

REARSBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council meeting held on Thursday 3rd March 2016 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Councillor Ian Christie Smith (Chair)
Councillor Simon Chenery
Councillor Peter French
Councillor Alison Higgins
Councillor Martin Cooke
Councillor Anthea Byrne

In Attendance

Sue Norledge - Clerk
Borough Councillor James Poland
Trevor Wells, Wells Mcfarlane
12 members of the public (32 were in attendance for the convent redevelopment discussions)

Convent Redevelopment.

Before the meeting was formally opened, Trevor Wells, the architect in charge of the redevelopment plans for the convent outlined the current proposals to members of the public. The proposals consisted of 8 units in the existing convent and 8 new builds in the grounds. Following a question and answer session a show of hands was asked for from the public to see the level of support for the current outline proposals. There was overall support of the proposals.

The chairman formally opened the meeting.

16/19 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence were received from PCSO Brian Geeson. Councillor French declared an interest in item 4 f.

16/20 Minutes of previous meeting

To confirm the minutes of the last full council meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th February 2016 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

16/21 Public Forum

- Concern was expressed that there were some memorial crosses on the Rearsby Bypass that may be a distraction to drivers. The Clerk was to check the regulations concerning such memorials.
- Concern was expressed that the repairs that Severn Trent had undertaken to the water leak at the top of Church Lane were not satisfactory. Severn Trent had expressed the view that the blockage was due to a blocked land drain and was the responsibility of LCC Highways. The Clerk was to look into this.

- There were three holes in the road entering the ford. The Clerk was to report this to LCC Highways.
- It was suggested that the severn arch bridge could be lit at night during Christmas using the electricity supply near to the bridge.

16/22 Progress on outstanding items

a) Progress on repairs and essential maintenance including village report

Councillor French reported that;-

- A second quote of £220.00 from Syston Tree Care had been received for the works to the ash tree on the village hall playing fields. This was agreed.
- The fly tipping on the Melton Road had been removed by CBC.
- LCC Highways had repaired the damage to the grass verge on Station Road.

b) Progress on consideration of vehicle activated signs

Unfortunately the Burbage VAS was now in use so it had not been possible to borrow it. It was agreed in principle to go ahead with the purchase of a VAS from Westcotec. However this was subject to;-

- A minimum of 8 volunteers being found who could assist in the changing of the battery and relocation of the sign.
- Suitable sites being agreed with Mike Wilson at LCC.
- Councillor French would write an article for the Rearsby Scene.

c) Progress on production of a Neighbourhood Plan

Martin Field reported that the sub group had been;-

- Consulting local voluntary groups to see what sort of development and facilities they would like to see in Rearsby.
- Two public meetings were to be held on Saturday 19th March at 11.00 am and Tuesday 22nd March at 7.30 pm. Both meetings were to be held in the Church. The meetings will look at the information that had been collated and look at other examples of Neighbourhood Development Plans.
- Once these meetings had taken place a draft plan would be put together and send out to all consultees.
- It was agreed to invite the Community Land Trust to come along to talk to the Parish Council at 7.00 pm before the April Parish Council meeting.

d) Progress on redevelopment of the village hall playing field

Councillor Byrne reported that;-

- Discussions were ongoing with the Village Hall Committee concerning the development of disabled access to the playing fields.
- A site meeting was being held with Deborah Liggins of CBC Planning Department on either Tuesday 8th March or Tuesday 15th March.

e) Progress on railings on Brookside

There was no real progress to report.

f) Progress on the Convent

Following the earlier discussions it was agreed that Rearsby Parish Council is willing to support this development based upon the outline plans it has seen to date and the proposed new layout of the site. This will be subject to the Parish Council reaching a binding agreement with the owners and developers of the convent that the area known locally as the 'conker field' (and its spinney) remain as an open public space for the use of the village. The Parish Council will undertake to retain the open

character of the land and not seek to alter it in any way. This to be preferably achieved by a transfer of the land to the Parish Council or via a local community trust.

16/23 Police, County Councillor and Borough Councillors reports

a) County Councillor

No report was made.

b) Borough Councillor Report

Borough Councillor James Poland reported that;-

- The legal challenge to the core strategy by a land development company had been thrown out by the High Court.
- The Council tax for the borough had gone up by 4.36%.

c) Police Report

PCSO Brian Geeson had provided a written report. There had been no incidences of reported crime during the month in Rearsby. He had received several complaints concerning the problem of dog fouling in Rearsby. He was looking at putting up some posters from CBC concerning the issue.

d) Village Warden Reports

Heritage Warden report

There was nothing further to report.

Tree Warden Report

Councillor French reported that he had met with Trevor Drury, the Tree Warden. They had been looking at the recent tree survey and were hoping to shortly make a planning application for works to trees in the children's play area.

Flood Warden report

There was nothing further to report.

e) Risk Assessment and village safety

Councillor French had undertaken a risk assessment and would circulate it.

Councillor Byrne was to undertake the March risk assessment.

f) Village Hall

There had not been a meeting over the last month.

g) Finance (including cheques, balances and budgets)

The balance of the community account was £17,161.85 and the balance of the Business reserve account was £19,548.43. The following cheques were approved

S. Norledge, wages and expenses - £273.70

Symbiosis - tree report - £1,320.00

RCC - subscription - £50.00

CPRE - subscription - £36.00

BT - village hall - £97.55

Sign Here - sign delivery - £19.20

RPCC - donation for churchyard mowing , £370.00

16/24 New Business

a) To change the date of the April meeting

The date of the April meeting was changed to Thursday 14th April due to the Clerk's holiday commitments.

16/25 Planning

a) Planning application

P/15/2374/2 - Erection of extension of triple garage and room above to front of dwelling, Gaddesby Lane

No comments were made.

b) Planning approvals

None had been received.

16/26 Chairman's report

Councillor Christie Smith reported that;-

- The Broadband had been installed in the village hall but needed the password from when it was first installed. The Clerk was to try and locate this. It was noted that the download capacity was limited.
- The issue of the new website would be put on the next agenda.
- The issue of replacing the petrol lawn mowing that is used to mow the village green was discussed. It was agreed to get it serviced.
- The Queens 90th birthday celebrations would be put onto the next agenda.

16/27 Correspondence box

No comments were made.

Date and time of next meeting

Thursday April 14th at Rearsby Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

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

Dated.....