

REARSBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council meeting held on Thursday 2nd March 2023 at 7.30 pm in Rearsby Village Hall

Public Forum

There were discussions around the future of the spinney at the top of New Avenue. The current tenant had enquired about its future in view of the planning application. Until the planning application had been decided and any subsequent sale, there was no further information available.

Present

Councillor M Cooke – Chair
Councillor Byrne – Vice Chair
Councillor A Higgins
Councillor K Wills

In Attendance

Sue Norledge – Clerk
3 members of the public

23/18 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Kagure Brown, Councillor Stone and Borough/County Councillor Poland. These apologies were accepted.

23/19 To confirm minutes of meetings held on Thursday 2nd February 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd February 2023 were agreed as true and accurate record.

23/20 Progress on outstanding items

a) Progress on essential items of repair and maintenance

- Burnt Oak had provided a quote of £200 to prune back the various overgrown trees on the children's play park. This quote was agreed. The Clerk was to check that the plum tree does not need to be left until the summer.
- Burnt Oak had also suggested that the hedge of the right hand side next to the footpath would benefit from being laid. There was some concern that this was the area that the children played in, so this would be looked at again. It was also agreed to cut back an ash tree branch that was overhanging the garden of a neighbour on Station Road.
- A neighbour on Church Leys Avenue was concerned that some branches and bushes were overhanging their garden. Burnt Oak would deal with the overhanging branches for a cost of £40.00. This was agreed.
- LCC had reported back concerning the property on Melton Road that had extended their property boundary onto the LCC Highways grass verge. The option of the householder seeking a licence for this work was being investigated. It was agreed that the Clerk would reply to say that the PC was concerned that if this was allowed, it would set a precedent for other householders to extend their boundaries onto the grass verges.

- The Clerk was to arrange for a padlock to be put on the wooden gate into the conker field from the area of land retained by the developer. This was to stop direct vehicular access onto the conker field.

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

There was nothing new to report.

c) Any updates from Rearsby Social Committee

The Committee had asked for a dedicated page on the Rearsby Village News website. Councillors Wills agreed to progress this.

The Committee had approached the PC with a suggestion of a pétanque area on the village hall playing fields. The Clerk was to request further information including location, costs and maintenance/operation requirements. This would be discussed again at the next meeting.

d) Mobile vehicle activated sign location and recording update. Including new MVAS

It was agreed that the clerk would contact Westcotec and order a new battery and see if this was the problem with getting the MVAS working.

e) Progress on requests for section 106 contributions from planning application P/22/1168.2 land at top of Gaddesby Lane

There was nothing further to report.

f) Progress on unregistered land off Mill Road

This issue was still being progressed by Charnwood Borough Council.

g) Progress on potential sources of grant aid

Councillor Kagure Brown has started to look at sources of grant aid for the disabled access to the village hall playing fields project.

h) Progress on discussions around disabled access for the village hall playing fields

It was noted that an approach was being made to the Village Hall Committee for a contribution towards the cost of the project.

i) Progress on looking at joint working on large scale planning applications in the area

Martin Field reported that he had expressions of interest in joint working from Queniborough and Rearsby. He was to come back to the June meeting with some tangible ideas to move forward.

j) Progress on defibrillator training

This had been arranged for 11th May 1800 – 1900 in the village hall. This would be publicised nearer the date.

There were some discussions around the location of the defibrillator. Consideration may need to be given to moving it as it was not really in a central spot in the village. Alternatively, consideration could be given to the purchase of an additional defibrillator.

k) Progress on request for a meeting with the Environment Agency

The Clerk had been chasing up the Environment Agency with the request for a site meeting with themselves and villagers. The contact centre at the Nottingham office had said that a decision should be made by 6th March.

g) Progress on discussions around the Kings Coronation

It was agreed that the Clerk would buy some more union jack bunting for the village sign. It may be that additional bunting was needed for the brookside railings. The Clerk would check with Councillor Stone if we needed to buy anymore.

23/21 Police, County Councillor and Borough Councillors reports

a) County/Borough Councillor Report

Councillor Poland reported that-;

- The Council is taking action to tackle fly tipping and poor dog control. Nine fines totalling £3,000 have been issued over the past 3 months.
- The County Council has set a budget that delivers major investment for vulnerable people. There is a 4.99% increase in Council Tax.
- The County Council has received £63k of funding to take net zero plans forward.
- A new searchable website based map which allows people to search whether trees are covered by a tree preservation order before carrying out any work, has been developed by the County Council.

b) Police Report and crime and safety in Rearsby

No report was made. The Clerk was to contact the Police to ask for a monthly update.

c) Village Warden Report/Heritage Warden report

It was agreed that the Clerk would ask Burnt Oak if they think that the new horse chestnut trees in the conker field need to be watered.

Tree Warden Report

There was nothing else to add.

Flood Warden report

This had been covered earlier in the meeting.

Nature Warden report

As agreed at a previous meeting, the nature boxes had been constructed at a cost of £56.00 and would be fitted later in the month subject to the weather.

e) Monthly risk assessment and village safety report

Councillor Wills had undertaken a risk assessment. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask Derek Overfield to look at the gate in the children's play area as it was not shutting properly.

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 28.2.23 was £17,899.46

S Norledge - wages and expenses – £364.64

DCK Accounting – payroll - £12.00

Burnt Oak – tree planting £237.00

Glasdon – plaque £136.67

Derek Overfield – maintenance £48.00

Martin Cooke – nature boxes £56.00

The bank reconciliation to 28.2.23 was noted.

23/22 New Business

a) To note the arrangements for the Parish Council elections of 4th May 23

Nomination papers will need to be submitted by 4th April and must be hand delivered to Charnwood Borough Council. If more than 6 nominations are received there will be a contested election. The date of the PC Annual Meeting will be on Thursday 18th May,

b)To discuss bank signatories

It was agreed to add Councillor Higgins to the bank mandate as there would only be one remaining signatory after the elections.

23/23 Planning

P/23/0133/2 24 Bleakmoor, ground floor and first floor extensions

No comments were made on this application.

23/24Correspondence received that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

There was nothing further to report.

23/25Chairman’s report, including article for submission to Rearsby Scene

The Chairman would produce his report for the Rearsby Scene. Councillor Cooke remarked that litter picks were being undertaken in the village by young people and thanks were given for their hard work.

Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 6th April 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.48 pm

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

Dated.....