

RATTLESDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the full Council held on-line
(via the Zoom video conferencing facility)
on 23 February 2021 at 7.00pm in the absence of a public Ordinary Meeting which
could not be convened due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
*Approved 30.03.21 (Minute 2020/089 refers)***

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

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

2020/076 Apologies for Absence
None.

2020/077 Declarations of Interest
None.

2020/078 Minutes of the Last Parish Council Meeting
It was proposed by Cllr Burn, seconded by Cllr Morley, that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 26 January, be signed as a true record. The proposal was carried.

2020/079 District and County Councillor Report
Cllr Otton presented her report, as circulated previously. She noted that Suffolk County and Mid Suffolk District Councils had now set their budgets for the forthcoming financial year. The former had opted to raise its element of the council tax by 1.99% (the maximum amount permitted without the need for a referendum) and the latter by 1.66%. She added that County Council elections scheduled for 6 May would go ahead as planned.

2020/080 Public Comment and Questions
None.

2020/081 Planning
081.1 Applications:
DC/21/00966 Bruges Cottage, Lower Road - creation of external door opening at first floor level accessing flat roof to form balcony with railings and decking; re-roofing west wing in slate tiles; installing five conservation rooflights; and construction of one dormer window to rear elevation to replace existing rooflight. The Council had no objection.
081.2 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.
081.3 Decisions: It was noted that applications DC/21/00319 Hope Cottage, Half Moon Street and DC/20/05856 Timble Cottage, High Town Green had been granted.

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2020/082

Finance

082.1 Financial Report: The report to 31 January was received. It was noted that the TSB current account stood at £10,992.67 and the deposit account at £25,236.75 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.

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

- ◆ Litter-picker: salary (February) - £168.56;
- ◆ Clerk: salary (February) - £393.35;
- ◆ HMRC: PAYE (February) - £98.40;
- ◆ RTA Plumbing: emergency call-out and repair to Cemetery tap - £130.00;
- ◆ The Felsham Gardeners: Cemetery grass-cutting - £200.00; and
- ◆ The Felsham Gardeners: Cemetery hedge-cutting - £200.00.

Income received was duly noted as follows:

- ◆ TSB: business (deposit) account interest (February) - £10.56; and
- ◆ Mid Suffolk District Council: cleansing grant (October-December) - £226.72.

082.3 National Minimum Wage: It was resolved that the Council adopt the new minimum wage of £8.91 per hour (for workers aged 25 and over), effective from 1 April 2021, as it applied to Council employees.

082.4 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funding: With its provision time-limited, the Council confirmed that a prioritised plan was needed for use of the funding given that significantly more was due in 2021-2022. Councillors discussed possible spending projects including one close to the School, traffic management at the bottom of Rising Sun Hill and the development of the community land adjacent to Roman Rise which was expected to be gifted to the village. Cllr Otton kindly offered to pursue those matters affecting Suffolk Highways whilst Cllr Jewers volunteered to explore relevant land options.

2020/083

Seat - Birds Green

In the continued absence of any formal approach to the Council regarding a seat/bench for Birds Green it was agreed that no further discussions were needed on this subject.

2020/084

Wildlife Friendly Village

Further to a suggestion from a resident, councillors agreed to develop the Rattlesden green agenda by looking at options to promote nature and wildlife in and around the village. Cllr Rayner was appointed Wildlife Friendly Village Officer and would review possible initiatives the Council might set up or pursue.

2020/085

Matters to be Brought to the Attention of the Council

None.

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2020/086 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 30 March at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.