

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RISLEY WITH HOPWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Held at Harrison's Cottage on Thursday 11 February 2016 at 7.00pm

**Present:** Cllrs P Ancliff (Chair), J Hitchcock, R Hobbs, B Housley, S Jarratt, F Jones, M O'Neill and D Rhodes

**In attendance:** L Ghent (clerk), Borough Councillor Mrs V Clare, County Councillor W Major and 4 residents

## Part 1 – Non confidential information

### 16-21 Apologies

PCSO Karen Pykett

### 16-22 Variation of business

None.

### 16-23 Declarations of interest

Cllr D Rhodes declared an interest as he is the parish council representative on the Village Hall Management Committee.

### 16-24 Dispensations

None.

### 16-25 Public session

#### 1) Public

In accordance with the parish council's standing orders Richard Hardy and Adrian Fogg addressed the meeting regarding the resurfacing of the Village Hall car park stating that the Committee wish to move forward positively to do the best for the village and continue to bring people into the village.

Details of works including additional works to prevent the potential flood issues:

- Speed hump at the entrance to promote safety.
- New signage.
- Soakaway at the gate
- Covered trench at the back of the car park to drain excess water off the fields.
- Gulley drain along the side of the access road.
- Clear markings in car park.

- Relaying of the dropped kerb and resurfacing of the path from the kerb to the gateway (DCC).

2) Councillors' report on the meeting between the Parish Council and the VHMC

- Following a very productive meeting between the Parish Council and the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) it is hoped that everyone will be working towards the same goals.
- That the VHMC want to complete the works on the car park as quickly as possible
- It was agreed that the current surface is uneven creating a slip/trip hazard and because it is currently lime based it is very messy and causes a lot of additional work for staff.
- The VHMC are well run with a good level of reserves so are able to match any funding they may receive.
- The Parish Council are sympathetic and wish to be supportive subject to the constraints of legislation.
- As a body the Parish Council must show value for money and that any project they support must be of benefit to the parishioners as well as the wider public.
- The new lighting is not included in the current quotations and it could possibly be considered as the subject of a future bid for grant funding.

In response the Chair informed the meeting that she had sought the advice of Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) who advised her that any request for a donation should be limited to the S137 figure ie £7.36 per parishioner which for Risley with Hopwell Parish Council means an annual maximum of £4,438. The Parish Council has already made a number of small donations this year so the maximum donation for this current financial year would be £3,868.

The Chair also raised the issue of the ownership of the access adjacent to the cottage which is part of the resurfacing plan. This land is a right of way only and is not owned by the Parish Council. The VHMC will need to identify the ownership of the access road and liaise with them to secure permission. The Parish Council is willing to work with the VHMC on this issue.

3) Reports of councillors appointed to outside bodies

None.

4) Reports from the Police Liaison Officer, County Council and Borough Council

Police – 2 reported crimes during January:

25/1 – Derby Road, vehicle interference

26/1 – Derby Road, theft from motor vehicle, one arrested at scene.

**Borough Councillor Mrs V Clare** reported to the meeting:

- Devolution deal – not all councils have agreed to this deal as has been reported in the press. EBC has not signed the deal.
- HS2 – this is still ongoing and EBC are looking at minimising the impact on Erewash.
- Brown bin collection(s) restart w/c 22 February.
- The Chinese New Year will be celebrated on Saturday 13 February in both Long Eaton and Ilkeston. The highlight will be a dragon procession from the museum to Ilkeston Town Hall.
- Civic dinner – 11 March. Anyone who is interested should contact the Civic Office at EBC.
- Ghostly Gathering – Friday 19 February at Long Eaton Town Hall from 9pm to 2am.

**County Councillor W Major** reported to the meeting:

- The budget has been set. There will be a 3.99% increase in the DCC portion of the Council Tax.
- Services are experiencing high pressure.
- The County Council are considering closing 1/3 of children's centres.
- A consultation on the supported bus network is to be carried out.
- Following receipt of a petition containing 22,000 signatures the County Council has confirmed that the service will continue to be funded until 2017.
- 20 mph speed zones – following a recent consultation any community who wishes it can have one however there will be no additional funding available. There are also concerns that Police will be unable/unwilling to enforce due to their policing priorities.

#### **16-26 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 14 January 2016**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 14 January amended to include the correction below be approved as a true record.

*'16-08 – Public session - ....Raewyn Henshaw.....'*

#### **16-27 Exempt items**

None.

