

REARSBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council meeting held on Thursday 3rd September at 7.30 pm via Zoom

Public Forum

No comments were made.

The Chair welcomed Della Kagure Brown to the meeting as she was interested in filling the Councillor vacancy. Della has lived in the village for 5 years and works for a local women's charity.

Della's appointment would be formalised at the October meeting

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

In Attendance Sue Norledge – Clerk
1 member of the public

20/49 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence were received from the Police, Borough/County Councillor Poland and Councillor Byrne

20/50 To confirm minutes of meetings held on Thursday 2nd July 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd July 2020 were agreed as true and accurate record.

20/51 Progress on outstanding items

a) Progress on items of essential repair and maintenance

- There was still concern at the lack of action by LCC concerning the eroding pavement into the brook banks on Brookside. LCC consider that the problem lies with the brook bank and this is not their responsibility. Unfortunately, there is no registered owner of the brook bank. The Clerk was to contact Councillor Poland and see if he could help. The issue of ownership of the bank was discussed. The Clerk would look into this in a bit more detail with LCC.
- The willow tree on Brookside had now been cut back by LCC.
- Derek Overfield had visited the stile at the top of the children's play area and it did not appear to be damaged. It was agreed to ask him to see if it was possible to install a post in the stile for people to use when they were crossing,

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

- The fallen branch in the conker field does not seem to have been moved by Burnt Oak – the Clerk would chase this up.

- The Clerk was to check with LCC that they had assessed the willow trees near to the preachers stone as they had lost branches recently.
- The railings near the brook paint work still appeared to be blistering. The Clerk was to speak to Derek Overfield. It may be that these need to be completed stripped back and repainted by a professional decorator.

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

It was agreed that a zoom meeting would be held between Gary Kirk, Councillor Cooke and Higgins and the Clerk to discuss the way forward with the Neighbourhood Plan.

d) Progress on work within the conker field including

- **Consideration of a new sign**

It was agreed to purchase the new sign at a cost of £1,595.00 including fitting. It was suggested that it be installed on the left hand side from the entrance on Station Road. Consideration was also given to the purchase of two smaller signs to go on the entrance gates at the top of the conker field. It was also noted that the condition of the ground at the kissing gate off Church Leys Avenue needed to be monitored – it may need to be tarmacked if the ground becomes too muddy.

- **To consider and approve stage two of the tree works**

The additional tree works was approved at a cost of £2,000

- **Consideration of replacements railings on Station Road**

The Clerk was waiting for a quote from Secure a field to replace the old railings on Station Road with metal ones similar to Brookside. Another possibility may be to simply paint the existing ones. The Clerk would check what the position was with LCC

- **Consideration of approval of hedge planting**

It was agreed to plant a hawthorn hedge at the cost of £11.00 a metre. The Clerk would contact Burnt Oak to get this work done in the Autumn. This would not include the area in front of the builders corner as they had there own landscaping plans.

- **Boundary with number 55 Station Road**

The Clerk and Councillor Cooke had met with the residents of number 55. The broken fence from the fallen branch in the spinney was to be repaired by Derek Overfield. The residents had followed the fence line that was in place when they moved in. They would like to take ownership of the two trees and take full responsibility for their maintenance. There was some concern that the fence line they may have followed could have been the old farmers fence that had been put in to protect neighbours gardens. The legal position also needed to be checked as it may not be in the PC's power to give ownership of the trees if they were originally park of the conker field. A holding letter would be sent to the residents whilst further investigations were undertaken. It was agreed that the residents could cut back any overhanging branches from trees protruding into their garden.

e) Mobile vehicle activated sign location and recording update

Councillor Metcalfe reported that the sign was now on Melton Road. It would be running for two weeks on and one week off. Speeding statistics showed that speeding was still an issue.

f) Progress on Rearsby Village news website

- Various suggestions had been received for additions to the site, including village hospitality and the Rearsby bypass story.
- The Clerk would put a notice on the village notice board advertising the site.

20/52 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

A written report had been provided. There had been no reported crime in August. The Police continue to patrol the area at the top of Gaddesby Lane to monitor for drug taking amongst vehicles parked there.

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

The nature warden was putting together a report to go on the Rearsby Village News website.

e) Monthly risk assessment and village safety report

The Monthly risk assessment had been undertaken by Councillor Metcalfe

- There was some paint peeling off the twister plate on the outdoor gym.
- The problem of the safety matting was to be discussed later in the agenda.

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

No meetings had been held via zoom but unfortunately Councillor Higgins had not been invited. The Clerk was to ensure that an invite was received for future meetings.

g) Finance (including cheques, balances and budgets)

The balance of the account on 31.8.20 is £33,155.28

S Norledge - wages and expenses - £645.60

Burnt Oak – grass cutting - £660.00

HMRC 245.00

Mark Whatley – tree works - £2010,00

Atworth Arboriculture Ltd, Picus test - £420.00

Derek Overfield, maintenance - £72.00

George Walker, fencing - \$4710.00

Tree Assessments UK, tree inspection - £152.50

Ladywell Accounting, pay roll - £60.00

The bank reconciliation to 31.8.20 was noted.

h) Issues arising from LRALC reports

The Clerk was to attend the website accessibility course on 15th September.

20/53 New Business

a) To consider the introduction of signs to discourage speeding

It was agreed to leave the possible purchase of extra speeding signage for the time being. The Clerk was to chase up Councillor Poland about the average speed camera scheme.

b) To consider the condition of the safety mats on the children’s play area

The PC were extremely disappointed that Playdale did not provide any form of guarantee for the work that was undertaken to bond the replaced wet pour to the old surface. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the MD of Playdale expressing our disappointment at their service provided. It was also agreed to advise LRALC of these problems. It was also agreed that the Clerk would get a quote for the removal and replacement of all the wetpour with the matting similar to that used on the outdoor gym equipment.

20/54 Planning

An issue had arisen with some silver birches from the children’s play park. A neighbour was concerned that they were overshadowing their garden. A request had been made for work to be undertaken to CBC. The Clerk had spoken to the Tree Warden at CBC and they would update the PC if it was felt that any work needed to be undertaken.

20/55 Correspondence received that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

- There had been some concern expressed that the recent successful village sale had not ensured that social distancing was maintained. Councillor Cooke would mention this to the organiser.
- It was reported that the landlord at the Horse and Groom was to leave at the end of October;

20/56 Chairman’s report, including article for submission to Rearsby Scene

The report for the Rearsby Scene will include speeding, progress on the conker field and helping keep the village tidy.

Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 1st October via zoom

The meeting closed at 9.16 pm

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

Dated.....

