
 - 7.3.1 **2 The Old School, Hinderclay Road.** Ref. DC/22/00021. Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area: reduce and shape 2no lime trees (T2) by 1/3 and remove one limb, reduce and shape 1no Hornbeam by 1/3 (T3) and fell 1no Cupressus to ground level (T1). NO OBJECTION.
 - 7.3.2 **5 Brook Park.** Ref. DC/22/00023. Application for works to a tree subject to Tree Preservation Order ES83/T4: Reduce crown volume and reshape 1no Lime (T1) in rear garden by up to 30%. NO OBJECTION.
8. **Progress Reports:**
 - 8.1 **Chairman:** None.
 - 8.2 **Clerk:** A contractor would be installing the new bin at the top of Rectory Hill, reinstalling the bin on Gardenhouse Lane and attempting to fix the bin next to White Horse Cottage on 4 February.

9. **Correspondence:** None.

10. **General Items:**

10.1 **Speed Indicator Device:** It was noted that Tim Gaddis had taken the SID out of rotation due to problems with the software which had resulted in incorrect displays. Several calls had been made to the manufacturer in Germany to try to fix the problem, but this had not been successful. It was likely that it would have to be returned to them for servicing.

10.2 **Internal Audit Review:** Cllrs Short and Smith had carried out the review based on the internal controls checklist provided by the Suffolk Association of Local Councils and had signed off on the accounts. It was noted that a copy of Tim Gaddis's contract for street sweeping etc would be included in the finances folder. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to accept the review.

10.3 **Internal Auditor:** It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to appoint Trevor Brown to carry out the Internal Audit at a cost of £220.

10.4 **Queen's Jubilee:** The commemorative coins had been ordered by Botesdale PC and it would send an invoice for Rickinghall PC's share of the cost in due course.

10.5 **Skate Park:** There was no update.

11. **Finance:**

11.1 **Account Balance:** £71,608.92
Income: £ 0.00

11.2 **Accounts for Payment:**

Admin Payments	£ 901.45	Not itemised due to GDPR
Street Sweeping etc.	£ 180.68	St Clean/VAS Feb 22
Community Heartbeat Trust	£ 117.00	Defib Annual Support Costs (1/2)
CC & Tree Services	£ 925.00	Wherry Land – 2 gates fitted
Glasdon	£ 449.14	Dog Bin for Rectory Hill

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

12. **Highways Issues:** None.

13. **Welcome Pack:** None.

14. **Councillors' Reports:**

- Local Charities: Another request for support had been received and £50 given.

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

16. **Next Meeting:** 3 March 2022

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:40pm.