

# REARSBY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a full Council meeting held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom**

## **Public Forum**

No comments were made.

## **Present**

Councillor M Cooke (Chair)  
Councillor K Wills  
Councillor Kagure Brown  
Councillor Metcalfe

## **In Attendance**

Sue Norledge – Clerk  
Borough/County Councillor Poland  
2 members of the public

## **21/25 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

Apologies were received from Councillor Byrne.

## **21/26 To confirm minutes of meetings held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were agreed as true and accurate record.

## **21/26 Progress on outstanding items**

### **a) Progress on items of essential repair and maintenance.**

- Western Power had removed 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 fence on the conker field side of the convent drive appeared to be leaning in towards the conker field. The Clerk would report this to the site manager.
- A request had been received to plant snowdrops on the brook banks and this request was agreed.

### **c) Progress on the draft Neighbourhood Plan**

It was agreed to accept the recommendation from CBC, for Andrew Matheson to be appointed the examiner for the Rearsby NP.

### **d) Progress on work within the conker field**

- The new sign has now been installed.
- It was agreed that Knapster Landscapes would install the new benches and would fit slabs at the front. Locations for further benches would be considered at the next meeting.
- Number 55 Station Road, have agreed to move their fence back so that the two conker trees are entirely in the conker field. It was suggested that maybe a hedge could be put in once the fence has been moved. This would be considered at the next meeting.

### **e) Progress on purchase of new benches in the village**

To be considered at the next meeting.

### **f) Mobile vehicle activated sign location and recording update**

The sign would be moved once lockdown eased.

**g) Progress on Rearsby Village news website**

The Clerk had received training on using the site.

**h) Progress on enforcement action over unregistered land to the rear of William Everard Close**

The PC had been disappointed to learn that the fence had been erected despite the PC making it clear at the last meeting that it did not support the proposed action. A letter was sent to the occupants requesting that they removed it, but this request had been rejected.

There were numerous concerns over the installation of the fence to try and claim ownership of unregistered land in the village. This land had been available for all the village to enjoy for many years. The erection of the fence was causing many issues, including denying longstanding vehicular access to neighbouring gardens and preventing large machinery using the area to reverse into so they could exit the onto Mill Lane facing forwards. There were also concerns over the damage to wildlife habitats.

Various options were being explored to prevent this action, including planning enforcement, seeking legal advice and writing to Severn Trent and British Rail.

**i) Progress on potential sources of grant aid**

Several Councillors had met at the top of the children's play area to look at the possibility of the creation of an orchard/communal garden. The area did have some potential and Councillor Cooke had written to Brooksby College to see if they may be interested in producing a design.

**j) Progress on speed checks in village**

No update had been received.

**21/27 Police, County Councillor and Borough Councillors reports**

**a) County/Borough Councillor Report**

**Support local shops online** Residents are being encouraged to support their local shops on a website which features local high street businesses in Charnwood as well as promoting Covid-19 safety measures. The Shop Safe, Shop Local in Charnwood website, commissioned by Charnwood Borough Council, continues to grow and be used by local businesses and shoppers. The site [shoplocal.charnwood.gov.uk](http://shoplocal.charnwood.gov.uk) offers residents the opportunity to support their local businesses from home and shop safely using delivery or click and collect options. So far, over 30 local businesses are live on the site either as a shop or with a link through to their website. From arts and crafts, wonderful homemade gifts, home and fashion, delicious food and drink and more, you can browse for your local favourites and buy all from one site.

**Lateral flow tests extended to all** Lateral flow test centres across Leicestershire have been opened up to all residents as lockdown restrictions start to ease across the country. The move means that anyone living or working in the county without symptoms can take a quick swab test at one of seven community test centres – until now, only people who had to leave home to work could book a slot. It's one of a number of measures being taken by Leicestershire County Council to help stem the spread of the virus as the rules relax. The council is also making home test kits available to anyone in regular contact with school-age children – kits can be collected from the community test centres - and pushing out messages across social media encouraging people to stay safe in parks and gardens if meeting up with friends and family.

**b) Police Report and crime and safety in Rearsby**

Councillor Cooke had reported some suspicious vehicles in the village during the evening. There had been recent problems with a low flying drone in the area.

**c) Village Warden Reports**

**Heritage Warden report**

No report was made.

**Tree Warden Report**

No report was made.

**Flood Warden report**

**Nature Warden report**

No report was made.

**e) Monthly risk assessment and village safety report**

Councillor Wills had undertaken the monthly risk assessment. The new play mats in the children's play area were a great improvement. There was still the ongoing problem of moles in the village hall playing fields.

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

No meeting had been held but the local elections were being held there on 8<sup>th</sup> May.

**g) Finance (including cheques, balances and budgets)**

The balance of the accounts on 31.3.21 was £21,496.13.

S Norledge - wages and expenses - £420.95

Caloo – repairs to safety surface - £3544.80

Shelly Signs – conker field - £1,914.0

CBC – bin emptying - £1,073.22

HMRC - £214.20

Derek Overfield – painting - £240.00

The bank reconciliation to 31.3.21 was noted.

**h) Issues arising from LRALC reports**

There was nothing of note to report.

**21/28 New Business**

**a) To report back on meeting with developers's agent of potential housing development on top of Gaddesby Lane**

The PC had attended a meeting with the developer's agents for the land at the top of Gaddesby Lane. They are looking at submitting an application for up to 60 houses which will include a proportion of affordable housing. They will shortly be sending out an information leaflet to all villagers to ask for initial comments. This will be followed by a formal application to CBC. The access for the site will be at the Melton Road/Gaddesby Lane junction. They intend to undertake some alterations to the junction with Melton Road to improve visibility.

The site is not included in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

The developers did offer a visit for Councillors to a similar rural housing site that the developer had worked on previously.

**21/29 Planning**

P/21/0616/2 2 Grange Avenue, erection of 2 storey rear and side extension

No comments were made.

**21/30 Correspondence received that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda.**

There was nothing further to add.

**21/31 Chairman’s report, including article for submission to Rearsby Scene**

This would include information about the land at the top of Gaddesby Lane and the land to the rear of 17 William Everard Close.

**Date and time of next meeting**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 Annual Parish Council meeting at 7.00 pm to be followed by the May PC meeting via zoom

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm

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

Dated.....