

# RATTLESDEN PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 30 May 2023 at 6:15pm in Rattlesden Village Hall

**Present:** Cllr Edwards (Chairman), Cllr Atkinson, Cllr Peter Brooke, Cllr Dave Goodlad, Cllr Dan Jewers, Cllr Russell Morley.

**In Attendance:** District Cllr Nicky Willshere, Parish Clerk Andrew Scott, and two members of the public.

**2023/048 Election of Chairman**

It was resolved that Cllr Kerry Burn be elected as chairman for the coming year.

**2023/049 Election of Vice Chairman**

It was resolved that Cllr Tony Edwards be elected as vice chairman for the coming year.

**2023/050**

Declarations of acceptance of office were made by the chairman and councillors before the Proper Officer of the Council.

**2023/051**

**Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2023/052**

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**2023/053**

**Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting**

It was resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 25 April 2023 be approved.

**2023/054**

**Matters arising from the minutes**

**2023/045 Internal Audit**

The Clerk reported that Mr Graham Reid FCA had kindly indicated his willingness to continue to act as internal auditor and it was agreed that he should be asked to make the report for financial year 2022-23.

**2023/055**

**Appointments to external bodies**

The following appointments to external bodies were made:

**055.1** Rattlesden Village Hall Management Committee: Cllr Tony Edwards

**055.2** Airfield Liaison Officer: Cllr Dave Goodlad.

**2023/056**

**Council Officers**

The following Council officers were appointed:

**056.1** Tree Officer: Carol Williamson

**056.2** Footpaths Officer: Gaye Reid

**056.3** Finance Councillor: Cllr Russell Morley

**056.4** Wildlife Friendly Village Councillor: Cllr Steve Atkinson

**2023/057**

**Working Groups**

Councillors were appointed to Working Groups as follows:

**057.1** Finance: Russell Morley, Dave Goodlad, Steve Atkinson

**057.2** Housing: Kerry Burn, Tony Edwards, Dan Jewers.

# RATTLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL

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2023/058

## Public Comment and questions on agenda items

There were no public comments or questions.

2023/059

## Planning

**059.1** Applications received: Re-consultation DC/23/01457 - Manor Cottage, Half Moon Street. Councillors continued to find the drawings for this application difficult to understand and interpret, and noted that the indicated location had not been corrected. They welcomed the proposed alternative roof profile for Unit B, although they questioned the appropriateness of a sedum roof in this setting. The Council's previous objection on the grounds of over-development and congestion following the removal of one of the two vehicular accesses had not been addressed, and therefore remained.

**059.2** Applications considered by e-mail due to the consultation deadline – there were none.

**059.3** Applications granted/refused: DC/23/00989\_2 Wheelwright Green – granted; DC/23/01102 Red House Farm, Poy Street Green – granted; DC/23/01444 Hollandia, Top Road – granted; DC/23/01240 Lancaster Cottage, Poy Street Green – granted.

2023/060

## Finance

**060.1 Financial Report:** The Clerk's financial report to 30 April was received. The current account balance stood at £686.23 and the deposit account at £115,143.94, and it was agreed that the reconciliation be approved and duly signed.

**060.2 Payments Schedule:** The schedule of payments for May 2023 was approved.

**060.3 Cemetery maintenance contract:** the Clerk reported that the current two year contract had expired, and that the contractor proposed to increase his charge from £275 to £300 per month. It had previously been agreed to run the current contract on, pending retendering to include the Jubilee Field. It was noted that the proposed increase had provision in the budget and agreed that it was acceptable.

**060.4** Cllr Goodlad sought approval for the purchase of a second SID battery charger to speed up the recharging process and this was agreed.

2023/061

## Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council

A note of thanks had been received from the organisers of the Coronation Tea, which had been very much enjoyed by 45 senior citizens. Cllr Jewers had discussed the condition of the cemetery with the contractor, and it was agreed that a reminder should be put in Rattlesden's Revelations about the problems for maintenance caused by unapproved ornaments. Cllr Edwards reported that he had agreed the arrangements for water supply and fencing with Hartog Hutton, who were still awaiting the availability of plant for forming the new allotments. He also reported on progress with plans to improve the Village Hall and secure its viability for the future. Cllr Morley raised the matter of overgrown verges and the increase in traffic due to the A14 closures. It was noted that footpaths were similarly overgrown. Cllr Atkinson had attended his second meeting of the school governors.

2023/062

## Next Meeting

Tuesday 27 June 2023 at 7:30pm.

**The meeting closed at 7:30pm.**