

REARSBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council meeting held on Thursday 7th May at 7.15 pm via Zoom

Public Forum

No comments were made.

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

In Attendance
Sue Norledge – Clerk
Borough/County Councillor James Poland

20/25 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence were received from the Police.

20/26 To confirm minutes of meetings held on 8th March 2020 and 19th March 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th March 2020 and 19th March 2020 were agreed as true and accurate records of the meeting. It was noted that the special dispensations agreed at the meeting of 19th March, no longer applied as the PC was able to meet remotely.

20/27 Progress on outstanding items

a) Progress on items of essential repair and maintenance

- The drains at the junction of Brook Street and Brookside had been cleared by LCC. The situation would be monitored.
- The repairs to the pavement between Rearsby and Thrussington were not satisfactory as it was breaking up again and needed reporting by the Clerk.

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

- The benches in the village need some attention and in particular the bench by the willow trees. The Clerk would ask Derek Overfield to undertake this work.
- The erosion of the pavement on Brookside near to the railing foundations needs to be reported to LCC. This was from the winter floods.
- There is a small tree fallen on the children's play area that needs to be removed. The Clerk would ask Burnt Oak to remove this.
- The third arch on the severn arch bridge is showing some signs of damage. The Clerk would report this to LCC.

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

Martin Field reported that work had been put on hold due to the current Covid crisis. He intends to circulate the work from Your Locale to the NP Working Group. Once this work is completed, a draft could be sent to the PC for comments.

d) Progress on work within the conker field including fencing, signage, access, boundaries, potential opening event.

- The erection of the fence and new kissing gates was in the pipeline for George Walker but it was currently unclear when they would be able to carry it out.

- The Clerk was still chasing up CBC regarding the two new litter bins.
- Consideration was given to the two quotes for the works to the trees. It was agreed to accept the quote of £2340 from Mark Whalley. There may be some further costs once the work commences but it is hoped these would be minimal.
- It was agreed to that the Clerk would speak to Burnt Oak for suggestions as to the best type hedge to be grown alongside the fencing on Station Road. There was some discussion about leaving the current gap in the hedge for people to access the field. However, as it led onto the grass it would become muddy in the winter and a further access may require planning permission.
- The Clerk was to speak to the site manager as they appeared to have cleared their triangle of hedging plants and they may wish us to replace it when we plant the new hedge on Station Road. Would also make an enquiry to see if they would consider putting in the tarmac path.

e) Mobile vehicle activated sign location and recording update

The sign was not currently activated. It was noted that some traffic was speeding during the current quiet roads.

f) Consideration of a new litter bin for Church Leys Avenue

The Clerk was still chasing CBC about the replacement bin.

g) Progress on new village website

Councillor Wills had made the site live rearsbyvillagenews.co.uk. Councillors were encouraged to send all news items to him for inclusion.

20/28 Police, County Councillor and Borough Councillors reports

a) County/Borough Councillor Report

Councillor Poland reported that-;

- Several of the household waste sites will reopening on 18th May with an appointment system for a limited range of household waste.
- The bulky waste collection service from CBC had resumed.
- The brown bin collection service had resumed on a monthly basis. Rearsby's first collection would be week commencing 11th May.
- It was hoped that the grass cutting by LCC would commence in May.

b) Police Report and crime and safety in Rearsby

The PC had reported that vehicles were using the area at the top of Gaddesby Lane for social meetings and had left considerable amounts of litter. This had been reported and the police were undertaking regular patrols to the area.

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.

Nature Warden report

No report was made.

e) Monthly risk assessment and village safety report

The Monthly risk assessment had been undertaken by Councillor Cooke; -

- The repairs to the play mats in the children's play area appear to be failing in places. The Clerk would report this to Playdale.

- It was felt that there was no longer any use for the electricity box on the play area side of the brook and maybe it needed to be removed. The Clerk was to see if this was a job that could be undertaken by Derek Overfield.
- Near to the half pipe was a homemade grind rail that had been left in the undergrowth. It needed to be removed as it did not meet safety standards. It was suggested that notice to remove it, be put on the village facebook sites. This would give the owners a chance to retrieve it prior to its removal.
- There was a real problem again with dog fouling in the village. Poo was not being picked up and bags were being left in ditches and tied to hedge rows. Councillor Cooke was to produce an article about the problem to be widely circulated in the village.

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

No meetings had been held.

g) Finance (including cheques, balances and budgets)

The balance of the account at 30.4.20 was £38,107.75.

S Norledge - wages and expenses - £399.14

HMRC - £105.40

Tree Assessment Uk – conker field, £337.50

Your Locale – NP, £3000.00

CBC – bin emptying, £119.86

LRALC – membership, 322,59

Burnt Oak – grass cutting, £264.00

S Norledge – wages and expenses, £422.20

BHIB – insurance, £681.63

2commune – website, £552.00

The bank reconciliation to 30.4.20 was noted.

h) Issues arising from LRALC reports

LRALC had provided a large amount of help in managing the Covid crisis for PC's.

20/29 New Business

a) To discuss the PC's response to the Covid19 crisis including the closure of the play areas.

The children's play park and the play equipment on the village hall playing fields are currently closed. It would be difficult to open the children's play area whilst not allowing the play equipment to be used as the entrance forces visitors to go through the equipment. Occasionally reports had been received of people using the play equipment on the village hall playing fields but this was more difficult to manage as the footpath goes through the field so it cannot be closed. The areas would be opened as soon as government advice allowed it to.

Now that the PC could meet remotely it was able to function.

It was noted that the village had responded in an excellent fashion to the current crisis with volunteers helping the vulnerable. Businesses such as the tearoom and the pubs had been able to keep going with takeaways etc. The church had been holding services via Zoom.

b) To note the dates of the submission of the 19/20 annual return

The dates for submission had been amended to end of July. The internal auditor was conducting the internal audit via zoom and the return would be ready for approval at the June meeting.

20/30 Planning

P/20/0727/2 10 Church Leys Avenue, first and second floor extension

No comments were made.

P/20/0674/2 61 Station Road, amendment to previously approved plan for 3 dwellings to be made into five dwellings.

No comments were made.

20/31 Correspondence received that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

There was nothing further to report.

20/32 Chairman's report, including article for submission to Rearsby Scene

As previously mentioned, the Chair would produce an article regarding the problem of dog waste around the village.

Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 4th June Rearsby Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

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

Dated.....