#### **16-28 Chair's announcements/report**

##### **1. Advice from DALC regarding grant/donation**

- a) We are under no obligation to give any grant or donation.
- b) If we do not have a Grant Policy it would be a good idea to have one.
- c) A grant of £12,000 sets a dangerous precedent.

d) Their advice is to limit any contribution to that set by Section 137, currently £7.36 per elector (603) ie a total per annum of £4,438.

## **2. Investigation of land ownership at Village Hall**

I have examined the contents of the deed box and spoken to past members of the Parish Council and to the past clerk. The consensus is that 18' at the entrance belongs to the owner of Park Cottage (confirmed by letter 1980 in the deed box) and 18' to the owner of Greythorpe (this needs confirmation).

Also a common memory is that the owner of Greythorpe moved their fence eastwards. No action was taken at the time.

Belief among previous councillors and clerk that the right of way may belong to the owners of Risley Lodge, Daynecourt, Mr Revill as well as the Parish Council.

## **3. New clerk**

We have shortlisted and interviewed three people and offered the post to Sue Dunkley who has both Borough and Parish experience. She has accepted the post of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer with a start date of 1 March.

## **16-29 Clerk's report**

The clerk's report has already been circulated to members.

### **1) NPPF consultation**

The agreed submission has been completed online.

### **2) The Parish Newsletter**

This has been put together, printed and passed to the Chair for members to collect and distribute. If any member needs any more they should contact the clerk.

### **3) Holiday Playscheme**

Posters have been placed on the noticeboards and uploaded onto the front page of the website and the newsletter. Any residents who are interested in using the playscheme through the February half term should contact AM Sports who are delivering the activities. It was agreed at the last meeting that the Parish Council would promote the playscheme more widely in time for the Easter holidays.

### **4) National Westminster Bank**

The Parish Council bank has confirmed that the correspondence address has been changed and the two new signatories are now authorised.

### **16-30 Dog faeces on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue play area**

It was reported that the incidents of dog or fox faeces is a growing problem which residents who are regular users of the play area are very unhappy about. At an earlier meeting of the Parish Council a group of local residents were very unhappy with the situation.

A hole in the hedge has been repaired however concerns were raised as to the quality of the work and it was felt that the repair may not with stand the test of time. The repair has in effect created a 'ladder' which is an invitation for anti-social behaviour.

It was suggested that a more substantial repair should be made including the installation of wire or mesh. Cllrs P Ancliff and J Hitchcock will consult on site.

The clerk has included information in the newsletter concerning how to report any incidents of owners not cleaning up after their dogs.

**RESOLVED** that the clerk should contact the Neighbourhood Warden Manager at Erewash Borough Council to request signage be installed providing information about the Pride Line and how to report owners not cleaning up after their dogs.

### **16-31 Flooding issues and broken kerb stones**

Cllr S Jarratt reported to the last meeting that his wife had reported the broken kerb stones and the subsequent flooding of Pastures Farm at the bottom of the lane to Lindley House and Peat Meadow before Christmas. An officer from DCC made a site visit but they had heard nothing further so the problems were reported again. On a second visit the DCC officers recommended that water be directed to the drain but was unclear how this would be done.

County Councillor W Major agreed to speak to the Highways department at DCC. Cllr S Jarratt is to forward the details onto him.

### **16-32 Matters for determination**

- 1) Request for donation/grant from the Village Hall Management Committee  
The Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) has submitted a request for a donation/grant of £12,000 towards the resurfacing of the car park at the Village Hall.

In line with the advice from DALC the Parish Council are in the process of drafting a Grant Policy which it is hoped will be considered at the meeting in

March. As a consequence the Parish Council are able to make a donation in line with the restrictions of the S137 legislation.

The clerk advised the meeting that £3,868 remains available for the Parish council to donate for the current financial year. Following a debate and a vote by a show of hands it was:

**RESOLVED** that:

1. a donation of £3,868 be made to the Village Hall Management Committee towards the resurfacing of the car park at the Village Hall being the residual amount of the S137 money available; and
2. a working party consisting of Cllrs S Jarratt, M O'Neill and D Rhodes together with the new clerk be formed to consider the Grant Policy.

2) Rural Community Grant Scheme 2016/17

The content of a possible bid to the Rural Community Grant Scheme was considered. Three projects were discussed:

- Extension of the play equipment on the play area off 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to cater for older young people;
- Speed activated lights traffic signs; and
- Lighting for the car park at the Village Hall.

