

REARSBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council meeting held on Thursday 2nd September 2021 at 7.30 pm in Rearsby Village Hall

Public Forum

No comments were made.

Present

Councillor M Cooke (Chair)
Councillor A Higgins
Councillor Wills
Councillor Stone

In Attendance

Sue Norledge – Clerk
Borough/County Councillor Poland
PC Lacey
PC Johnson

21/55 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies were received from Councillor Byrne and Councillor Kagure Brown

21/63 To confirm minutes of meetings held on Thursday 1st July 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 1st July 2021 were agreed as true and accurate record.

21/64 Progress on outstanding items

a) Progress on items of essential repair and maintenance

- The Clerk was to report the damaged drain cover in the conker field to Burnt Oak for repair, as it would appear to have been damaged by the grass cutting.
- The safety surface that had been installed by Caloo was looking good. There was some separating of further areas of the safety surface that was undertaken by Playdale. As we found out previously, this work was not guaranteed. The PC may need to consider Caloo undertaking the same type of repairs on these areas. This would be very costly. This needs to be an agenda item at the next meeting.

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

- There was concern that further damage had been caused to the paint work on the brookside railings, by the mowing of the grass banks. The Clerk had spoken to Burnt Oak and they were to have a look at the damage.

c) Progress on the examination of Rearsby Neighbourhood Plan

The date for the referendum has been set at 28th October. This was being organised by CBC. Although the PC are not allowed to campaign for a particular result in the referendum, we would be allowed to publicise the fact that the referendum is taking place.

d) Progress on work within the conker field

- Councillor Cooke reported that Brooksby College were to supply an update shortly on plans for the spinney. It was also suggested that they be asked for ideas on where the 7 new conker trees should be planted.
- The plaques for the benches had been installed. It was felt that an additional two benches were needed. Ideas were sought for the location of these by the next meeting.
- It was suggested that we invite the sisters to see the new benches and take them out for tea afterwards.

e) Progress on purchase of 4 new benches in the village

It was felt that the best place for the bench on Bleakemoor would be the bottom end of the grassed area.. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to all residents who surround the grassed area for their comments.

The bench had been installed on the Village Hall playing fields near to the outdoor gym. A plaque in memory of Peter French had been placed on the bench.

f) Progress on plans for further benches

This was ongoing.

g) progress on tree planting plans for the village

The Clerk had chased up Forestry at LCC but no progress appears to have been made. The Clerk would forward the emails to Councillor Poland to see if he could find out what was happening with the request.

h) Mobile vehicle activated sign location and recording update

The sign was currently off and the Clerk was to check with Richard Metcalfe as to what was happening with the data.

i) Progress on Rearsby Village news website

The Clerk was to speak to 2Commune and ask them to redirect any queries to the old site to the new village website.

j) Progress on unregistered land off Mill Road

There was no further progress on the planning application – the applications that had been submitted were invalid due to further information being required. It was noted that the footpath sign appeared to have been damaged and the Clerk would report this to LCC.

k) Progress on fence at no 55 Station Road

The Clerk had emailed the residents of number 55 Station Road but had not received a response. It was agreed that a formal letter would be sent requesting the fence to be moved. If the fence was still not moved, then consideration would need to be given to consulting with a solicitor.

l) Progress on potential sources of grant aid

This would be progressed by Councillor Kagure Brown

m) Progress on speed checks in the village

The Police had undertaken some speed checks recently. The Clerk would see if the data was available yet.

n) Progress on village tranquillity and reflection garden

It was hoped that Brooksby College would be in touch soon to try and progress the designs. The Clerk has been chasing up CBC over any need for planning permission.

o) Progress on consideration of a mirror for the bottom of Church Lane

LCC highways would need to be consulted over the installation of a mirror on the highway. It was felt that perhaps this was not the best course of action. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to LCC and explain the issue that had arisen and see if they had any suggestions over action that could be taken.

p) Progress on ideas for Queen's 70th year anniversary

No suggestions had been received.

q) Progress on plans to improve the village hall playing fields

Councillor Kagure Brown was looking into sources of grant aid to improve the village hall playing fields. Suggestions for improvements included an outdoor table tennis table and a new grind rail.

r) Progress on internal auditors report 20/21

The Clerk was to look into the latest version of the Financial Guidelines to see if the current adopted ones needed any revision. There was also some work currently going on to revise the Code of Conduct.

21/65 Police, County Councillor and Borough Councillors reports

a) County/Borough Councillor Report

Councillor Poland reported that;-

- The Gladman application for 270 houses at the back of Rearsby Roses has been approved. It was queried at the meeting, if it would be possible for a new access to be installed directly onto the bypass.
- The ward boundary review has made a recommendation for Rearsby to be part of a new 3 member ward called the Wreake villages.
- Three new Covid Community vans have been launched. They will tour round parks, fairs ect and undertaken testing and give advice.
- The closing date for school place application is 15th January 2022.

b) Police Report and crime and safety in Rearsby

The police reported that there had been no reported crime during August. The Clerk was to write to confirm the recent instances of damage to play equipment in the village and also the discarded gas cannisters in the layby near to the allotments.

c) Village Warden Reports

Heritage Warden report

No report was made.

Tree Warden Report

It was noted that Dale Clarke had expressed an interest in filling the post of Tree Warden. He worked as a tree surgeon but was not able to attend the meeting due to illness.

Flood Warden report

No report was made.

Nature Warden report

No report had been received.

e) Monthly risk assessment and village safety report

Councillor Cooke had undertaken a risk assessment. Points of note;-

- The drain cover on the conker field was still loose – this had been covered earlier in the meeting.
- The safety surface was lifting in other areas of the children's play area. Again, this had been covered earlier in the meeting
- The goal posts on the children's play area near to Church Lane were becoming a little loose. This needed to be monitored.
- The unauthorised grind rails were still on the village hall playing fields. Now that there was a combination lock on the access to the field, it may be easier to get them removed. The Clerk would speak again to the scrap metal collector.
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f) Report back from Village Hall Committee meeting

Councillor Higgins had attended the latest meeting. Discussions were ongoing regarding installation of an air conditioning unit and the purchase of a new dishwasher.

g) Any issues from LRALC round robin

There was nothing further to report.

h) Finance (including cheques, balances and budgets)

The balance of the accounts on 31.8.21 was £10,540.24

S Norledge - wages and expenses x 2 –£688

DCK Accounting – payroll - £60.00

Burnt Oak – mowing £1320.00

Derek Overfield – various ££840.99

Glasdon – plaques £200.64

Knapster Landscapes – fixing benches £1611.60

The bank reconciliation to 31.8.21 was noted.

21/66 New Business

a) To agree items for submission to the Members Highways Fund

Suggestions made were;-

- Installation of new railings outside the conker field.
- Resurfacing of the raised footpath between Rearsby and Thrussington.
- Installation of a permanent vehicle activated speed sign on the Melton Road.

b) To agree the co opt option a new Councillor

It was resolved to co opt Hollie Stone as a new Councillor. Hollie was welcomed to the meeting and completed all the necessary paper work.

c) Appointment of a new tree warden

It was agreed to appoint Dale Clarke as the new Tree Warden.

21/67 Planning

There were no new valid planning applications.

21/68 Correspondence received that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

There was nothing further to add.

21/69 Chairman’s report, including article for submission to Rearsby Scene

Councillor Cooke will draft his report, including information about the NP referendum.

Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 7th October at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

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

Dated.....