

# REARSBY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a full Council meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

### Public Forum

- Concern was expressed that the brook still had not been cleared of weeds by the Environment Agency. The Clerk was to report it again.
- There had been some fly tipping between Rearsby and Thrussington. This had been reported to CBC, who rapidly cleared it away.
- There was still concern expressed about the amount of dog fouling around the village. Parishioners were reminded that the best course of action is to report the matter directly to CBC Dog Warden. It was also felt that the village needed more dog bins.
- There were two lights on Church Leys Avenue that did not appear to have been converted to LED. The Clerk would report this to LCC.

### Present

Councillor M Cooke (Chair)  
Councillor A Byrne (Vice Chair)  
Councillor A Higgins  
Councillor Chenery  
Councillor R Metcalfe

### In Attendance

Sue Norledge – Clerk  
PCSO M. Harburt  
3 villagers

### 19/9 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies were received from Councillor Wills and Councillor Poland

### 19/10 To confirm minutes of meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### 19/11 Progress on outstanding items

#### a) Progress on items of essential repair and maintenance

The concreting of the kissing gate and the repair to the sleeper on the village hall overflow car park would be undertaken shortly.

The gym equipment had been repainted but was again flaking off so the supplier would repair again.

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

Some of the paling fence was broken at the back of the village hall car park. It was agreed to ask Rob Knapp to quote for both a paling fence and a post and rail type fence.

**c) Progress on the Section 14 consultation on the draft Neighbourhood Plan**

A consultation event had taken place earlier in the evening for villagers. Several points were raised and villagers were encouraged to complete the comments form and send back to the PC by 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

Once all the consultation comments had been received, these would be studied, and any necessary amendments made to the draft plan. This would then go to CBC to begin the Section 16 consultation process.

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

Councillor Cooke and the Clerk had met with David Wilson at the convent to discuss the potential use for a car park and storage area, of part of the conker field during the construction period. Due to the need to protect the trees on the site, they felt they had no other space to use. They would also like to run the new services to the development through the conker field. The meeting was very interesting the developer was very informative on their proposals for the convent. They were keen to work with the Parish Council and would be happy to attend a Parish Council meeting. There was considerable discussion around this issue and several concerns were expressed over this request;-

- The area requested to be used, was ancient ridge and furrow and would be damaged by the parking of vehicles and siting of any offices. It may be necessary to put concrete down for these uses.
- It would spoil the open perspective of the conker field when walking through it and detract from its amenity value.

After discussion it was agreed (with one abstention) to instruct the solicitors to write to the developer to say;-

- The Parish Council do not agree that the conker field is a suitable area to use for the parking of vehicles and the siting of offices. This is due to the damage that would be caused to the ridge and furrow and the loss of amenity value of the area for those walking through the conker field.
- It was suggested that a more suitable area may be the plots 7 and 8 on the main site.
- The Parish Council would like to see the architect's drawings, that show the route of the existing services and the proposed route for the new services.

The developer had also requested suggestions for the name for the development and for the drive into the site. Suggestions were made of St Josephs Meadow and Francis Claire Close. The Clerk would pass these suggestions onto the developer.

**e) Mobile vehicle activated sign location and recording update**

The sign is still on Station Road and was due to be switched back on shortly.

Councillor Cooke agreed to get a price for a second sign and also for a better means of extracting and storing the data.

**f) To receive an update on a potential affordable housing project for Rearsby**

It was reported that Councillor Cooke and Martin Field had met with the Estates Manager for the Pochin Estate. They were still supportive of the idea of progressing an affordable community housing project in Rearsby.

Martin Field had provided some information on a similar project in North Somercote, Lincolnshire, where a Parish Council had contributed financially towards such a project.

It was agreed that Martin would work up an application to Homes England for the initial pre construction costs. This would be considered at the April meeting.

**h) Progress on potential items of expenditure for 18/19 including new village notice boards, new village website, enhancements to the village hall playing fields, new MVAS, new benches and trees and enhancements to the conker field.**

- The Clerk was to get some prices for new notices boards from George Walker in Syston.
- The Clerk was to write to Western Power to see what access they required to the village hall playing fields and how frequently this was required. It was suggested that the Melton Road entrance could be made into a disabled access.
- It was agreed to look at possible locations for new benches at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- The litter pick was taking place on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 10.00 pm, meeting at the Village Hall

**19/12 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 crime had been reported in January.

**c) Village Warden Reports**

**Heritage Warden report**

No report was made.

**Tree Warden Report**

Councillor Cooke was to try and contact Trevor Drury to see if he was able to produce a planting plan for the village.

**Flood Warden report**

No report was made.

The Chair made reference again that he would like to include an article in the Rearsby Scene at some point, regarding village wardens and would therefore require confirmation of existing wardens desire to continue and what vacancies were currently available.

**e) Monthly risk assessment and village safety report**

Councillor Cooke had undertaken a risk assessment. The main areas of concern were the two missing lights on Melton Road and the mortar was beginning to fail on some areas of the pack horse bridge.

The Clerk had reported the missing lights on Melton Road but the failure was due to a problem with the supply and Western Power had been informed.

The Clerk would report the problem of the mortar on the 7 arch bridge to CBC.

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

Councillor Cooke had attended the Village Hall Committee meeting. They had undertaken a risk assessment. It was agreed to ask Councillor Wills if he was able to undertake an independent risk assessment of the village hall.

The Committee had produced some plans for the entrance drive.

The original deeds and covenants had now been found. There would be a new constitution presented for the AGM. It was confirmed, that in the event of the failure of the Committee, that the Charity Commission does not take over responsibility for the Village Hall. It was felt that perhaps the Parish Council should consider taking over this responsibility. Councillor Cooke would raise this at the next Village Hall Committee meeting.

**g) Finance (including cheques, balances and budgets)**

The balance of the account at 31.1.19 was £35,962.49

S Norledge - wages and expenses - £294,44

Beardleys – refreshments, £73.10

CBC – risk assessments, £96.00

The bank reconciliation to 31.1.19 was signed by the Chair.

**h) Issues arising from LRALC reports**

There was nothing to report.

**19/13 New Business**

**a) Arrangements for Parish Council elections**

The elections would take place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. The current parish council would cease on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May. Nominations would be sought for all 6 vacancies.

If more than 6 nominations were received, then a contested election would be held.

The Clerk would let everyone know when the nomination papers were available.

**b) To agree date for Annual Parish Council meeting and Annual Parish Meeting**

It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 pm.

It was suggested that perhaps the developer from the convent could be invited to the meeting. It was hoped that all wardens and village groups would attend.

The Annual Parish Council meeting would need to be held after the date of the elections so that the new Parish Council can be installed. It cannot be any earlier than 8<sup>th</sup> May, therefore the Annual Parish Council meeting will take place on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May, to be followed by the May Parish Council meeting.

**c) To discuss request from PCC to use children’s play area for outdoor service on 6<sup>th</sup> July**

This was agreed.

**19/14 Planning**

**a) Planning applications received for comments**

P/19/0019/2 1688 Melton Road, erection 2 storey extension to side and 1 storey extension to rear

No comments were made.

P/18/2349/2 change of use of staff canteen into café, Rearsby Business Park

No comments were made.

**19/15 Correspondence received that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda.**

There was nothing further to report.

**19/16 Chairman’s report, including article for submission to Rearsby Scene**

It was agreed that Simon Lawrence from LCC be invited to come along for 30 minutes before the start of the March meeting to talk about unitary structure.

**Date and time of next meeting**

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30 pm, Rearsby Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm

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

Dated.....

