

## **REARSBY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of a full Council meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021 at 7.30 pm in Rearsby Village Hall**

#### **Public Forum**

A member of the public reported that a tree on the grass verge on the corner of Wreake Drive and Bleakmoor , appeared to have died. The Clerk would report this to LCC.

#### **Present**

Councillor M Cooke (Chair)  
Councillor K Wills  
Councillor A Higgins  
Councillor A Byrne

#### **In Attendance**

Sue Norledge – Clerk  
1 resident  
Borough/County Councillor

#### **21/47 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

Apologies were received from Councillor Kagure Brown and Councillor Metcalfe.

#### **21/48 To confirm minutes of meetings held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were agreed as true and accurate record.

It was agreed that the minutes from 1.4.21 and 4.3.21 would be amended to remove reference to a property address.

#### **21/49 Progress on outstanding items**

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

- Unfortunately, the scrap metal collector did not collect the grind rails from the village hall playing fields. There is an issue with access. It was resolved that the lock on the chain in the overflow car park would be replaced with a combination padlock. The Clerk would speak to Burnt Oak about this.
- The bolt on the children's play park had been repaired.
- The damage to the seven arch bridge had been repaired.

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

- It was resolved to ask Burnt Oak to cut back the growth on the footpath up to the conker field as it was obscuring the new hedging plants. The possibility of putting bark down to stop this happening was discussed. The Clerk would check with Burnt Oak.
- It was resolved to ask Burnt Oak to cut back the growth on the steps in the overflow car park in the village hall.

**c) Progress on the examination of Rearsby Neighbourhood Plan**

The examiner had forwarded some initial questions, and these had been answered with the help of Your Locale. It was resolved to approve expenditure of £1,500 for these costs.

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

- Councillor Cooke was meeting with Knapster Landscapes to discuss the fitting of the benches and the installation of steps up to the litter bins.
- Brooksby College have offered to undertake the upkeep of the spinney. It was resolved that that any branches that are cut down can be taken away by them.
- Some concern was expressed that the two trees still appeared to be in the garden with the property on Station Road. The owners had written to confirm that the work to move the fence had been undertaken. Councillor Cooke would visit the site to see what work had been undertaken.
- Although planning permission had been obtained for the work to the trees, the tree surgeon was talking to ecology about what work can be done before the birds have finished nesting.

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

It was agreed that a plaque would be put on one of the new benches in memory of Peter French.

The locations of the proposed new benches had been agreed at the previous meeting and were based on sites where residents walking in the village may like to stop and rest, one amendment was agreed.

A detailed plan needed to be developed of exactly where the benches were to be sited so that any affected residents could be written to. This needed to be done before a licence could be applied for from LCC.

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

The MVAS was still on Melton Road and was currently switched off.

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

The Clerk has kept on using the 2commune site as the internal auditor used it to check if the information required under the transparency code was in place.

The Clerk was to ask 2commune to redirect people to the new site.

**h) Progress on unregistered land off Mill Road**

There was nothing further to report at the current time.

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

It was hoped that an application could be put in for the establishment of a garden of village tranquillity and reflection at the top of the children's play area. A detailed plan would be needed first to enable this to proceed.

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

No further information had been received.

**k) Progress on consideration of request to use the village hall playing fields for a local football team**

The village hall was not able to offer the use of the village hall car park due to other bookings. The Clerk would contact the club and see if they still wanted to use the playing fields but without the use of parking facilities and pitch marking ect.

**i) Progress on annual parish meeting**

It was resolved to cancel this for this year due to health and safety issues regarding Covid.

**21/50 Police, County Councillor and Borough Councillors reports**

**a) County/Borough Councillor Report**

Councillor Poland reported that;-

**Charnwood Local Plan** Charnwood Borough Council is to consider sending the emerging Local Plan for Inspection at a Cabinet meeting on the 10th June and Full Council on 21st June. If approved, the latest draft of the Local Plan will go for a further round of public consultation in July and August.

There are no changes from the previous plan relating to Rearsby directly, the Plan still includes the following housing allocation to the village:

HA66: Land of Gaddesby Lane (47 homes)

Building trajectory

Year 2024/25 2025/26

Number of homes 25 22

The biggest change locally is the inclusion of 90 new homes in Thrussington (off Hoby Road and Old Gate Road). Beyond that, the allocation for East Goscote, Queniborough and Syston all remains as it was in the last draft.

New scheme launched to boost skills, training and employment

With the pandemic having changed the working lives of so many, Leicestershire County Council is launching a scheme to help residents get back on track, with help available to those seeking paid work or training for a new role. Work + is a free one-to-one service offering support, advice and information to people looking for secure paid employment the chance to learn new skills or to find out more about volunteering or becoming self-employed.

