

RATTLESDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the full Council held on 25 September 2018 at 7.30pm in Rattlesden Village Hall

Present: Cllr Kerry Burn (Chairman), Cllr Peter Brooke,
Cllr Bridget Goodchild, Cllr Dan Jewers and Cllr Russell Morley.

In Attendance: County and District Cllr Penny Otton;
Two members of the public; and
Parish Clerk: Doug Reed.

2018/054 Apologies for Absence

Accepted from Cllr Julie Rayner who was on holiday.

2018/055 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Goodchild declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in agenda item 7.2 (minute 2018/060.2) as a potential recipient of expenses from Council funds.

2018/056 Minutes of the Last Parish Council Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr Morley, seconded by Cllr Brooke, that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 31 July, be signed as a true record. The proposal was carried.

2018/057 District and County Councillor Report

Cllr Otton presented her report, as circulated previously. She highlighted a meeting with the new chief executive at the County Council in which the poor performance of Suffolk Highways was the focus and concerns that the recycling rates in Suffolk had dropped from 51% to 47% in recent years

2018/058 Public Comment and Questions

A resident reported that the reinstatement of the seating in the Rising Sun Hill bus shelter had been delayed but would be undertaken at the earliest.

2018/059 Planning

059.1 Applications: There were no new planning applications for the Council to consider.

059.2 Applications - Responses: There were no applications which had had to be considered in advance of the meeting because of their deadlines.

059.3 Decisions: It was noted that application DC/18/02666 Marlborough House, Poy Street Green had been granted.

059.4 Appeals: APP/W3520/D/18/3196862 and

APP/W3520/Y/18/3196871 both concerned Barkers Farm, Brettenham Road and decisions by Mid Suffolk District Council to refuse, respectively, the application for the erection of a one and a half-storey rear extension and demolition of existing single-storey lean-to extension; and Listed Building Consent. In response to the original applications the Council had no objections. That position was confirmed as still obtaining.

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2018/060 Finance

060.1 Financial Report: The report to 31 August was received. It was noted that the TSB current account stood at £5,361.96 and the deposit account at £13,510.70 further to which it was proposed by Cllr Burn, seconded by Cllr Morley, that the reconciliation be approved and duly signed. The proposal was carried.

060.2 Payments and Income: It was proposed by Cllr Morley, seconded by Cllr Brooke, that the schedule of payments be approved. The proposal was carried. The schedule comprised the following:

- ◆ Litter-picker: salary (September) - £151.35;
- ◆ Clerk: salary (September) - £336.42;
- ◆ HMRC: PAYE (September) - £84.00;
- ◆ Mr Roger Heard: 447th Bomb Group Memorial grass-cutting - £120.00 (Section 137 expenditure);
- ◆ The Felsham Gardeners: Cemetery grass-cutting - £200.00;
- ◆ Rattlesden Village Hall Committee: village hall hire - £30.00; and
- ◆ Cllr Goodchild: World War I commemoration expenses - £65.00 (Section 137 expenditure).

It was also resolved that the Council should grant £500.00 to Rattlesden Community Council towards the refurbishment of the flooring in the Pavilion (Section 137 expenditure).

Income received was duly noted as follows:

- ◆ TSB: business (deposit) account interest (August) - £0.58;
- ◆ Mid Suffolk District Council: precept (part 2) - £6,295.00;
- ◆ HMRC: 2017-2018 VAT refund - £1,554.41;
- ◆ Andrew Bingham Independent Funeral Service: Cemetery fees - £100.00; and
- ◆ Mid Suffolk District Council: cleansing grant (April-June) - £204.10.

060.3 Section 106 Funding: A report was received on the recent meeting with officers from Mid Suffolk District Council over promised funding which was subsequently withdrawn without the knowledge of the Parish Council. It was acknowledged by the District Council that matters had not been handled as they should have been and a commitment was made to provide the Parish Council with a higher percentage of extra funding than usual against any future project. The Clerk was asked to seek full clarification on the precise details of that commitment.

2018/061 Working Group Reports

061.1 Housing Development: The Group had not yet met but would do so once further information about proposed developments was to hand.

061.2 Finance and Development: This Group reported on a meeting which had focused on village assets and their maintenance plus potential improvements to the same. It was keen to look ahead and to engage with organisations and bodies currently managing facilities. It was agreed that information about likely funding available would enable a better understanding of what might be able to be achieved.

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- 2018/062 Kerbing**
Of the four written quotations received for completing the kerbing of the grass area in Birds Green and the whole of Cemetery Green (including a lay-by) it was agreed that the costs put forward by A.E.White Surfacing Limited in the sum of £620.00 plus VAT and £6,106.00 plus VAT respectively were acceptable. It was proposed by Cllr Morley, seconded by Cllr Burn, that the work to Birds Green go ahead. The proposal was carried. Regarding Cemetery Green, it was suggested that residents be given a further opportunity to comment and that details should be included in the next issue of "Revelations". The work was also subject to the confirmed agreement of Suffolk Highways which had yet to be obtained formally.
- 2018/063 Casual Vacancy**
It was resolved that Mr Tony Edwards be co-opted to serve on the Council until the next elections in 2019.
- 2018/064 Correspondence**
There were no issues arising from the list of correspondence.
- 2018/065 Parish Clerk's Report**
The Clerk's report was noted. There were no matters arising.
- 2018/066 Council Governance**
066.1 New Legislation, Codes or Regulatory Issues: None.
066.2 Risk Register, Policies and Internal Controls: There were no decisions or actions which impacted upon the Council risk register, policies or internal controls.
- 2018/067 Matters to be Brought to the Attention of the Council**
Further to the pre-existing Council commitment to mark the 100th anniversary of the cessation of hostilities in World War I by planting trees to commemorate those from the village who died on the battlefield it was resolved that a budget of up to £750.00 be made available to Cllr Jewers to acquire appropriately-sized oak trees. It was also resolved that up to £100.00 be offered towards the major village on the same theme event being co-ordinated by Revd Robinson.
- 2018/068 Next Meeting**
It was noted that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council would be held on Tuesday 30 October at 7.30pm in Rattlesden Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.