

RATTLESDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the full Council held on 26 March 2019 at 7.30pm in Rattlesden Village Hall

Present: Cllr Kerry Burn (Chairman), Cllr Peter Brooke, Cllr Tony Edwards, 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.

2018/129 Apologies for Absence
None.

2018/130 Declarations of Interest
None.

2018/131 Minutes of the Last Parish Council Meeting
It was proposed by Cllr Brooke, seconded by Cllr Edwards, that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 26 February, be signed as a true record. The proposal was carried.

2018/132 District and County Councillor Report
Cllr Otton presented her report, as circulated previously. She expressed her concerns over a County Council report into housing growth which failed to discuss adequately the major issues at stake; concerns, too, that eligible families would now be required to 'opt in' to receive free school transport rather than be registered automatically; and noted the inadequacies of the support available to children with special needs as highlighted by Ofsted. Regarding Mid Suffolk District Council she voiced her disappointment at its refusal to grant planning permission for new signs for the Community Shop.

2018/133 Public Comment and Questions
Further to matters raised by the co-ordinator of the River Working Group the Council resolved to provide £300.00 to support the work of that Group. The Chairman of the Community Council sought permission for a sign in Birds Green directing people to the Pavilion which the Parish Council was pleased to grant; concerns about the car park at the Pavilion being used regularly by residents which then precluded its availability to hirers and contractors; and noted that the annual bonfire night was under threat given that the safety of those attending on foot, particularly via Lower Road, was being placed at risk by irresponsible drivers. A final matter for the attention of councillors related to on-going problems with HGVs, commercial vehicle traffic and speeding cars causing property damage and heightening safety worries. The Council agreed to log incidents to enable pressure to be maintained on Suffolk Highways towards seeking remedial action.

2018/134 Planning
134.1 Applications: There were no new planning applications for the Council to consider.

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134.2 Applications - Responses: Given a deadline in advance of the meeting, councillors had necessarily considered application DC/19/01083 Townfield, Baby Lane - erection of a polytunnel. The Council had no objection.

134.3 Decisions: It was noted that application DC/18/00844 St Nicholas Close (Shop) had been refused.

2018/135 Finance

135.1 Financial Report: The report to 28 February was received. It was noted that the TSB current account stood at £15,559.52 and the deposit account at £13,551.46 further to which it was proposed by Cllr Morley, seconded by Cllr Burn, that the reconciliation be approved and duly signed. The proposal was carried.

135.2 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 (March) - £151.35;
- ◆ Clerk: salary (March) - £336.22;
- ◆ HMRC: PAYE (March) - £84.20;
- ◆ Sunshine Survey Limited: Cemetery topographical survey - £450.00 + £90.00 VAT;
- ◆ Mid Suffolk District Council: Cemetery garden waste service - £50.00;
- ◆ Information Commissioner: data protection registration renewal - £40.00; and
- ◆ Clerk: administrative expenses - £46.10.

Income received was duly noted as follows:

- ◆ TSB: business (deposit) account interest (March) - £10.35; and
- ◆ Mid Suffolk District Council: recycling grant (August-January) - £256.70.

2018/136 Working Group Reports

136.1 Housing Development: The Group had not met since the last Council meeting. The outcome of the meeting with representatives from Hartog Hutton Ltd regarding the housing development on land adjacent to Roman Rise had been circulated to councillors for future discussion.

136.2 Finance and Development: The Group had not met recently but a meeting with the Chairman of the Community Council had been arranged for Tuesday 16 April at 7.00pm.

2018/137 Birds Green

Whilst sympathetic to the suggestion that a bench be purchased for the grass area in Birds Green it was felt that there was no obvious need for seating but councillors agreed to keep the proposal under review and to reconsider the position should sufficient demand be forthcoming.

2018/138 Waste Bins

In the light of the overwhelming use of the newly-installed dog bin at the Playing Field it was resolved that a second such bin be purchased. Also that a litter bin be acquired for the site.

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- 2018/139 Bottle Bank**
It was noted that there had been further fly-tipping at the centre. Accordingly, and not least in response to a suggestion put forward by a concerned resident, it was resolved to purchase signs to emphasise to those using the facility that it was for the recycling of bottles only.
- 2018/140 Council Assets**
Having completed their inspections of Council assets councillors reviewed the results and agreed that some remedial action was needed to the millennium arbour, the bottle bank screening, the bus shelter in Lower Road and Council-owned noticeboards. The Clerk would arrange for a quotation for the works for discussion at the next meeting.
- 2018/141 Council Governance**
141.1 New Legislation, Codes or Regulatory Issues: None.
142.2 Risk Register, Policies and Internal Controls: There were no decisions or actions which impacted upon the Council risk register, policies or internal controls.
- 2018/142 Correspondence**
There were no issues arising from the list of correspondence.
- 2018/143 Matters to be Brought to the Attention of the Council**
Details of the memorial plaque and sign proposed for the Cemetery had been circulated prior to the meeting together with the costs. It was resolved that these were acceptable and the Clerk asked to effect the orders.
- 2018/144 Next Meeting**
It was noted that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council would be held on Tuesday 30 April at 6.45pm in Rattlesden Village Hall.
- 2018/145 Motion to Exclude the Press and Public**
It was resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the final agenda item on the grounds that, while the decision was of public interest and would need to be recorded formally, the discussion leading to that decision would be likely to involve personal data which it was not in the public interest to disclose and which needed to be properly safeguarded on behalf of the individual concerned.
- 2018/146 Parish Clerk**
The Parish Clerk left the meeting for this item.
As required by the contract of employment, the Council conducted the annual review of the salary of the post-holder following which it was agreed that, with effect from 1 April, the rate be increased to £13.15 per hour (NJC scale LC2 - spinal column point 27).

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.