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**MINUTES of RIPLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on THURSDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2017
 at 1930HRS at THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE, 4 RIO HOUSE**

Present: Cllr Jennie Cliff (Chairman)
 Cllr Suzie Powell-Cullingford
 Cllr Vernon Wood
 Jim Morris, Clerk of the Council

Apologies: Cllrs Richard Ayears, Colin Cross, Caspar Hancock, and Lisanne Mealing

Also present: 3 members of the public

60/17 STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

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

a) A member of the public had been disappointed with the Chairman's article in a recent edition of Ripley & Send Matters. The article had not made clear that the preschool was an entirely separate entity from Ripley Primary School, an omission which had led to some confusion and consternation. The preschool had been classed as 'good' by Ofsted. It was felt that the article could have been more forward looking and welcoming to the new Head.

RESPONSE: The Chairman thanked the resident for raising the concerns. A clarification would be included in either the next issue of Ripley & Send Matters or a future edition of the parish council's Newsletter. The preschool was offered the opportunity to produce an insert for the Newsletter. It was noted that news on an Academy prepared to take on the governance of the school was still due to be forthcoming.

61/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Ayears, Cllr Cross, Cllr Hancock, and Cllr Mealing. Cllr Cross hoped to attend the meeting once commitments at Guildford Borough Council had been attended to. The Surrey County Council member for the Horsleys electoral division, Cllr Julie Iles, had also sent apologies.

62/17 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Cllr Powell-Cullingford declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 10 'Village Hall': Cllr Powell-Cullingford was an elected member of the Village Hall board of Trustees

Cllr Wood declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 6vi 'Correspondence': Cllr Wood was the Chairman of the Bonfire Committee

Cllr Wood declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 10 'Village Hall': Cllr Wood represented the Bonfire Committee on the Village Hall board of Trustees

63/17 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20th July 2017 were received, confirmed, and signed as a true and correct record by the Chairman

64/17 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The meeting received a report from the parish council Chairman. Horsleys Cllr Julie Iles had facilitated a meeting with the parish council Chairman and the Chairman of the Interim Executive Board (IEB) of Ripley

Primary School. The IEB wanted to work with the parish council whilst it sought to link up with an Academy, and had asked for an article to be placed in the next edition of the council's Newsletter. The article would state that the council had been asked to include it on the publication. It was disappointing that there was no local involvement on the IEB, which was comprised of three people. The meeting had been a frank exchange of views, but had unfortunately offered little reassurance.

Local man Ted Strange had undertaken repairs to one of the prominent benches on The Green. Mr Strange's work had been exemplary and thanks were offered for his work and attention to detail. Mr Dixon's memorial plaque beside the crab apple tree had also been uncovered.

It was **RESOLVED: That the report from the parish council Chairperson be noted. It was resolved that a sum of £20 would be added to the fee for Mr Strange's materials.**

65/17 CLERK'S REPORT

The meeting received a report from the parish council Clerk (attached to record Minutes)

- Dumped vehicles
- PRoW
- Training courses

A comprehensive email containing information on how to report dumped cars had been received by the Clerk, and could be disseminated to residents who raised such queries in future. A suggestion to resurface FP34 between River End Cottage and Walsham Weir was noted. The Clerk had applied for CFGA funding for the potential project. Comprehensive information on rules regarding Village Greens and Common Land had been included with the Clerk's Report (copy attached to record Minutes) in order to help facilitate discussions on dumped vehicles, Public Rights of Way, parking in the village, and signage on The Green. A recent scything course had been attended and had proved to be an excellent and informative day.

It was RESOLVED: That the Clerk's Report be noted. The council resolved to ask Mark Allery to deliver the scything course at the Nature Reserve in 2018.

66/17 CORRESPONDENCE (copies attached to record Minutes)

i) Correspondence from the History Society regarding its A board

It was **RESOLVED: That the correspondence be noted. Members noted that the businesses on the north side of the High Street were thought to own their own sections of the footway. The Talbot had been placing an A board opposite the Inn on the Village Green, and it was resolved to write and ask whether it was temporary.**

ii) Email regarding untaxed vehicles on The Green

It was **RESOLVED: That the email be noted. Members were to discuss the issue more widely at Agenda item 8vi.**

iii) Invitation to a Reception and Briefing by the Army Engagement Team

It was **RESOLVED: That the invitation be noted. Members considered whether the Army would be able to replace Pigeon House Bridge and Cllr Powell-Cullingford offered to attend the Briefing on behalf of Ripley Parish Council.**

iv) News from Affinity Water

It was **RESOLVED: That the news be noted**

v) Email from GBC regarding broken food caddy recycling

It was **RESOLVED: That the email be noted. Two members of the public asked for new food caddies**

vi) Request for use of The Green

It was **RESOLVED: That the request be approved with conditions attached**

67/17 FINANCE

Members received and noted the schedule of accounts received and paid for the period from 01/07/17 - 31/8/17 totalling £27,097.47 (copy attached to record minutes)

Cheques for authorisation were presented by the Parish Clerk

Members received and considered the audit opinion for 2016-17 from BDO LLP

Members received and considered a report on recent meetings of the Finance Working Group. Discussions on a potential grant to facilitate Village Hall redevelopment had been discussed, and it was felt that a substantial sum could be offered in order to help kick start the project, once advice from SSALC had been received.