One of the requirements of the grant scheme is that residents/service users are consulted. An indicative quote has been received for the play equipment. To enable residents of Risley and Hopwell to make an informed decision it was:

**RESOLVED** that:

1. The Clerk seek a quotation for the speed activated signs; and
  2. The Village Hall Management Committee seek a quotation for the lighting for the car park at the Village Hall.
3. Change of date of meeting 12 May 2016  
**RESOLVED** that the date of the meeting in May be moved to Thursday 19 May 2016.
4. Removal of Ash Tree

A quotation has been received from Canopy Tree Services of over £500.

**RESOLVED** that the Chair should seek a second quotation.

5. Appointment of auditor

The Clerk informed the meeting that Grant Thornton UK LLP has been appointed as the auditor for two years from 2015/16. The Parish Council can only reject this appointment if they are able to show a sound reason.

**RESOLVED** that the appointment of Grant Thornton UK LLP be approved.

**16-33 Finance**

1) Accounts for payment

**RESOLVED** that the following accounts be paid:

a)	L Ghent	Clerk's salary and expenses	£265.93
b)	HMRC	PAYE tax	£61.60
c)	Breast Cancer Now	Donation in lieu of Christmas tree from Mr Hitchcock	£150.00
d)	Premier Landscaping	Repair to hedge on play area, 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	£139.50

2) Receipts

None.

**16-34 Playground Inspections**

1. The playground inspection record for December was submitted by Cllr J Hitchcock.
2. The main matter arising continues to be the problem of dog faeces.

**16-35 Planning**

1. New applications

None.

2. Decisions

- (i) ERE/1116/0043: Land south west of 19a Derby Road, Risley - variation of condition no.2 of planning permission ERE/0713/0020 to allow the development to be constructed in accordance with an alternative design and to construct alternative boundary treatment. **APPROVED** with conditions.

The Chair informed the meeting that she has been advised by EBC that the Parish Council's concerns regarding potential flooding issues from rain

water falls within the remit of Building Regulations and is not a planning consideration.

**RESOLVED** that the decision be noted.

### **16-36 Training**

- 1) DALC training programme  
The Clerk has circulated the latest training programme from DALC. If any member wishes to attend one or more of the training sessions please contact the Clerk.
- 2) RoSPA Playground Inspection training  
The Clerk has circulated details of the next round of training being offered by RoSPA. If any member wishes to attend please contact the Clerk.
- 3) Councillor Induction Training – Sandiacre Parish Council, 16 March, 6pm  
Cllrs P Ancliff, B Housley and S Jarratt confirmed they will be attending.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk inform the Clerk at Sandiacre Parish Council.

### **16-37 Matters for information**

- 1) Letter from the Leader of Erewash Borough Council – the Clerk read a letter from Cllr C Corbett, Leader of Erewash Borough Council which reassures parish council that the Borough Council has not signed the application for a Devolution Deal and has made no formal decision either for or against joining a North Midlands Combined Authority or accepting a deal should the Government offer one in due course. The Borough Council will not make such a decision until all the facts are known.
- 2) Newsletter – already reported on within the clerk’s report.
- 3) Letter from Risley Hall residents stating their concerns regarding the resurfacing of the car at the Village Hall with non-permeable surface.. In addition a petition containing 36 signatures has been handed to the clerk this evening.
- 4) Borough & Parish Councils’ Forum – already reported on within the public session.
- 5) Breaston Parish Council’s email concerning a large number of empty vodka bottles revealed when the hedge was cut back along Risley Lane up to Risley. It was discussed and suggested that this should be included in the remit for the environmental clean-up team/ litter pick being discussed at the meeting in March.

- 6) Kompan statement regarding cadmium and lead in paint used on play equipment. The play equipment on the play area was not supplied by Kompan and the statement was noted.
- 7) £1,000 donation has today been passed to the clerk from a resident Mr Mrvik to be used for fence/hedge repairs throughout the village. A letter of thanks will be sent by the clerk.

#### **16-38 Future agenda items**

- Village environmental clean-up working party/litter pick - March.
- Hiring of Rush Meadow by Treetops Hospice for car parking – March. The clerk is to write a letter advising the hospice that a decision cannot be made until the meeting in March. Also a resident is regularly parking a car in the entrance to Rush Meadow – the clerk will leave a note on the vehicle.
- Infilling of bulbs – September.
- DCC elections 2017 – future.
- DCC consultation regarding school crossing patrols – future.
- Fencing/hedge around the play area – March.
- Grants Policy – March.

#### **Part 2 – Confidential information**

#### **16-39 Confidential items**

None.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.