



Ripley Parish Council

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MINUTES of RIPLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on THURSDAY 16th JULY 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 Suzie Powell-Cullingford
Cllr Vernon Wood
Jim Morris, Clerk of the Council

Also present: 4 members of the public

49/15 STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

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

a) A local resident, representing Newark Lane Residents' Association, raised concerns over the footbridge at Wharf Lane, Ockham. The bridge was still in a state of disrepair following last year's storms and flooding. A further query was raised over the lack of adequate signs promoting the village car park.

RESPONSE: Members agreed that the footbridge's ongoing state of disrepair was disappointing. Current information estimated that the bridge would not be repaired until a date towards the end of 2016. A new 'Ramblers' Association' app was available, whereby members of the public were able to share details of defunct footpaths. Members agreed that car parking signs were inadequate, but that pressure would need to be applied to the Highways Department at Surrey County Council (SCC).

b) A local resident stated approval of the Parish Council's recent decision to change the Allotment year to run from October – September from October 2017. Some Allotment owners were not cultivating their plots, however, and the resident was disappointed with the overgrown plots.

Members agreed that a clause be added to the Allotment Agreement stating that unkempt plots would be tackled by the Parish Council's maintenance team in future, with costs potentially passed on to errant plot holders.

c) Cllr Ayears, the Parish Council's representative to the police, provided the meeting with the monthly crime report. There had been 6 reported crimes of various descriptions.

50/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

51/15 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Cllr Ayears declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 9 'Leisure & Facilities Committee': Cllr Ayears has a family member involved in a quote for replacing posts on The Green.

Cllr Cross declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 9 'Leisure & Facilities Committee': Cllr Cross has a dwelling on The Green.

Cllr Hancock declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 14 '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 Mealing declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 14 'Village Hall': Cllr Mealing represents the Parish Council on the Village Hall board of Trustees.

Cllr Wood declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 9 'Leisure & Facilities Committee': Cllr Wood has a family member involved in a quote for replacing posts on The Green.

Cllr Wood declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 14 'Village Hall': Cllr Wood represents the Bonfire Committee on the Village Hall board of Trustees.

52/15 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18th June 2015 were received, confirmed, and signed as a true and correct record by the Chairperson.

53/15 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The meeting received a report from the Chairperson on recent local issues. An account was given regarding reports of a wasps' nest in the fuzzies. Local residents had approached the Chairperson with queries as to whether the wasps would be removed. There was little enthusiasm for this course of action, and it was generally agreed that wasps were part of the natural cycle of the food chain.

A detailed report was provided on the recent meeting with RideLondon, which Cllr Wood had also attended. Local issues had been raised with the representative, including the race marshalls, access across the High Street, and loss of earnings of local businesses and sports clubs. It had been assured that every effort was made in order to make the race pass without a hitch. Next year's race would take place on July 31st, over the same route.

The Chairperson apologised to the meeting for not having included photos with her report.

54/15 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

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

- s.106
- Epicormic growth and blocked drains
- The Clerk's holiday

The Parish Council's s.106 application was with the planning department of GBC who had offered help with some of the detail.

It was **RESOLVED: That the report by the Parish Clerk be noted. Members agreed that the request from the not-for-profit circus be turned down.**

55/15 CORRESPONDENCE

i) An email dated 16th June 2015 from the Guildford Borough Council (GBC) regarding Ex-Councillor Juneja (copy attached at to record minutes).

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

ii) An email dated 16th June 2015 from a local resident regarding questions over the safety of the new play equipment (copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the email regarding questions over the safety of play equipment be noted. The recent external annual inspection of the playground had classed the equipment 'low risk'.**

iii) An email dated 23rd June 2015 from Surrey Community Action (SCA) detailing proposed changes to the membership structure (copy attached to record minutes).

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

iv) An email dated 26th June 2015 from Surrey County Council detailing the response to the Parish Council's request for a small grant (copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the email from SCC be noted. It was agreed that the email was nicely worded.**

v) An email dated 28th June 2015 from Ripley Cricket Club regarding a forthcoming balloon race (copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the email from RCC be noted. It was noted that the balloons to be used were biodegradable.**

vi) An email dated 30th June 2015 from Worplesdon Parish Clerk outlining the EU's current consultation on the Birds and Habitats Directive (copy attached to record minutes).

It was **RESOLVED: That the email from the Worplesdon Parish Clerk be noted.**

vii) An email dated 7th July 2015 from GBC regarding the Lovelace and Send neighbourhood areas (copy attached to record minutes).

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

56/15 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS and CHEQUES FOR APPROVAL

Members received and noted the schedule of accounts received and paid for the period from 1st to 30th June 2015, totaling £1,083.07, (Copy attached to the record minutes). The meeting's cheques had been presented by the Parish Clerk for authorisation and signing at the meeting of the Finance Working Group prior to the meeting of the full Council.

It was **RESOLVED: That the schedule of accounts received and paid for the period from 1st to 30th June 2015, totaling £1,083.07 be noted.**

57/15 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Members received and considered the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meetings held on Monday 1st and 22nd June 2015 (copies attached to record minutes).

