

REARSBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council meeting held on Thursday 3rd October 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Public Forum

- Concern was expressed at two drains in the village – one on the bend where Brook Street meets Brookside and one on Station Road just over the bridge. The resident had reported this to LCC but the issue had not been resolved. The Clerk would report it from the PC.
- A resident was interested in the ‘big switch’ initiative that CBC were currently running. The PC advised them to talk to Councillor Poland if they needed more information.
- The Friends of Rearsby Church were holding a barn dance on Saturday 19th October at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Present

Councillor M Cooke (Chair)
Councillor A Byrne (Vice Chair)
Councillor K Wills
Councillor A Higgins
Councillor Metcalfe

In Attendance

Sue Norledge – Clerk
3 villagers

19/65 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence were received from Borough/County Councillor Poland.

19/66 To confirm minutes of meeting held on 5th September 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th September 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

19/67 Progress on outstanding items

a) Progress on items of essential repair and maintenance

- The PCC was looking into concerns expressed over maintenance of the trees in the closed section of the churchyard. They will confirm if they wish the Clerk to take the issue up with CBC.
- It was confirmed that the Clerk should order a new green dog bin for the village hall playing fields.
- The Clerk would speak to Derek Overfield about the village hall palings as the previous contractor had not undertaken the work.
- There was some discussion over the two quotes for the wetpour repairs. The quote from Surfaces.com was more expensive per linear metre, so it was agreed to proceed with the quote from the Playdale contractor of £5,027.00. However, Surfaces.com had provided a quote for the cleaning of the surface and it was felt that this should be considered next year.
- It was agreed that a budget of £70.00 be approved for the winter planters. Peter French had kindly offered to undertake this work. Peter will be unable to continue this work in the new year. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks for Peter for all his work on the planters over the past years. The PC will need to find someone else to undertake this work in future.

- The Clerk had spoken to LCC regarding ownership of the overflow pond off the bypass. They had confirmed that it was not under LCC ownership. The Clerk was to contact Ann Palmer at Manor Farm to see if they knew who owned the land.

b) To report any new items of essential repair and maintenance and agree action to be taken

There was considerable discussion over the recent flooding in the village. There was some confusion over the availability of sandbags from CBC. LCC indicated that CBC would supply as many as required but CBC only had limited stocks for elderly or vulnerable residents. The Clerk would raise the issue with Councillor Poland. It was also agreed to see if Manor Farm were happy to store the sandbags.

There was some concern expressed that debris was going into the brook from the building site from 1a Station Road. This could lead to blocking up of the brook under the seven arches. The matter had been reported to Councillor Poland and the Clerk would report it to the Environment Agency. The suggestion was made that the depth markers be reinstalled on the road between Rearsby and Thrussington. Several cars had become stuck here as it was not clear how deep the water was. The Clerk would report this request to LCC.

c) Progress on the draft Neighbourhood Plan following the completion of the Section 14 consultation process

Martin Field reported that the NP group had met to go through the response from CBC and also the consultation responses. A revised draft would be produced over the next 4 weeks. It was agreed to approve a £1,500.00 budget to employ Your Locale to undertake a basic condition statement. This budget would also meet the costs of the work that may need to be done on the maps. The Clerk would see what the position was on access to Parish Online.

d) Progress on negotiations with Davidson Homes over the transfer of the Conker Field

The Clerk had spoken to Eleanor Rattay who reported that-;

- The section 106 agreement included the retention of the northern tip of the conker field. This was to enable the developer to access the services.
- The developer felt that this would still allow the PC to construct a new access for mowing off Station Road.
- It was agreed that the best way forward was to hold a site meeting between the PC and the developer to look at the exact area of retention. The meeting agreed that those attending the meeting had the authority to agree the line of retention with the developer. It was also agreed to ask the developer if they would erect a fence on any agreed boundary.
- The developer felt that all trees on the conker field were within its boundary. It was agreed that this could be looked at during the site visit and resolved with any neighbours once the ownership has been transferred.
- The acceptance of the offer of the conker field had been made subject to the resolution of the outstanding issues.

