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**MINUTES of RIPLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on THURSDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2017
 at 1930HRS at THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE, 4 RIO HOUSE**

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

Apologies: Cllrs Colin Cross and Suzie Powell-Cullingford

Also present: 2 members of the public

91/17 STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

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

a) The Chairman of the Ripley Primary School Interim Executive Board (IEB) expressed his understanding of the recent concerns of the community over the future of the school. Negotiations over the school's future had been glacial, but it was felt that progress was being made nonetheless. The Diocese had a new interim leader, but was still advertising for a permanent role. Some changes in personnel had occurred at Surrey County Council (SCC), including a new Cabinet Member and new Strategic Lead. The Chairman of the IEB also offered a clarification over some misunderstandings which had been conveyed by members of the public at the previous parish council meeting. Minutes of meetings would be published. A further meeting with parties interested in the school's future was due to take place.

RESPONSE: The Chairman thanked the Chairman of the IEB for the update. Any news of progress would be most welcome and it was appreciated that public records of meetings were to be published.

b) A local resident, representing the Friends of Ripley Primary School, also noted the upcoming Village Forum meeting. A letter was due to be sent to the Good Shepherd Trust asking it to justify its decision not to adopt the school into its Academy. The decision was curious particularly as the Trust had a stated aim to increase its Academy from 11 to 30 schools. The Friends were also due to write to the Regional Schools' Commissioner.

RESPONSE: Members thanked the resident for the update

b) Cllr Mealing, representing the Farmers' Market, queried whether the Market's padlocks could be changed to combination locks. The Farmers' Market Committee had struggled to agree on the provision of keys to its members.

RESPONSE: Cllr Wood agreed to liaise with a local ironmonger over the provision of adequate new locks

92/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

93/17 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

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

94/17 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19th October 2017 were received, confirmed, and signed as a true and correct record by the Chairman

95/17 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The meeting received a report from the parish council Chairman. The Clerk was thanked for the recent work on producing the parish council newsletter. Ripley & Send Matters, and in particular its long-standing editor Valerie Jenner, was thanked and congratulated on its forthcoming 100th edition. The Ripley Bonfire Association and its members were thanked for their support of the soapbox derby, which had raised over £10,000 for Macmillan. The Chairman and Cllr Wood had attended the Remembrance service alongside the Primary School and had attended the FWA Inquiry site visit with Cllr Cross. The former airfield site clearly had in-use badger setts and larks were heard during the visit.

It was **RESOLVED: That the report from the parish council Chairman be noted.**

96/17 CORRESPONDENCE (copies attached to record Minutes)

i) Invitation to the Local Government Association's Corporate Peer Challenge

It was **RESOLVED: That the Clerk would attend if it was convenient**

ii) Request for sporting equipment on The Green

It was **RESOLVED: That the request be noted. There were no current plans for spending on further equipment for The Green.**

iii) Request for a polytunnel

It was **RESOLVED: That the request be approved**

iv) Members' Allocation Fund

It was **RESOLVED: That an application for funds towards an information map for The Green be entered**

97/17 FINANCE

Members received and noted the schedule of accounts received and paid for the period from 01/10/17 – 31/10/17 totalling £31,946.49 (copy attached to record minutes)

Cheques for authorisation were received

Members discussed the need to mediate future precept requirements to the wider public and hoped to liaise with the Ripley Village Hall CIO over planning an open day. A meeting of the Finance Working Group was scheduled for mid-December.

It was **RESOLVED: That;**

a) The schedule of accounts received and paid for the period 1/10/17 to 31/10/17, totalling £31,946.49 be approved

b) Cheques presented for authorisation were approved

c) Potential dates for a Finance Working Group meeting were resolved

98/17 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

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

i) Minutes of P&E Committee meetings held 25/09/2017 & 16/10/2017 (attached to record Minutes)

ii) Former Wisley Airfield Planning Inquiry update. Members received and considered a report on the progression of the Inquiry (attached to record Minutes). Recent government policy developments were discussed.

iii) Ripley Parish Council Planning Policy (attached to record Minutes)

iv) Parking Working Group

It was **RESOLVED: That;**

i) The Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meetings held on 25/09/17 & 16/10/17 be noted

ii) The report on the ongoing schedule of the Former Wisley Airfield Planning Inquiry be noted

iii) The updated Ripley Parish Council Planning Policy be noted

iv) The creation of a Parking Working Group be deferred until a future meeting

99/17 LEISURE & FACILITIES

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

i) Burial Ground – potential improvements. Members discussed what works might be needed to progress the project.

ii) Nature Reserve Working Group (NRWG). The recent meeting of the NRWG was discussed. The provision of simple bench seating was to be progressed.

It was **RESOLVED: That,**

i) The Environment Agency be contacted regarding the potential Burial Ground extension. All works would be clearly communicated to local residents.

ii) The report on the recent meeting of the NRWG be noted

100/17 COMMUNICATION & LIAISON

Members considered the creation of a Communication & Liaison Working Group in light of social media trends and e-noticeboard updates

It was **RESOLVED: That Cllrs Cliff and Mealing would overview parish council communications where necessary as a Communication & Liaison Working Group**

101/17 VILLAGE HALL

Members received and considered a report on recent meetings of the Village Hall Trustees and other developments. Cllr Mealing had been helping to create a Business Plan for the Village Hall and its rebuild. A meeting at Guildford Borough Council had explored the possibility of accessing Capital Funding towards the Village Hall rebuild. The meeting had been positive and it had been clear that the CIO may be able to access different funding streams. A letter to local parish councils regarding S106 allocations was considered and modified.

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

102/17 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Members received and considered report on recent progress with the Lovelace Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan was progressing slowly and members expressed a desire to progress the project to its next stages.

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

103/17 CHRISTMAS EVENT

Members received and considered a report on progress with the Christmas Event. Advertisement boards had been erected and the local Harley Davidson chapter had been booked to provide transport for Santa. The large Christmas Event sign for The Green had unfortunately been misplaced.

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

104/17 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2018

Members received and considered the schedule of meetings for 2018 (attached to record Minutes)

It was **RESOLVED: That the schedule be approved**

105/17 ITEMS TO NOTE FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Parking Working Group, and a sign for The Avenue were suggested

106/17 DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of the parish council was scheduled to take place on Thursday 18th January 2018, at the Parish Council Office.

The meeting closed at 2110hrs

Date:

Chairman