

REARSBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council meeting held on Thursday 4th February 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom

Public Forum

It was noted that the issue of sewage leaking into a garden on Brookside had been resolved. There were some tree roots in the pipes and further work was needed to prevent this happening again.

Present

Councillor M Cooke (Chair)
Councillor A Higgins
Councillor A Byrne
Councillor K Wills
Councillor Kagure Brown
Councillor Metcalfe

In Attendance

Sue Norledge – Clerk
Borough/county Councillor James Poland

21/9 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies had been received from the Police.

21/10 To confirm minutes of meetings held on Thursday 7th January 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7th January 2021 were agreed as true and accurate record.

21/11 Progress on outstanding items

a) Progress on items of essential repair and maintenance

- The coping stone on the 7 arch bridge was due to be repaired mid February.
- The goal posts on the village hall playing field had been repaired.
- The loose post at the top of Church Lane had been removed.
- The Clerk would chase up Western Power regarding the electricity box on the brook banks.

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

- The road surface on the edge of Mill Road near to the repairs that had been made to the drain, is breaking up again. The Clerk was to report this to LCC.
- The grass verge opposite the convent entrance had been damaged. It was agreed to monitor this.
- It was noted that the conker field appeared to be collecting pools of standing water. This had not been noted in previous years. The Clerk to contact the site manager and see if anything that was taking place on the site was leading to this.
- Offers had come forward for the maintenance of all three planters in the village. The PC would reimburse any costs that were incurred.
- It was agreed to purchase some permanent dog poo bag dispensers for the conker field and the village hall playing fields.

c) Progress on the draft Neighbourhood Plan

The draft Neighbourhood Plan had now been submitted to CBC for them to begin the Regulation 16 consultation. The documents would be put up on the Rearsby village website.

d) Progress on work within the conker field

- The two litter bins have now been installed.
- The Clerk would chase up progress on the entrance sign.
- Derek Overfield had installed springs onto the two entrance gates.
- It was agreed that Councillor Metcalfe would liaise with Rearsby Landscapes to get advice on costs and suitable locations for the planting of new conker trees to replace those lost over recent years. It was also agreed that the Clerk would contact Goscote Nurseries regarding the free elm trees.
- The Clerk was to liaise with the PC's solicitors over advice on the boundary with number 55 Station Road. The residents are happy to sign an agreement which acknowledges that the PC is the owner of the two trees on their boundary. The PC needs to obtain advice from its solicitors over this plan.
- It was agreed that two benches would be installed. Councillor Cooke would sketch suggested locations and consult with the rest of the Councillors.

e) Mobile vehicle activated sign location and recording update

The sign will be reactivated once lockdown has ended as it requires two people to change the battery.

f) Progress on Rearsby Village news website

The site was proving to be a very successful addition to the village.

g) Progress on request replacement of damaged play surface on the children's play area

The Clerk had placed the order with Caloo to replace the safety surface on the two pieces of play equipment under the trees on the children's play park.

h) Progress on potential sources of grant aid

Councillor Kagure Brown had submitted an application for £3,900 towards the cost of repairing the safety surface on the children's play area, and potentially placing a cover over it.

i) Progress on speed checks in village

The police had reported the statistics from their recent speed check which did show some evidence of speeding along the 607. The Clerk was to check if they were intending to undertake a further speed check.

21/12 Police, County Councillor and Borough Councillors reports

a) County/Borough Councillor Report

Councillor Poland reported that-;

- CBC is intending to raise its share of the council tax by less than 9p a week for a band D property.
- The Covid pandemic has reduced CBC's income by around £900,000.
- LCC is increasing its share of council tax by 4.99 percent for a band D property.
- Investment in services for LCC include monies for children and family services, adult social care and environment and transport.

- Rapid testing for key workers for Covid is being rolled out. This is for key workers who have no symptoms and are not already isolating.
- The fairer funding campaign for LCC has been pushed back due to Covid.

b) Police Report and crime and safety in Rearsby

There had been no reported crime during January. A speed check had been undertaken on the Melton Road and it did show some speeding. The Clerk was to check if a further check was planned.

c) Village Warden Reports

Heritage Warden report

No report was made.

Tree Warden Report

No report was made.

Flood Warden report

A supply of sandbags had been received from CBC for vulnerable residents. Paul Matts, Flood Warden, had a couple of the boxes and the remainder had kindly been stored by the village hall.

Nature Warden report

No report was made.

e) Monthly risk assessment and village safety report

Councillor Cooke had undertaken the monthly risk assessment. Several items were noted-;

- The bin needed emptying by the half pipe. The Clerk would report this to CBC.
- It was noted that copies of the Rural Trader magazine appeared to have been dumped in the litter bins around the village. The Clerk was to report this to Pink Pages.
- It was noted that the pavement by the brook, opposite the school was eroding further. This had been reported before and LCC declined to undertake any repairs. But it seemed to be getting worse, so the Clerk would report this again to LCC.

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

No meeting had been held.

g) Finance (including cheques, balances and budgets)

The balance of the accounts on 31.1.21 is £22,551.47.

S Norledge - wages and expenses - £279.75

Derek Overfield – various jobs £44.77

Your Locale – NP, £1,200.00

Tree Assessments – planning permission conker field £100.00

The bank reconciliation to 31.1.21 was noted.

h) Issues arising from LRALC reports

There was nothing to report.

21/13 New Business

a) To look at potential locations for new benches in the village

It was agreed to purchase 4 new benches – two for the conker field and two for the village hall playing fields. If a member of the public wished to sponsor a bench, a charge of £500 would be involved and it would include the cost of installation and a commemorative plaque. The Clerk would pass this information onto the people who had previously contacted the PC.

The next meeting would consider locations that were not on PC owned land and would require a licence.

21/14 Planning

P/21/0065/20 20 Westfield Close, single storey extension

No comments were made.

P/21/0008/2 20 Grange Avenue, single storey rear/side extension

No comments were made.

21/15 Correspondence received that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

The PC had been contacted from a resident, expressing concern that a resident on William Everard Close was proposing to move their fence line into the grassed area on the track going down to the rail way line. It was unclear if this land was unregistered. However, the PC was concerned as this could result in the loss of open green space in the village. The Clerk was to see if the land was unregistered.

21/16 Chairman's report, including article for submission to Rearsby Scene

The Chairman's report would include warden vacancies, benches, Neighbourhood Plan and dog bag dispensers.

Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 4th March 2021 via zoom

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

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

Dated.....