

RATTLESDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the full Council held on 26 July 2016 at 7.30pm in Rattlesden Village Hall

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

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

2016/042 Meeting Chairman

In the absence of both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman it was proposed by Cllr Goodchild, seconded by Cllr Jewers, that Cllr Morley be elected Chairman for the meeting. The proposal was carried.

2016/043 Apologies for Absence

Accepted from Cllr Kerry Burn who was absent due to work commitments and Cllr Julie Rayner who was unwell.

2016/044 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Goodchild declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in agenda item 6.4 (minute 2016/048.4) as it was possible that a family member might be involved in the submission of a site for the Babergh District Council and Mid Suffolk District Council Joint Local Plan.

2016/045 Minutes of the Last Parish Council Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr Brooke, seconded by Cllr Goodchild, that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 28 June, be signed as a true record. The proposal was carried.

2016/046 The meeting was adjourned for reports from external bodies and for public comment and questions:

046.1 District and County Councillor: Cllr Otton presented a detailed report which had been circulated previously. She commended Thurston Community College on being selected to receive a banner celebrating the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta (one of just 18 nationally and the only secondary school to be selected); was continuing to press for the reversal of a vital but negative decision affecting the use of bus passes; and pushing for the reinstatement of prescription deliveries to the Community Shop from Woolpit Health Centre.

046.2 Public Discussion: The Chairman of the Rattlesden Village Charity, Mr Brian Balaam, noted that the organisation needed reinvigorating and that he was standing down after over 30 years in the role. He felt that the Parish Council was best-placed to instil new life into the body. On behalf of all in the village, he was thanked for his tremendous work over the years. Gardening Club concerns about the removal of the bollards on Cemetery Green and the potential impact upon the flowers located there were acknowledged. It was noted that the situation was under on-going review. Regarding the missing curb near the 'Whalebones Bridge', Cllr Otton kindly

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offered to pursue the matter with the County Council. The River Working Group needed to find a new location for burning waste and, having identified a likely site, asked for some guidance. Cllr Jewers volunteered to explore the position with the landowner. Finally, concern was expressed about mud and mess being left on footpaths following flooding opposite the Post Office. Cllr Otton again kindly stepped in to offer her help and would report back in due course.

Meeting resumed:

2016/047 Parish Clerk's Report

There was no report as such given that business since the last Council meeting had been focused on on-going matters.

2016/048 Planning

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

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

048.3 Decisions: It was noted that application 2280/16 concerning Fen Farm, High Town Green had been granted.

048.4 Babergh District Council and Mid Suffolk District Council Joint Local Plan - Call for Sites 2016: *Cllr Goodchild left the meeting for this item.*

Having considered the possibility of submitting land for development and other uses within the new Joint Local Plan, the Council resolved that there were no appropriate sites.

2016/049 Finance

049.1 Financial Report: The report to 30 June was received. It was proposed by Cllr Jewers, seconded by Cllr Brooke, that the reconciliation be approved and duly signed. The proposal was carried.

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

- ◆ Litter-picker salary (July) - £139.18;
- ◆ Litter-picker salary (August) - £139.18;
- ◆ Clerk salary (July) - £290.11;
- ◆ PAYE (July) - £72.60;
- ◆ Clerk salary (August) - £290.11;
- ◆ PAYE (August) - £72.60;
- ◆ The Felsham Gardeners - cemetery grass-cutting - £190.00;
- ◆ Rattlesden Village Hall Committee - village hall hire - £22.50;
- ◆ Mr Roger Heard - 447th Bomber Group Memorial grass-cutting - £63.75;
- ◆ Anglian Water - cemetery water - £14.39;
- ◆ Clerk - reimbursement of Council e-mail repair costs - £20.42; and
- ◆ Ashtons Legal - Cemetery extension legal fees - £750.00 + £150.00 VAT.

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In addition, it was proposed by Cllr Jewers, seconded by Cllr Goodchild, that a Section 137 (Local Government Act 1972) payment of £160.46 be made to Mr David Goodlad who had paid for the paint and materials needed to redecorate the railings in Lower Road. The proposal was carried. Income received was duly noted as follows:

- ◆ Business account interest (July) - £0.88.

049.3 Internal Audit 2015-2016: Both the letter and report from Mr Graham Reid, internal auditor, had been circulated to councillors before the meeting. The Council noted and welcomed the actions already taken in response to the comprehensive and informative findings and resolved unanimously to accept and implement all the recommendations put forward. It was noted that, in due course, the Chairman, Finance Councillor and Clerk would seek a meeting with Mr Reid to discuss the Council response to the recommendations. Meanwhile, the Clerk would convey the formal thanks of the Council to Mr Reid for his excellent and detailed work.

2016/050 Council Governance

050.1 New Legislation, Codes or Regulatory Issues: None.

050.2 Risk Register, Policies and Internal Controls: There were no decisions or actions which impacted upon the Council risk register, policies or internal controls.

2016/051 Correspondence

There were no issues arising from the list of correspondence although it was agreed that residents in Birds Green be sent a letter of thanks for their work in cutting the Green and maintaining the look of the grass in that area.

2016/052 Casual Vacancy

Following the resignation of Cllr Esther Jewson it was noted that the casual vacancy generated had been advertised but that the deadline for residents to call an election did not expire until 2 August. Accordingly, the Council could not take further action, if needed, until the next meeting.

2016/053 Signs - Church Path

It was resolved that, under Section 137 (Local Government Act 1972), a sign denoting Church Path be purchased at a total cost of £140.00 plus VAT and installation costs, to be sited at the Lower Road end of Church Path. The proposal was carried.

2016/054 Matters to be Brought to the Attention of the Council

None.

2016/055 Next Meeting

It was noted that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council would be held on Tuesday 27 September at 7.30pm in Rattlesden Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.19pm.