It was agreed to push the builder through the PC solicitor to obtain a copy contract.

e) Mobile vehicle activated sign location and recording update

Councillor Metcalfe had met with Peter French to go through the arrangements for the MVAS. It would be relocated shortly, and the data downloaded.

The upgrading of the sign to include Bluetooth would be sorted out when Councillor Metcalfe was more familiar with the equipment.

f) Progress on potential items of expenditure for 19/20

1. New Village web site – Councillor Wills

This was being worked on a proposal should be ready by the December meeting.

2. Enhancements to the village hall playing fields – Councillor Higgins

This work was on hold pending the resolution of the transfer of the conker field and a clearer picture emerging of the actual costs.

3. New MVAS = Councillor Cooke

It was agreed to delay the decision on this item until the conker field transfer had been completed and it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

4. New benches and tree enhancements – Councillor Byrne

There was nothing further to report.

5. Enhancements to the conker field – Councillor Cooke

A provisional budget of 20K had been agreed for this item.

19/68 Police, County Councillor and Borough Councillors reports

a) County/Borough Councillor Report

No report was made.

b) Police Report and crime and safety in Rearsby

No report was made, and the Clerk was to see if a written report could be made in future.

c) Village Warden Reports

Heritage Warden report

No report was made.

Tree Warden Report

No report was made.

Flood Warden report

No report was made.

The meeting agreed that the current warden coverage was not fit for purpose with uncertainty over who was covering what warden position. It was therefore agreed that a third flood warden should be sort to assist Mrs Meade and Mr Lilley and all other warden roles should be declared vacant and new applicants invited. The warden roles would be restricted to Flood, Heritage and Tree and Nature. The Chairman would include this in his notes for the Rearsby Scene.

e) Monthly risk assessment and village safety report

A risk assessment had been undertaken by Councillor Metcalfe. The issue of the edging round the play mats was still noted. A bin was overflowing on the village hall playing field, but this had been emptied over the last couple of days.

The issue of dog bins was discussed. It was felt that it would be useful if a dog bin was installed at both ends of the road between Rearsby and Thrussington. The PC may need to consider funding the Rearsby dog bin themselves as it was unlikely to meet the criteria for funding by CBC. The Clerk would see if Thrussington PC may consider funding a bin at their end.

f) Report back from Village Hall Committee meeting including risk assessment

Councillor Cooke reported that-;

- Finances were looking good.
- The work to the side access had now been completed.
- It had been agreed to undertake more frequent risk assessments.

g) Finance (including cheques, balances and budgets)

The balance of the account at 30.9.19 was £34,552.81

S Norledge - wages and expenses - £308.34

HMRC - £245.20

EON – xmas lights, £0.97

PKF – external audit, £240.00

K Wills – ladder, £38.00

The bank reconciliation to 30.9.19 was signed by the Chair.

It was noted that the external audit had now been completed and there were no matters to report. The certificate of electors rights had been put on the PC website.

h) Issues arising from LRALC reports

There was nothing to report.

19/69 New Business

a) Arrangements for Christmas 2019

- A £300 budget for the xmas tree was agreed. The clerk would let Councillor Metcalfe know where the trees was purchased from last year.
- Councillor Metcalfe would talk to Tim Palmer at Manor Farm to see if he was happy to assist in putting up the tree.
- Ian Christie Smith had updated the PC regards to the location of the lights and fencing ect.
- The Clerk was to chase up Simon Chenery and the electrician who undertook the testing last year, to see if the location of the electricity box key was known.

b) To consider request from Table Tennis club for new tables

The table tennis club had requested funding for two new table tennis tables. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Tony Crump to find out how many members of the club were from the village. It was also felt that the as the proceeds of the club went to the village hall, that they should make a contribution to the costs. The matter would be looked at again in November.

19/70 Planning

a) Planning applications received for comments

There were no new planning applications for consideration. The Clerk was to double check the planning permission that had been obtained for the demolition of the bungalow on Melton Road.

19/71 Correspondence received that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

There was nothing new to report.

19/72 Chairman’s report, including article for submission to Rearsby Scene

There was nothing further to report.

Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 7th November 2019 Rearsby Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Signed..... (Chairman, Rearsby Parish Council)

Dated.....