Members considered information which had come to light following the recent meeting of the Planning & Environment Committee concerning Woking Borough Council's draft Local Plan. WBC have outline plans to build on two fields in neighbouring Pyrford.

It was **RESOLVED: That,**

a) The minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meetings held on 1st and 22nd June 2015 be noted.

b) A response to WBC's draft Local Plan site allocations at Pyrford be drafted to express the Parish Council's opposition to building on green belt land.

58/15 LEISURE & FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Members received and considered matters ongoing under the remit of the Leisure & Facilities Committee, which included:

- Skateramp quotes. Members considered quotes provided by three suppliers.
- Posts & rails. Members considered quotes provided by three suppliers.

It was **RESOLVED: that,**

a) Urban Ramps be awarded the contract to provide a skateramp.

b) A preferred supplier was chosen. Cllrs Ayears and Wood did not take part in the discussions due to their declared interest (minute 51/15).

59/15 COMMUNICATION & LIAISON COMMITTEE

Members received and considered matters ongoing under the remit of the Communication & Liaison Committee, which included:

- Newsletter
- Website
- Public loo contractor advert

It was **RESOLVED: That,**

a) The summer edition of the 'Parish Review' newsletter be postponed until promotion of the Parish Council's consultation on Village Hall funding became a necessity. A mailshot would be produced for delivery along the route of RideLondon to raise awareness of parking permits for 2nd August.

b) Three quotes be sought for replacing the Parish Council's website.

c) The advert for a contractor to take on the daily locking of the public loo be approved.

60/15 CHRISTMAS EVENT

Members received and considered a report from Cllrs Cliff, Powell-Cullingford, and Wood on recent meetings of the Christmas Event Committee. Progress was much as in previous years, and a new poster design had been approved by the Committee.

It was **RESOLVED: That the report from Cllrs Cliff, Powell-Cullingford, and Wood be noted.**

61/15 FINANCE GROUP

Members received and considered a report from Cllrs Ayears, Cross, and Mealing on the recent meeting of the Parish Council's Finance Working Group. The Finance Group favoured an EIP loan from the Public Works Loans Board in the event of the Parish Council's consultation on Village Hall funding being approved by electors.

It was **RESOLVED: That the report from Cllrs Ayears, Cross, and Mealing be noted.**

62/15 NATURE RESERVE

Members received and considered a report from Cllr Powell-Cullingford on progress with the Nature Reserve. The brief had been passed to several local contractors, and it was hoped that a recommendation from the Nature Reserve Working Group would be available in time for the September full council meeting. Cllr Cliff was to speak to the local Cub Scouts, with a view to gaining help with planting plug native species plants, and further community buy-in.

It was **RESOLVED: That the report from Cllr Powell-Cullingford be noted.**

63/15 VILLAGE HALL

Members received and considered a report from Cllrs Hancock and Mealing on recent Village Hall Trustees, and Redevelopment meetings. The Parish Council's Consultation with the village over funding a new village hall was discussed, with advice from Sussex & Surrey Association of Local Councils (SSALC) which indicated that an open consultation held in the Village Hall would be adequate in meeting the criteria of consulting local electors. The importance of a schedule for full awareness of the consultation within the village was discussed. Cllr Mealing gave an update on the proposed Public Works Loans Board borrowing; the grant would represent a large debt over a long period of time. It was anticipated that a significant level of resistance may be encountered and it was considered necessary to present the figures accurately in terms of value, cost, and offer to the community. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council's offer included £60,000 from general reserves on top of the proposed £600,000 loan.

It was **RESOLVED: That the report from Cllrs Hancock and Mealing be noted, and that availability of the Village Hall for the Parish Consultation be sought. Cllrs Hancock and Mealing agreed to liaise with the Clerk over a consultation timetable.**

64/15 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Members received a report from Cllr Cross on progress with the Lovelace Neighbourhood Plan. Lovelace was now a designated Neighbourhood Plan area. Local summer events had been attended by the Neighbourhood Plan Group, such as Ripley Rocks, and the July Farmers' Market, which had been successful in raising awareness and amassing completed surveys. It had been deemed important to collate information from people from outside the plan area as well as local residents. Ockham Parish Council were backing the Neighbourhood Plan, and plans for events in Ockham and Wisley were being formulated by their own groups. A full questionnaire, delivered to every household in Lovelace, would follow the initial survey later in the year.

It was **RESOLVED: That the report from Cllr Cross be noted.**

65/15 HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

Members received and considered Cllr Ayears' amendments to the Parish Council Health & Safety Policy, copies of which were tabled at the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED: That the amended Health & Safety Policy be approved.**

66/15 GRANT AID 2016-17

Members considered items for Grant Aided projects for the next financial year. Treeworks in the Burial Ground was suggested.

It was **RESOLVED: That quotes for treeworks in the Burial Ground be sought.**

67/15 LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

Members considered items for projects under the Lengthsman Scheme. Unblocking drains on the High Street was suggested.

It was **RESOLVED: That confirmation of the suitability of unblocking drains as a Lengthsman Scheme project be sought.**

68/15 ITEMS TO NOTE FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

'20 is plenty', road safety, and parking were suggested.

69/15 DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

An Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council was scheduled to take place on Thursday 20th August, at the Church Room.

The meeting closed at 2145hrs.

Date:

Chairperson