

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Cllr Gillian Crossley-Holland (Vice-Chair) Cllr Geoff Short (Chair)
Cllr Sally Smith

County/District Cllr Jessica Fleming
Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve
PC Stefan Henriksen
1 Member of the Public

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

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Andy Gordon and Brian Rhodes.
2. **Casual Vacancies:** There were no applications for seats on the Council.
3. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 11 October 2022:** The minutes, circulated prior to the meeting, were agreed as a true record.
4. **Magazine Input:** Cllr Short.
5. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None.
6. **Public Forum:** A representative of the Village Hall Management Committee thanked the Clerk for all her hard work raising funding for the new skate park.
PC Stefan Henriksen, Suffolk Police Community Engagement Officer, reported that after a request from the PC, a Speed Detection Radar campaign had been approved for Hinderclay Road. The wait time for the device was about three months. It was confirmed that the site was unlikely to be suitable for a speed camera van. It was agreed to request an SDR device for Bury Road as well. He noted that the Police were now able to supply everything for a Speedwatch group including the camera, training and insurance as long as there were six volunteers.
Cllr Fleming reported that Suffolk County Council had just purchased two machines to investigate and clear blocked drains. She advised that there were still problems with people putting glass, nappies and tetrapaks in their recycling bins, which contaminated the entire collection. There were 22 new bin lorries coming to Mid Suffolk District Council in January and a competition to name them had been launched.
7. **Planning:**
 - 7.1 **Planning Applications:**
 - 7.1.1 **Land to Rear of Lion House, The Street.** Ref. DC/22/04729. Full Planning Application - Erection of 2No dwellings. The PC felt that the access was too narrow and visibility was poor due to the height and positioning of the structures on either side of the entrance and the likelihood of parked cars in an area with limited and on-street parking which was very in-demand. It was also felt that the site suffered from significant overcrowding with the existing annexe behind Lion House and the additional proposed dwellings. It was therefore RESOLVED, with all agreed, to object to the application, reiterating its previous comments.
 - 7.2 **Notice of Intent to prune/remove tree(s) in the Conservation Area:**
 - 7.2.1 **Market House, The Street.** Ref. DC/22/05223. Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Reduce 2No. Holly T1 and T2) by 2.5m. The PC RESOLVED, with all agreed, to have no objection.
 - 7.3 **Notification of Planning Decisions by Mid Suffolk DC:**
 - 7.3.1 **Land To The North Of The A143, Gardenhouse Lane.** Ref. DC/22/04117. Planning Application - Erection of 2No kiosks, construction of one temporary access taken from the A143 and one permanent access taken from Gardenhouse Lane. Planning Permission GRANTED.
 - 7.3.2 **Whitegate, The Street.** Ref. DC/22/04675. Householder Planning Application - Erection of double garage. Planning Permission GRANTED.

- 7.3.3 **Land at the Old School, Hinderclay Road.** Ref. DC/22/04702. Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - To re-pollard 1No. Lime (T1). NO OBJECTION.
- 7.3.4 **Redwings, Rectory Hill.** Ref. DC/22/04706. Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Reduce 1No. Lime (T1) by one third and remove all epicormic growth. NO OBJECTION.
- 7.3.5 **Stanley Cottage, Bury Road.** Ref. DC/22/04705. Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Reduce 1No. Walnut (T1) by 1/3 and shape. Remove half of 1No. Conifer (T2) to ground level. Raise canopy of 1No. Yew (T3) to 6ft and tidy crown. NO OBJECTION.
- 7.3.6 **The Old School House, Fen Lane.** Ref. DC/22/04849. Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Fell 1No. Indian Bean (T1), Reduce crown of 1No. Indian bean (T2) by 2m and reduce canopy of 1No. Fig by 1m. NO OBJECTION.

8. **Progress Reports:**

- 8.1 **Chairman:** None.
- 8.2 **Clerk:** None.

9. **Correspondence:**

- 9.1 **SCC:** The PC noted the information about the Suffolk Pension Fund and the contribution rates payable from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2026. In 2023-24 the contribution rate would be 22%.
- 9.2 **MSDC:** The PC noted the information for the Town and Parish Councils' precept requirements for the financial year ending 31 March 2024. The precept request would be due by 31 January 2023.
- 9.3 **Parochial Church Council:** The PC considered the request for funding for churchyard maintenance and agreed to continue with its £800 annual grant.
- 9.4 **Redgrave Parish Council:** It was noted that progress on the B1113 Weight Restriction would be contingent on a costly traffic survey.
- 9.5 **Suffolk County Council:** The PC received the part-year update regarding the Energy and Maintenance costs which the PC would be invoiced for in March 2023. It was agreed to increase the amount budgeted for 2023-24 to £2,000.
- 9.6 **Transport East:** The PC completed the survey on Rural Mobility, noting that service was generally not conducive to travelling solely by bus for school or work due to the timetables.

10. **General Items:**

- 10.1 **Northfield Wood:** The PC reviewed the Play Inspection Report and quotes would be sought for any necessary work.
- 10.2 **Speeding:** The final cost of the new EvanCity Evolis Speed Indicator Device was noted as £2,487.60 per unit. Two units had now been ordered in a discounted package (one for Botesdale PC). The response from the Police to reports of speeding on Hinderclay Road had been made within the public forum.
- 10.3 **Community Governance Review:** The PC received the public consultation on the Draft Proposals from MSDC and noted that there was no purpose in pursuing a merger of Botesdale and Rickinghall if both PCs were not on board. It was therefore agreed to support Botesdale PC's decision at its meeting on 7 November. Either way, it was agreed to enquire about the feasibility of a reduction in the number of councillors to eight.
- 10.4 **Parish Infrastructure Investment Plan:** The PC continued with the review of the PIIP and PIIP Project List. It was noted that several small projects by community organisations could be implemented and it was agreed to write to each organisation for more information on what was required to improve their facilities.
- 10.5 **Skate Park:** The skate park was now fully completed, inspected and had seen a steady stream of users. The Village Hall thanked the Parish Council for their contribution.
- 10.6 **Meeting Dates 2023:** These were agreed as follows - Tuesday, 10 Jan; 2 Feb; 2 Mar; 6 Apr; Tuesday, 9 May; 1 Jun; 6 Jul; 3 Aug (Planning only); 7 Sep; 5 Oct; 2 Nov; 7 Dec.

11. **Finance:**

- 11.1 **Account Balance:** £88,277.97
- Income:** £ 0.00

11.2 **Accounts for Payment:**

Admin Payments	£ 883.77	Not itemised due to GDPR
Street Sweeping etc.	£ 250.31	St Clean etc Oct 22
David Bracey Play Safety	£ 60.00	Inspection – Northfield Wood
David Bracey Play Safety	£ 432.00	Post Installation Inspection - Rickinghall Skatepark
Safeplay PS (Fearless Ramps)	£55,896.00	Installation of Rickinghall Skatepark

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

- 11.3 **Draft Budget 2023-24:** It was noted that along with the agreed increase to the cost of street lighting, the cost of dog and litter bin emptying would also be increased by Mid Suffolk District Council in the next financial year. The budget for the Clerk's salary would also need to be increased in line with the Local Government Association's National Salary Award for 2022-23. The draft budget would be considered further at the next meeting.

12. **Highways Issues:** None.

13. **Welcome Pack:** One to Sally Smith.

14. **Councillors' Reports:** Local Charities – It was noted that the six-monthly meeting had been postponed.

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

16. **Next Meeting:** 1 December 2022

The Chair closed the meeting at 9:20pm.