

# REARSBY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a full Council meeting held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

### Present:

Councillor I Christie-Smith (Chair)  
Councillor P French  
Councillor M Cooke  
Councillor S Chenery  
Councillor A Higgins

### In Attendance

Sue Norledge – Clerk  
Alison Bradley – Environment Agency  
Toby Jesson – Environment Agency  
4 members of the public

### 17/10 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies had been received from Councillor Byrne and Borough Councillor James Poland. Councillor French expressed an interest in agenda item 7a planning applications.

### 17/11 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### 17/12 Public Forum

No comments were made.

### 17/13 Progress on outstanding items

#### a) Progress on repairs and essential maintenance including village report

Councillor French reported that:-

- A reply had been received from a person interest in the role of Handyperson. The person was self-employed and charged £15.00 an hour. It was understood that they did not have public liability insurance and the Clerk was to check if they would be covered under the Council's policy.
- The mole hills were becoming more of a problem and the contractor was due to undertake the work as soon as the weather was suitable.

#### b) Progress on vehicle activated signs

Councillor French reported that sign would remain on LP25 on the Melton Road until Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb after which it would be moved to LP 21 next to the Horse and Groom, possibly on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> of February. It was reported that there had been a few occasions when the sign did not appear to be working. Councillor French would check the battery.

**c) Progress on Neighbourhood Plan**

Councillor Higgens reported that:-

- The draft form of working for the NP would be circulated to the PC over the next week with a view to a discussion at the next meeting.
- The draft would be circulated to the village and then a second public meeting would be arranged in the village hall.
- After this the section 14 consultation would begin.

**d) Progress on future sale of the Convent**

There was no further news.

**e) Progress on the redevelopment of the Village Hall playing area**

Councillor Cooke had attended a meeting with an interested builder on the site and was waiting for quotes to be received.

An invoice had been raised for the village hall for 50% of the cost of the architect's drawings.

**f) Progress on the railings in Brookside**

Councillor Christie Smith reported that there had been problems with the supply of the posts. They arrived from China in mid January, but unfortunately were the wrong design and there was not the right quantity. In order to ensure that the grant of £2,000 from LCC could be accessed, it was preferable to finish the work before the end of the financial year. Therefore, it was agreed to purchase 41 of the posts from a new supplier at an increased cost of £430.50 which was approved.

The licence had been applied for and a map has been received and passed to James Gamble. This shows services in the area.

The contractor had requested that the grass was strimmed on the banks to leave the area clear for the work. Councillor French was to ask Burnt Oak to undertake this work. A budget of £200.00 was agreed for this work

**17/14 Police, County Councillor and Borough Councillors reports**

**a) County Councillor**

No report was made.

**b) Borough Councillor Report**

No report was made.

**c) Police Report**

No report was made.

**d) Village Warden Reports**

**Heritage Warden report**

Councillor French reported that the wording for the plaque for the 7 arch bridge had been approved. The final decision about the location would be taken later. Thanks were given to the History Society for provision of the plaque.

**Tree Warden Report**

There was nothing further to report.

**Flood Warden report**

There was nothing further to report.

**e) Risk Assessment and village safety**

The Clerk had circulated a new timetable for undertaking risk assessments.

Councillor French reported a few issues around the village;-

- There had been a noticeable increase in dog fouling around the village. It was particularly bad in the convent/ conker field.

- There had been an increase in instances of inconsiderate parking on the Melton Road around school collection/drop off times. Martin Field agreed to bring the issue up with the Governors at their next meeting.
- Concern had been expressed that the junction warning sign on Station Road for Church Leys Avenue had been removed. This had been removed by LCC and a watchful eye would be kept to ensure that it did not result in any traffic accidents. If there are any reports of ‘near misses’, Councillor Chenery would undertake a risk assessment.
- There had been an increase in the amount of mud on Brookside from the farm vehicles.

#### **f) Village Hall**

Councillor Cooke reported that the finances were very healthy. The mobile post office services was in the car park on Mondays between 9 and 10 am.

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

The balance of the community account was £21,339.59 and the balance of the Business reserve account was £19,560.63

S Norledge - wages and expenses, £276.43

James Gamble Construction – railings, £6221.40

Anchor Print – NP printing, £27.74

2Commune – website, £180.00

#### **17/15 New Business**

##### **a) Presentation by Environment Agency on Flood Warnings**

Alison Bradley and Toby Jesson of the Environment Agency came to the meeting to talk about the various options for dealing with the flood warning siren. During the last instance of flooding on 21<sup>st</sup> November the siren had gone off for over 7 hours before a member of the EA staff had managed to visit to switch it off. The EA apologised for this but staff had been very busy dealing with emergencies. Various options were discussed and it was agreed that a key would be given to the two flood wardens and Councillor Chenery so that they could switch the siren off. It would also need to be reset by the Environment Agency.

It was noted that any blockage reports for the brook should be made to 0800807060.

##### **b) Parking problems on Mill Road including request for yellow lines**

A letter had been received from a resident expressing concern at the problem of parking on Mill Road which was making the road very difficult and dangerous to navigate. The installation of yellow lines was one solution suggested.

The provision of yellow lines is a County Council responsibility and is governed by a legal process. The Parish Council did not feel that this was a desirable solution as it tended just to move the problem elsewhere. However, it was agreed to write to the resident to see if they wished the Parish Council to facilitate a meeting between themselves and LCC Highways so that they could talk through their concerns in more detail.

#### **17/16 Planning**

##### **a) Planning applications**

P/17/0142/2 46 Station Road, conversion of attached garage to a granny annexe

No comments were made.

P/17/0146/2 The Grange, formation of an additional 44 car parking spaces.

The Council did not object to this application. However, they were concerned that the 44 places did not result in an increase in employment and may have an adverse environmental impact by encouraging employees to use their cars to come to work.

**17/17 Chairman's report**

It was noted that the new website was now live at [www.rearsbypc.org.uk](http://www.rearsbypc.org.uk).

**17/18 Correspondence box**

There was nothing further to report.

**Date and time of next meeting**

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at Rearsby Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

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

Dated.....