



Ripley Parish Council

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MINUTES of RIPLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on THURSDAY 15th JANUARY 2015 at 1930HRS at THE CHURCH ROOM, RIPLEY PARISH CHURCH.

Present: Cllr Jennie Cliff (Chairperson)
Cllr Richard Ayears
Cllr Colin Cross
Cllr Caspar Hancock
Cllr Lisanne Mealing
Cllr Vernon Wood
Jim Morris, Clerk of the Council

Apologies: Cllr Suzie Powell-Cullingford

Also present: 12 members of the public

133/14 STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, members of the public were invited to speak.

a) A local resident thanked the Parish Council for the new playground equipment and raised concerns over road safety in Newark Lane. It was asked whether the Parish Council would support extending the 30mph speed limit zone.

RESPONSE: The Chairperson offered to meet with the concerned party at their convenience.

b) A local resident raised concerns over the new street lighting near their property. It was felt that the lighting was overly gloomy and therefore dangerous for pedestrians.

RESPONSE: Councillors noted recent works carried out to street lighting in the village. The works are now complete and there are no plans for further work. The streetlights are dimmed between the hours of 2300-0500 as an energy-saving measure.

c) A local resident asked whether the Parish Council had any further information on a mobile fish & chip van.

RESPONSE: Councillors noted that a planning application was currently being processed for a fish & chip shop in the former Post Office. The idea for a mobile fish & chip van would possibly be revisited once the planning application was resolved.

d) Some local residents raised concerns over the state of the track at West End. Concerns were also raised over lorries and coaches using the area for turning.

RESPONSE: Councillors noted that there was a plan to use excess scalplings from works to The Green on the track at West End. The track at West End is an un-made road and any work carried out by residents would have to be approved by the Parish Council and would be subject to Conservation Area planning constraints.

e) In the absence of any Police representation, Cllr Hancock delivered a report from the PCSO on local crime.

RESPONSE: The crime report, delivered by Cllr Hancock, was noted. It was also asked that the Clerk contact the PCSO to enquire as to why there had not been representation from the Police at recent Parish Council meetings.

134/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from Cllr Powell-Cullingford were received and accepted.

135/14 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Cllr Wood declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 15 'Village Hall': Cllr Wood represents the Bonfire Committee on the Village Hall board of Trustees.

Cllr Mealing declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 15 'Village Hall': Cllr Mealing represents the Parish Council on the Village Hall board of Trustees.

Cllr Hancock declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 15 'Village Hall': Cllr Hancock represents the Parish Council on the Village Hall Development Committee and represents the Shed Youth Club on the Village Hall board of Trustees.

Cllr Cross declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 14 'The Green': Cllr Cross has a dwelling on the Green.

136/14 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20th NOVEMBER 2014

The minutes were received, confirmed and signed as a true and correct record by the Chairperson, Councillor Jennie Cliff.

137/14 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The meeting received a report from the Parish Council Chairperson. Items included the recent Christmas Event meeting, where it was shown that enough money had been raised to cover the cost of the Christmas lights. Special thanks were given to Nigel Bruder for his hard work on the BBQ stall and it had been decided to produce new Christmas cards for the 2015 Christmas Event.

The Chairperson discussed changes at the Primary School, including the appointment of a new Executive Head, and noted the importance of the school to young families in the village. Items for the forthcoming newsletter were discussed and an offer from a local business to cover costs of printing. The Parish Council newsletter is delivered by the Councillors and Clerk to the Council.

It was suggested that the Clean-up day be moved to a date TBC in April, and that this should be an item for inclusion on the agenda of a future Parish Council meeting. The date of the Annual Parish Meeting, April 30th, should be promoted in the next edition of Ripley & Send Matters. The Chairperson had been present at the recent Ripley & Send Matters Committee meeting and reported that the finances are in good shape, the website is being updated, and the idea of splitting the magazine into separate issues for Ripley and Send was rejected.