Work + is open to everyone – from those who have never been employed to those who have lost their jobs due to the pandemic, been furloughed or who are at risk of redundancy. It will also help college leavers, graduates and agency staff on zero hour or temporary contracts. Qualified personal advisers will offer impartial and professional advice to people from all backgrounds and support people on a one-to-one basis.

Appointments will initially be offered online due to the pandemic but later in the year face to face meetings will be held in local libraries and adult learning centres.

Everyone who signs up to the scheme will have the opportunity to have a tailored work plan drawn up for them, including clear targets and steps to achieve their goal. Help will be given with CV and letter writing skills, job searches, interview techniques and digital training, self-employment advice and business support.

The Work+ team will also work directly with employers who may be in the unfortunate position of making redundancies and want to support their staff to find new employment. To find out more or to register your interest contact the Work+ team on 0800 988 0308 or visit: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/jobs-and-volunteering/skills-for-jobs/work>

**New Mayor of Charnwood elected** A university professor has been chosen as the new Mayor of Charnwood. Cllr Paul Baines, Councillor for Anstey and professor at the University of Leicester, was sworn in as the 48th first citizen of the borough on Monday, 17th May, at the Council's Annual Meeting. Cllr Baines will be representing the borough over the next 12 months with the Mayoress, his wife Dr Ning Baines.

**New County Council Chairman** Councillor Dan Harrison, who represents the Ibstock and Appleby Division, was elected Chairman of the County Council at Council's Annual meeting on 19th May. Councillor Kevin Feltham, who represents Gartree, was elected Vice Chairman.

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

A written report had been supplied and there had been no reported crime in Rearsby during May.

The Clerk was to check if anything had been done about the various reports that had appeared about a suspicious red car in 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**

The Nature Warden had provided a written report;-

- Over the past few months there have been reports of deer being seen about the Bleakemoor Woods area. There are concerns that they are being forced to move areas due to levels of building.
- Several species of owl have been seen in the local area. Together with buzzards. Kestrels and red kites.
- There are several active badger sets.
- The egret is a regular visitor to the brook along with several ducks.
- There are quite a few hedgehogs around and it would be good if people could make their gardens a little more hedgehog friendly as numbers are declining.

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

Councillor Byrne had undertaken the monthly risk assessment. Items of note were-;

- There was some lifting of the new play mats on the children's area. The Clerk would report this to Caloo.
- One of the picnic tables on the children's play park had a loose plank. It was resolved to ask Derek to repair this.
- There was further damage to the packhorse bridge which would be reported to LCC by the Clerk.

**f) Report back from Village Hall Committee meeting**

No meeting had been held.

**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 30.4.21 was £22,511.46

S Norledge - wages and expenses - £315.38

Glasdon – benches - £2,381.42

Caloo - £0.80 balancing payment

DCK Accounting – payroll - £30.00

The bank reconciliation to 31.5.21 was noted.

**21/51 New Business**

**a) To approve the 20/21 Annual Audit**

1. The Annual Governance Statement for 20/21 was approved.
2. The Accounting statements for 20/21 was approved.
3. The Internal Auditors report was noted.

**b) To consider a village tranquillity and reflection garden**

- As reported earlier in the meeting Brooksby College was happy to work with the PC in designed and installing a village tranquillity and reflection garden.
- The Clerk was to check with CBC what the position was regarding planning for the proposal.
- There was further discussion on the possibility of further tree planting in the village. Suggested sites were the conker field, the area at the top of Gaddesby Lane, the brook bank for two more willows, a pocket orchard on the grass verge on Wreake Drive, the village hall playing fields south eastern boundary and the grass verge on Station Road. The Clerk would write to LCC to start the discussions over areas in the list owned by them.

**c) To discuss a post Covid coffee morning**

The possibility of proposed post Covid coffee morning was agreed for Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August. Councillor Cooke agreed to sort cakes and beverages for the morning and solicit the help of volunteers. It was resolved that the PC would set a budget of £600 aside for this.

**d) To consider the purchase of a grind rail for the village hall playing fields**

The Clerk had forwarded a quote for a new grind rail – the picture of the grind rail would be put onto the village website to see if there are any comments regarding its suitability.

**e) To approve the use of DCK accounting to administer the payroll**

It was resolved to appoint DCK Accounting to administer the PC payroll.

**21/52 Planning**

P/21/0954/2 2 Wreake Drive, single storey extension to side and rear

No comments were made.

P/21/0961/2 25 Church Leys Avenue, single storey extension to side and rear

No comments were made.

**21/53 Correspondence received that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda.**

There was nothing further to add.

**21/54 Chairman's report, including article for submission to Rearsby Scene**

The Chair would draft a report for submission to the Rearsby Scene.

**Date and time of next meeting**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm

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

Dated.....