

RATTLESDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the full Council held on-line
(via the Zoom video conferencing facility)
on 29 September 2020 at 7.00pm in the absence of a public Ordinary Meeting
which could not be convened due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
*Approved 27.10.20 (Minute 2020/046 refers)***

Present: Cllr Kerry Burn (Chairman), Cllr Peter Brooke, Cllr Tony Edwards,
Cllr David Goodlad and Cllr Dan Jewers.

In Attendance: County and District Cllr Penny Otton; and
Parish Clerk: Doug Reed.

2020/035 Apologies for Absence

Accepted from Cllr Russell Morley and Cllr Julie Rayner both of whom were absent due to unavoidable family commitments.

2020/036 Declarations of Interest

None.

2020/037 Minutes of the Last Parish Council Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr Burn, seconded by Cllr Edwards, that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 25 August, be signed as a true record. The proposal was carried.

2020/038 District and County Councillor Report

Cllr Otton presented her report, as circulated previously. There were no matters arising.

2020/039 Public Comment and Questions

None.

2020/040 Planning

040.1 Applications:

DC/20/03872 Blackthorn Farmhouse, High Town Farm, High Town Green - change of use of land, including driveway and access, as residential use. The Council had no objection.

040.2 Applications - Responses: There were no applications which had had to be considered by e-mail due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic precluding discussion in a public meeting.

040.3 Decisions: It was noted that applications DC/20/02704 Land Adjacent to Roman Rise; DC/19/03840 Land to the East of Rising Sun Hill; DC/20/02873 1A Top Road; DC/20/02888 and DC/20/02889 La Reve, Birds Green; and DC/20/03111 and DC/20/03112 Avis, Lower Road had been granted.

2020/041 Finance

041.1 Financial Report: The report to 31 August was received. It was noted that the TSB current account stood at £7,701.49 and the deposit account at £25,184.15 further to which it was proposed by Cllr Burn,

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seconded by Cllr Edwards, that the reconciliation be approved and duly signed. The proposal was carried.

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

- ◆ Litter-picker: salary (September) - £168.56;
- ◆ Clerk: salary (September) including arrears from April - £445.30;
- ◆ HMRC: PAYE (September) - £111.20;
- ◆ Mr Roger Heard: 447th Bomb Group Memorial grass-cutting - £62.00 (Section 137 expenditure);
- ◆ The Felsham Gardeners: attending to broken tree - £10.00;
- ◆ The Felsham Gardeners: Cemetery grass-cutting - £200.00; and
- ◆ Mid Suffolk District Council: box of black sacks - £14.45 + £2.89 VAT.

Income received was duly noted as follows:

- ◆ TSB: business (deposit) account interest (September) - £10.65;
- ◆ Mid Suffolk District Council: precept (part 2) - £9,238.00; and
- ◆ Mid Suffolk District Council: recycling grant (February-July) - £338.64.

041.3 Internal Audit 2019-2020: Councillors reviewed the report recommendations and noted the action taken to date. It was resolved that the outstanding recommendations - principally concerning the precept calculation and Community Infrastructure Levy - also be implemented.

041.4 . NJC Pay Scales: It was resolved that the Council adopt the new pay scales, effective from 1 April 2020, as contractually applicable to the Council post of Clerk.

041.5 Insurance: The Council had received insurance renewal details ahead of the meeting and, with the deadline for the renewal being imminent, agreed that the matter be discussed and determined. It was acknowledged that no new assets had been acquired by the Council in the last 12 months and none removed. Further, asset inspections had been carried out earlier in the year and no significant problems identified which would impact upon the cover requirements. Accordingly, based upon the quotations obtained, it was resolved that the renewal be agreed with Pen Underwriting Limited at a premium cost of £427.37. This represented only a small increase on the £401.04 paid for cover in 2019-2020. With future increases limited by accepting a three-year agreement, it was also resolved that such an agreement be confirmed.

2020/042 Matters to be Brought to the Attention of the Council

Cllr Edwards briefed councillors on complaints brought to his attention by a resident who had raised the same concerns with the Council in 2019.

Whilst it was agreed that the issues had been properly addressed previously it was felt that, for clarity, a further response be sent to the resident. Cllr Brooke noted the need for a Council discussion on potential uses of the community land being gifted to the village. This would form an agenda item for the next meeting. Cllr Goodlad kindly offered to represent the Council on Remembrance Day and in any related services. He would also purchase a wreath on behalf of the Council for appropriate use.

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2020/043 Next Meeting

It was noted that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council would be held on-line (via the Zoom video conferencing facility) on Tuesday 27 October at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 7.39pm.