

RATTLESDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the full Council held on 14 May 2019 at 7.30pm in Rattlesden Village Hall

Approved 25.06.19 (Minute 2019/033 refers)

Present: Cllr Kerry Burn (Chairman), Cllr Peter Brooke, Cllr Tony Edwards,
Cllr Dan Jewers, Cllr Russell Morley and Cllr Julie Rayner.

In Attendance: Two members of the public; and
Parish Clerk: Doug Reed.

2019/013 Election of Chairman

It was proposed by Cllr Morley, seconded by Cllr Jewers, that Cllr Burn be elected Chairman for the coming year. The proposal was carried.

2019/014 Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr Burn duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman.

2019/015 Election of Vice-Chairman

It was proposed by Cllr Morley, seconded by Cllr Brooke, that Cllr Rayner be elected Vice-Chairman for the coming year. The proposal was carried.

2019/016 Apologies for Absence

None.

2019/017 Declarations of Interest

None.

2019/018 Minutes of the Last Parish Council Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr Jewers, seconded by Cllr Morley, that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 30 April, be signed as true record. The proposal was carried.

2019/019 Appointments to External Bodies

It was resolved that Mrs Bridget Goodchild be asked to continue to represent the Council on the Rattlesden Village Hall Management Committee and that Cllr Brooke continue to be the Council representative on the Airfield Liaison Group. .

2019/020 Council Officers

020.1 Tree Officer: It was proposed by Cllr Morley, seconded by Cllr Burn, that Mrs Carol Williamson be the Council Tree Officer for 2019-2020. The proposal was carried.

020.2 Footpath Officer: It was proposed by Cllr Morley, seconded by Cllr Burn, that Mrs Gaye Reid be the Council Footpaths Officer for 2019-2020. The proposal was carried.

020.3 Finance Councillor: It was proposed by Cllr Jewers, seconded by Cllr Burn, that Cllr Morley be the Finance Councillor. The proposal was carried.

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2019/021 District and County Councillor Report

Cllr Otton had sent apologies for absence. Her report had been circulated previously.

2019/022 Public Comment and Questions

Two residents addressed the meeting to, respectively, raise concerns about the kerbing at Cemetery Green and potential problems with the river and its banks, especially the stretch running alongside the Playing Field. Councillors explained the current position and thinking in relation to the former. Regarding the river, it was agreed that the co-ordinator of the River Working Group be asked for his views and whether he thought that the Environment Agency should be made aware.

2019/023 Finance

023.1 Financial Report: The report to 30 April was received. It was noted that the TSB current account stood at £19,495.70 and the deposit account at £13,573.28 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.

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

- ◆ Litter-picker: salary (May) - £158.70;
- ◆ Clerk: salary (May) - £368.25;
- ◆ HMRC: PAYE (May) - £92.00;
- ◆ The Felsham Gardeners: Cemetery grass-cutting - £400.00;
- ◆ The Felsham Gardeners: village grass-cutting - £100.00;
- ◆ Rattlesden Village Hall Committee: village hall hire - £40.00; and
- ◆ Community Heartbeat Trust: defibrillator pads - £45.00 + £9.00 VAT (Section 137 expenditure).

Income received was duly noted as follows:

- ◆ TSB: business (deposit) account interest (May) - £11.11; and
- ◆ HMRC: 2018-2019 VAT refund - £411.32.

023.3 Cemetery Green Planting: Councillors acknowledged the request for further funding of £300.00 for the planting of bulbs at Cemetery Green but felt that, until the kerbing had been installed satisfactorily, the decision on granting the request should be deferred.

2019/024 Planning

024.1 Applications:

DC/19/02138 land adjacent to 12 and 13 St Nicholas Close - erection of six dwellings. This application was further to outline planning application 4044/16 to which the Council had objected. It was noted that Council concerns had not been addressed fully. Accordingly, it was resolved that the Council would not only object on the same grounds but also emphasise that other housing developments since the original application had only served to compound matters regarding traffic movements, the access and overdevelopment.

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

024.3 Decisions: It was noted that applications DC/19/01083 Townfield, Baby Lane and DC19/01830 4 Rectory Meadow had been granted.

2019/025 Working Group Reports

025.1 Housing Development: The Group had not met since the last Council meeting.

025.2 Finance and Development: The Group had not met since the last Council meeting.

2019/026 Woolpit Health Centre

A resident had made it known that the free bus service to the Centre had ceased and, likewise, the dedicated surgery time on Friday mornings. Following the matter being queried with the Health Centre, a response had been received from the Practice Manager which confirmed that the bus service was majorly underused and had, indeed, ceased operating. It was suggested that, if numbers were minimal, the Centre might consider funding a taxi service or similar, The Clerk would contact the Centre to explore any options in that regard.

2019/027 Council Governance

027.1 New Legislation, Codes or Regulatory Issues: None.

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

2019/028 Correspondence

None.

2019/029 Matters to be Brought to the Attention of the Council

None.

2019/030 Next Meeting

It was noted that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council would be held on Tuesday 25 June at 7.30pm in Rattlesden Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.