138/14 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

The meeting received a report from Clerk, (copy attached to record minutes), which included:

- Playground
- Bus shelter
- Flood forum
- Rural Exception sites
- The date for this year's RideLondon [*sic*] event- 2nd August.

It was **RESOLVED: That the report by the Parish Clerk be noted.**

139/14 CORRESPONDENCE

i) An email dated 21st November 2014 from Surrey & Sussex Association of Local Councils (SSALC) detailing subscription fees for 2015/16. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the email correspondence from SSALC be noted.**

ii) An email dated 24th November 2014 from Guildford Borough Council (GBC) detailing the reassessment of the draft Local Plan. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the email from GBC be noted.**

iii) A letter dated 28th July 2014 (postmarked 28th November 2014) from Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance requesting a grant of £250. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the letter from Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance be noted and considered in the next financial year.**

iv) A letter dated 3rd December 2014 from Surrey Playing Fields requesting the Parish Council affiliation fee for 2014/15. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the Parish Council affiliation fee of £10 be approved.**

v) A letter dated 15th December 2014 from the licensing department of GBC detailing their current consultation. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That GBC's licensing department's current consultation be noted.**

vi) A letter dated 19th December 2014 from Ripley Bowling Club requesting assistance in completing the bowling facility. (Copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the request from Ripley Bowling Club be considered for S.106 use. The Bowling Club Chairperson assured the Parish Council that the facility would welcome members of the public and non-members.**

140/14 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS and CHEQUES FOR APPROVAL

Members received and noted the schedule of accounts received and paid for the period from 20th November to 31st December 2014, totaling £6,300.46, and the total receipts and payments to date. Both were circulated with the agenda (Copies attached to the record minutes). Cheques were presented by the Parish Clerk for authorisation and signing.

It was **RESOLVED: That the schedule of accounts received and paid for the period from 20th November to 31st December 2014, totaling £6,300.46, and the total receipts and payments to date be noted. Cheques presented by the Parish Clerk were authorised and signed.**

141/14 FINANCE GROUP & BUDGET REPORT

Members received and considered a report from Cllrs Ayears, Cross, and Mealing on the recent Parish Council Finance Working Group meeting.

- The budget and precept requirement for 2015/16 were approved. The rise in precept from £44,494 to £46,740 is solely down to the rise in number of Band D properties in the Parish.
- Amendments to Ripley Parish Council Financial Regulations were approved: 10.5 Increased to £1,000. 11.1 (a) (vii) Prices quoted in Financial Regulations are exclusive of VAT. 11.1 (i) Increased to £250. 14.2 Increased to £100.
- The Clerk's salary to increase in line with guidelines from NALC, backdated to 1/1/15.

It was **RESOLVED: That the findings of the Parish Council Finance Working Group be approved.**

142/14 BURIAL GROUND

Members received and considered three quotes for further clearance of the Parish Council Burial Ground extension (copies attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the provider of quote no.1 be appointed to carry out the works.**

143/14 WEST END

Members considered a request from Hedleys Solicitors for a formal resolution of the Council to finalise the legal reinstatement of access to land adjacent to West End Cottages.

Members considered a comprehensive report and quote from Surrey Wildlife Trust for carrying out a survey of the area earmarked for a nature reserve.

It was **RESOLVED: That,**

a) A formal resolution of the Council to finalise the legal reinstatement of access to land adjacent to West End Cottages be approved.

b) The report and quote from Surrey Wildlife Trust be refused.

144/14 CAR PARK

Members received and considered the redrafted lease for White Hart Court Car Park. Two copies of the amended lease had been provided by GBC to be executed and returned. It was found that GBC had not highlighted what amendments had been made, nor provided a copy of the previous lease for comparison. Concerns were raised over high vehicles being able to enter the car park by driving over the verges.

