

REARSBY PARISH COUNCIL

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

Public Forum

It was noted that work was still ongoing by Severn Trent to mend the broken sewer in the garden of 3 Station Road.

Present	Councillor M Cooke (Chair) Councillor A Higgins Councillor A Byrne Councillor K Wills Councillor Kagure Brown Councillor Metcalfe
In Attendance	Sue Norledge – Clerk PCSO Fiona Lacey

21/17 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies were received from Borough/County Councillor James Poland.

21/18 To confirm minutes of meetings held on Thursday 4th February 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th February 2021 were agreed as true and accurate record.

21/19 Progress on outstanding items

a) Progress on items of essential repair and maintenance.

- Work was progressing well on the three planters that had been adopted by villagers.
- Western Power had visited the box on the brook banks and were to report back to the clerk.
- The Clerk would order the dog bag dispensers for the conker field and the village hall playing field.
- It was felt that the springs on the gates in the conker field were not working properly and the Clerk was to ask Derek to come and tighten them up.

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

- Gaps in the tarmac on the raised footpath between Rearsby and Thrussington were becoming dangerously large. The Clerk would report this to LCC.
- The village sign on the way into the village from East Goscote appears to have damaged by a hedge cutter. The Clerk would report this to LCC.

c) Progress on the draft Neighbourhood Plan

The plan was now with CBC and the PC is waiting for information on the next steps with regulation 16 consultation.

d) Progress on work within the conker field

- The Clerk had chased up the Shelley Signs regarding the new sign. They had promised that it would be ready shortly. The Clerk would chase this up again.

- CBC had agreed to reimburse the PC for the cost of the bin that was not able to be emptied by CBC due to the distance. It was agreed that Councillor Kagure Brown would arrange for this bin to be emptied on a regular basis. It was also agreed to investigate the possibility of putting some steps in up to the litter bin at the Station Road end, as it was becoming quite slippery in the wet weather.
- There was a discussion around the fence at number 55 Station Road. The householder had requested that the fence remained where it was as due to the slope of the garden, removing it would result in them losing part of their garden. They had offered to sign a legally binding agreement that acknowledged that the trees were owned by the PC. The Clerk had consulted the PC solicitor, and this would be quite costly. It was also felt that the PC could not agree to allow PC owned land to become part of another property. Therefore, it was agreed that the Clerk would write and request that the fence was moved back so that the two conker trees were in the conker field.

e) Progress on purchase of new benches in the village

The two benches for the conker field and the two benches for the village hall playing fields had been agreed. A quote had been received from Derek Overfield for the installation of a concrete base and installation of the benches. Councillor Cooke was to obtain a second quote from Knapster Landscapes.

Various other potential locations for benches were discussed; -

- Station Road, near to the post box
- Bleakemoor Close,
- Corner of Grange Avenue,
- Near to the preaching stone
- The verge near to the allotments.

It was agreed that these locations would be put onto the rearsbvillagenews website to see what opinions villagers had. It was appreciated that these locations would need a licence from LCC for the installation of these benches of LCC land. The purchase would also need to be financed over a number of years.

There was a discussion around possible locations for new trees. Several possibilities were discussed; -

- A pocket orchard on Wreake Drive,
- The verge of Station Road
- The top of Gaddesby Lane.

It was agreed that the Clerk would contact LCC to see what their views were on planting trees at the top of Gaddesby Lane.

It was also agreed to plant the elm tree that had kindly been donated by East Goscote Nurseries on the village hall playing fields, to the right of the half pipe. The Clerk would ask Burnt Oak if they would be able to plant this. It was also agreed to ask for their suggestions as to locations for 5 new conker trees on the conker field.

f) Mobile vehicle activated sign location and recording update

It was still difficult to get the battery installed due to social distancing requirements.

It was agreed to see if Councillor Poland could get anyone from CBC to assist in this.

g) Progress on Rearsby Village news website

It was agreed to investigate the use of laminated posters around the village to publicise the site.

