

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF ROCESTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 4th MARCH 2013 AT 19.30 HRS
AT ROCESTER VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Cllr. Atkins (Chair), Cllr. Barlow, Cllr. Green, Cllr. Hollis, Cllr. LeBlanc, Cllr. Paxton, Cllr. Sutton, Cllr. Woodward and Cllr. Yorke

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms S Farnell (Clerk), Cllr. C. Smith (ESBC), A Scales(Litterpicker), Sonny Turner and friends.

APOLOGIES: All councillors were in attendance.

014/13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Sonny Turner attended the meeting to request new skateboard ramps for the recreation ground, he reported that the existing equipment has been vandalised. The clerk reported that money is available in the King George V Jubilee account that could be used. Chris Smith reported that funding could be available from ESBC. The clerk was asked to enquire if the ramps from Ashbourne would be available to have on Rocester Playing Fields,

Tony Scales attended the meeting to explain about the litter bin that had been moved about during the course of the last month, he also requested that a litter bin be purchased for Riversfield Drive. Cllr. Atkins proposed that the clerk purchases a new bin for this location.

015/13 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Council held on 4th February 2013 having been circulated, and be confirmed as a correct and true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr. Barlow and seconded by Cllr. Yorke.

016/13 FINANCIAL REPORT

That authority is given for cheques to be issued in respect of the invoices detailed on the Appendix to be signed. Proposed by Cllr Barlow and seconded by Cllr. Sutton.

Cllr. Barlow proposed and Cllr. Yorke seconded that Cllr. Hollis be reimbursed £16 for the purchase of chocolates for the Christmas event. All councillors were in favour. The clerk is to put this item on the April cheque run.

The clerk read out the quotations for replacing the bench around the Buttercross. Cllr. Barlow proposed that the quote of £635 for the hardwood bench be accepted. All councillors were in favour.

017/13 PLANNING

Applications

P/2013/00228- Bourne Methodist Chapel – Continued use of Methodist chapel as a dwelling house. The members raised no objections but stated that it should be reported that visitors to the chapel are allowed to park on the public car park but do not have designated parking spaces as stated in the planning delivery document.

Applications Granted

7 Riverscroft Close - P/2012/01606 - Conversion of garage to form additional living accommodation and a single storey front extension.

Eaton Road –P/201201598 – Land at Eaton Rd, Rocester – Erection of pair of semi-detached bungalows.

018/13 CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION

- (a) Cllr. Yorke – Letter of resignation – The letter was read out and noted.
- (b) SCC- Community Paths Initiative Bid- The funding was discussed and it was decided to apply for new fingerposts for the Limestone Way and Staffordshire way. Cllr. Yorke proposed that this funding application be planned well in advance before next year.
- (c) Community Council of Staffordshire – Diary of Village Events.- Passed to RVHMC
- (d) Community Council of Staffordshire – Parish Recycling Scheme – Passed to RVHMC
- (e) ESBC – Emergency Plan – Letter offering Assistance with preparation of the plan. It was agreed that this offer be accepted.

019/13 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- (a) HMRC –Notification of real time reporting – Noted and the clerk reported that she was attending a course on this subject on Thursday, 7th March 2013.
- (b) ESBC – Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy – Consultation Document - Noted

020/13 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

It has been reported that Stafford Hospital is financially and clinically unsustainable and an administrator could be appointed. It is the first foundation trust to have an administrator. There will be changes at the hospital. There will be a period of consultation which will probably be May/June. The administrator will need to come up with a plan of action and decide what sort of hospital is needed for the future.

HS2 – have written about compensation matters to widen the zone down the railway line.

The wind turbine planning application was declined.

Staffordshire has the lowest county council tax in the country.

Independent futures is coming along – matching child and adult expectations in disabled people.

Pinchpoint funding- there will be a bid for three sites, no 1 site is Rocester, the funding is available to help to move congestion along. The plans have been drawn up and are at an advanced stage.

There is a consultation on Steeple View day care centre which is closing.

021/13 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT

Central government funding is down by 7% and will be down by 15% in 2014/15. The only service that was cut was the rodent man. Rentokil offer a cheaper and better service. The planning committee rejected three wind turbines, one at Smallwood Manor, Buttermilk Hill and Abbots Bromley due to them being near listed buildings.

022/13 ROCESTER VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Cllr. Green read out the Rocester Village Hall Management Committee report for March 2013 and requested that the Parish Council write a letter confirming their support of the Rocester Village Hall Management Committee's Development and Improvement Programme for the building and recommends that third party funding bodies also offer their maximum and timely support for the project.

Cllr. Atkins said that the parish council as landlord would still like to see any plans for the development of the building. David Yorke asked if the parish council or Rocester Village Hall Management Committee should submit the planning applications, it was decided that it would be beneficial for Rocester Parish Council to make the application and appoint the RVHMC as agent. Cllr. Atkins proposed this and also to support them in their fundraising activities. All councillors were in favour.

023/13 PLAYING FIELDS LEGACY FUND

RVHMC to investigate further as the parish council's agent to see if this could be used to build changing rooms at the rear of the village hall.

024/13 ALLIANCE DOCUMENT

Cllr. Yorke updated the council on the Alliance Document, Cllr. Smith (ESBC) was asked to keep the members of the council updated on the local plan.

025/13 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council, is to be held on Monday, 8th April 2013 at 7.30 p.m. at Rocester Village Hall

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED: -

That, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business as it involved the likely disclosure of information which, in the opinion of the Council, would be prejudicial to the public interest and/or is of a confidential nature.

IN PRIVATE

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.30pm

CHAIRMAN