Members received and considered a report on purchasing new computer equipment

It was **RESOLVED: That;**

a) The schedule of accounts received and paid for the period 1/7/17 to 31/8/17, totalling £27,097.47 be approved

- b) Cheques presented for authorisation be approved and signed
- c) The audit opinion for 2016-17 from BDO LLP be noted
- d) The report on the recent meeting of the Finance Working Group be noted
- e) The report on new computer equipment be noted. It was resolved to commit a budget of £2,000 in order to future-proof the purchase. A new Mac and iPad would be purchased.

Cllr Colin Cross joined the meeting

68/17 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

Members received and considered matters ongoing under the remit of the Planning & Environment Committee:

- i) Minutes of the P&E Committee meetings held on 03/07/17 and 24/07/2017 (attached to record Minutes)
- ii) SID schedule and results to date (attached to record Minutes)
- iii) Three Farms Meadows (TFM) Planning Inquiry
- iv) DCLG Planning Update Newsletter (attached to record Minutes)
- v) Letter regarding development at properties accessed via parish council owned or managed land
- vi) Parking in the village

It was **RESOLVED: That;**

- i) **The Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meetings held on 03/07/17 & 24/07/17 be noted**
- ii) **The speed indicator unit results be noted**
- iii) **The report on the Former Wisley Airfield Planning Inquiry be noted. The Inquiry had opened and had received statements from the Appellant, GBC, and the Rule 6(6) parties. Members of the public, including Mole Valley MP Sir Paul Beresford had addressed the Inquiry. Ripley Parish Council was due to take the stand on the following Wednesday, and parish councillors were due to be present for most sessions of the proceedings. Cllr Cross was thanked for his dedication and attention to detail on all matters associated with the Inquiry.**
- iv) **The DCLG Planning Update Newsletter be noted**
- v) **Letters to residents regarding development at properties accessed via parish council owned or managed land be resolved. Some changes were suggested and it was resolved to compose a separate letter for the benefit of residents at West End Cottages.**
- vi) **A Parking Working Group be created in order to focus on potential changes to parking rules in the village**

69/17 LEISURE & FACILITIES

Members received and considered matters ongoing under the auspices of parish council Leisure & Facilities:

- i) Play Area Safety Inspection Report
- ii) PRoW and signage on The Green (attached to record Minutes)
- ii) Nature Reserve
- iv) Burial Ground – potential improvements

It was **RESOLVED: That,**

- i) **The Play Area Safety Inspection Report be noted. The Clerk had liaised with the maintenance man over carrying out some suggested works.**
- ii) **The report on Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and signage be noted. The Clerk had received advice from SCC and via a Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) training course on Village Greens and Common Land, which was used to inform the discussion. Issues over misleading signage were discussed, and it was resolved to remove the “No Horseriding” sign at the Milk Road. Agenda items 8v and 8vi were also inextricably linked to issues surrounding PRoW and signage, and the item would be revisited at future meetings.**
- iii) **The report on the development of the Nature Reserve be noted. Decisions on whether to use power tools at the site were deferred until the next meeting of the Nature Reserve Working Group.**
- iv) **There was no update on potential Burial Ground improvements to be given**

70/17 VILLAGE HALL

Members received and considered a report on recent meetings of the Village Hall Trustees. A change in the makeup of the Trustees had been effected at the recent AGM, and departing members were thanked for their efforts. A new design for a redeveloped Hall had been finalised and it was hoped that a Planning Application would be entered shortly. The design was thought to be forward thinking and members were encouraged to look out for future fundraising events.

Members received and considered a Grant Application from the RVH CIO for funding of £500,000 towards the redevelopment project.

It was **RESOLVED: That the report be noted. There was an insufficient number of members available at the meeting to resolve to offer the RVH CIO funding of £500,000, although it was resolved to seek advice from SSALC over the possibility of taking out a Public Works Loans Board loan and to progress the Grant Application in principle.**

71/17 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Members received and considered report on recent progress with the Lovelace Neighbourhood Plan. The final touches were being resolved by the LNPG and it was hoped that the document would be available for the public within the coming month. It was noted that the Group had worked incredibly hard over the summer months to progress the Plan.

It was **RESOLVED: That the report be noted.**

72/17 CHRISTMAS EVENT

Members received and considered a report on progress with the Christmas Event. All the stalls had been sold and the plans for the Event were progressing well.

It was **RESOLVED: That the report be noted**

73/17 COMMUNICATION & LIAISON

Members considered items for inclusion on a future edition of *The Parish Review*. Ripley Primary School, the Planning Inquiry, the Local and Neighbourhood Plans, RVH fundraising events, the Christmas Event, and some scything pictures were suggested

It was **RESOLVED: That the publishing of a Newsletter be progressed**

74/17 ITEMS TO NOTE FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

No items were suggested

75/17 DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of the parish council was scheduled to take place on Thursday 19th October 2017, at the Parish Council Office

The meeting closed at 2135hrs

Date:

Chairman