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

Calloo were to install the new play surface over the next two weeks. The Clerk was to double check with them, if they felt the park needed to be closed whilst the work took place.

i) Progress on potential sources of grant aid

Councillor Kagure Brown reported that unfortunately the grant application for the children's play area safety surface had been unsuccessful. She was now looking at possible applications to the Awards for All Lottery grants. Potential projects for this could be some form of disabled access to the village hall playing fields or a community garden area at the top of children's play park. It was agreed that available councillors would meet at the top of the children's play park to look at potential sites on Friday 12th at 4.15 pm.

j) Progress on speed checks in village

This was covered later in the agenda under the Police report.

k) Progress on adoption of planters

Three volunteers had kindly come forward to maintain the three planters. The one at the bottom of Wreake Drive had been painted and planted up and was looking very good.

21/20 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

PCSO Fiona Lacey attended the meeting and reported that there had been no reported crime during February. They were hoping to undertake a further speed check shortly. It was suggested that they try and stand between the two pubs as this was often where vehicles appeared to speed up.

c) Village Warden Reports

Heritage Warden report

No report was made.

Tree Warden Report

No report was made.

Flood Warden report

A ladder had appeared in the brook and the Flood Warden, Paul Matts had kindly removed it.

Nature Warden report

No report was made.

e) Monthly risk assessment and village safety report

Councillor Metcalfe had undertaken a risk assessment report and there was nothing of note to add this month.

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 28.2.21 was £20,926.95.

S Norledge - wages and expenses - £279.5

Burnt Oak – mowing, £660.00

Glasdon – litter bins, £964.87

LRALC – training, £80.00

The bank reconciliation to 28.2.21 was noted.

h) Issues arising from LRALC reports

There was nothing to report.

21/21 New Business

a) To agree the date for the Annual Parish Council Meeting

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Council meeting would take place on 6th May at 7.00 pm before the May Parish Council meeting.

b) To discuss the unregistered land at the rear of William Everard Close

The Parish Council had become aware of the plans by a resident, to extend their boundary into an area of land at the rear of their property along the footpath/track down to the train track/Severn Trent pumping station. The resident had come along to the meeting to outline their proposals.

They had undertaken searches of the land registry to see who owned this land, but it appeared to be unregistered land. They therefore intended to move their boundary fence to take possession of this land.

The Parish Council expressed its concerns over this proposal, mainly due to the fact that it is currently open green space that can currently be enjoyed by all village residents and made it clear that the Parish Council could not support such a proposal. The Parish Council is very keen to protect the green open spaces in the village. It could also set a precedent for other areas of unregistered land in the village to be similarly claimed.

It was suggested to the resident that there may be other residents in the village who did not have access to green space who may like to be given the opportunity to claim such an area.

The Clerk reported that the PC did not appear to have any powers to directly stop this. but it had been recommended to see the assistance of Charnwood Borough Council. If the residents did undertake possession of this land, it was agreed that the PC would approach CBC for its help in this matter.

21/22 Planning

P/21/0212/2 27 Brookside, single storey rear extension

No comments were made on this application.

P/20/2383/2 outline planning permission for 270 houses on land off Melton Road, Gladman Developments

It was agreed to object to this. Councillor Byrne had drafted a reply and the Clerk would forward this to CBC by the 24th March 2021.

21/23 Correspondence received that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

The clerk reported that unfortunately the Lord Lieutenants Young Persons award has been cancelled for this year. But the nomination of Ed Offer for his hard work in litter picking around the village will be carried forward into next year.

It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain some litter picking sticks for use of villagers. The Chair confirmed that a second, person Luke Carroll was also doing a weekly litter pick for their DofE award.

21/24 Chairman’s report, including article for submission to Rearsby Scene

It was agreed that this would include information about the new proposals for sites for new benches and tree planting.

Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 1st April 2021 via zoom

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

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

Dated.....