It was **RESOLVED: That the signing of the lease be deferred until more information was available.**

145/14 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members received and considered the minutes of the Planning Group held on Mondays 3rd and 24th November 2014. (Copies attached to record minutes)

It was **RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning Group held on 3rd and 24th November 2014 be noted.**

146/14 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Members considered a report from Cllr Cross on progress with the Neighbourhood Plan. Wisley was catching up with the head-start already made by both Ripley and Ockham. Wisley, Ockham, and Ripley will each appoint a local group with a Lovelace group being formed of 3 people from Wisley, 4 from Ockham, and 6 from Ripley. Ripley group meetings were attempting to involve local businesses and schools. It was noted that RHS Wisley was the largest employer in Lovelace Ward. Neighbourhood Plan training was to be held in early February with all Parish Councillors attending if available. £1,900 in grant funding had been approved from the Community Development Foundation and will be held in the Ripley Parish Council bank account. Councillors discussing the Neighbourhood Plan noted that information from other Plans could be adapted and assimilated. Members considered which Councillors should represent the Parish Council at Lovelace Ward Neighbourhood Plan meetings.

It was **RESOLVED: That,**

- a) The report on the developments with the new Neighbourhood Plan be noted.**
- b) Cllrs Ayears, Hancock, and Mealing represent Ripley Parish Council at Lovelace Ward Neighbourhood Plan meetings.**

147/14 ENVIRONMENT – THE GREEN

Members received and considered a report from the Parish Clerk on various on-going matters including:

- Ryde Cottage and refurbishment of the general area
- Memorial bench request (Map attached to record minutes)
- Mowing of the wildflower area
- Area outside the Cricket Club's outside store

It was **RESOLVED: That,**

- a) The on-going refurbishment of the area in front of Ryde Cottage be progressed.**
 - b) A picture of the proposed memorial bench be requested.**
 - c) Mowing of the wildflower area be carried out in March and October. Cllr Hancock will meet with Mr Sapsford to discuss the area to be mown.**
 - d) A letter be drafted to the Cricket Club asking that the area around the outside store be tidied.**
- Cllr Wood asked, on behalf of the Bonfire Committee, that The Green may be used for a 60th anniversary celebration and picnic on 20th June 2015.**

148/14 VILLAGE HALL

Members considered a report from Cllr Hancock on various matters to do with the Village Hall and its redevelopment. Cllr Hancock had recently delivered a Parish Council funding presentation to the Village Hall Board of Trustees, which had been well received. Some discussion ensued as to the viability of the presentation, with not all Cllrs convinced. The Parish would have to be consulted if there was to be a large rise in precept requirement and the Parish Council would have to determine how much to borrow from the Public Works Loans Board. Cllr Hancock reported on the recent Village Hall Development Committee meeting. Offers from contractors were being considered. One potential developer had pulled out whilst another had not offered a full response. Contractors' estimates had risen significantly. A discussion was held on using the land at the Village Hall as a Rural Exception site. Questions raised included: How much can be raised? And, what kind of hall can be provided for the provision of amounts potentially available?

It was **RESOLVED: That the Parish Council meets to decide its position on Village Hall redevelopment.**

149/14 ELECTION 2015

Members considered whether they would stand for re-election to the Parish Council on 7th May 2015.

It was **RESOLVED: That all members present would stand for re-election to the Parish Council.**

150/14 NEWSLETTER

Members considered items for inclusion in the Winter edition of 'The Parish Review' newsletter.

Members considered an offer from a local business to cover costs of printing 'The Parish Review' newsletter.

It was **RESOLVED: That,**

- a) Neighbourhood Plan, Election 2015, Ripley Primary School, Annual Parish Meeting, Village Hall, and bus shelters were all suggested as items for inclusion in the next 'Parish Review'.**

b) The offer from a local business to cover the costs of printing 'The Parish Review' be approved. The rate for each newsletter was approved as £100 per issue. The wording acknowledging the help with printing costs was approved as "The cost of producing this newsletter has been covered by Wills & Smerdon, Estate Agents".

151/14 ITEMS TO NOTE FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Neighbourhood Plan, Village Hall, and The Green were all suggested.

The meeting closed at 2155hrs.

Date:

Chairperson