

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF ROCESTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 19.30 HRS
AT ROCESTER VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Cllr. Atkins, Cllr. Hollis, Cllr. Barlow, Cllr. Green, Cllr. Paxton, Cllr. Sutton and Cllr. Woodward.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms S Farnell (Clerk), Sara Botham (ESBC), Anne Bietkowski, Steve Bietkowski, Chris Podmore, Kate & David Yorke.

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Smith (ESBC)

076/13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

David Yorke discussed the application for the demolition of Eyes Farm Bungalow and outbuildings and said there are a number of issues for the Parish Council to consider.

Chris Podmore added that he had no formal consultation with the applicant about this matter.

Kate Yorke asked if the broken tree at the corner of Church Lane and Ashbourne Road could be reported to Highways.

Sara Botham attended the meeting to update the council on the Skateboard project. She had been in touch with six companies. The cost would be between £30 and £36k to replace the ramps. The extension would be approximately £25k. The project could access the Neighbourhood fund. The Parish Council could act as stakeholder so they could claim the VAT back. Cllr. Atkins said there is funding available at Staffordshire County Council.

Sara also discussed the priority setting for projects for the Neighbourhood Forum for 2014. Each ward can have three priorities accepted and have projects in reserve. It was agreed that the Village Hall, Skateboard Park and Land at the rear of Rocester Garage, could be listed as possible projects. The clerk is to e-mail Sara with the list of priorities.

077/13 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Council held on 8th July 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. Greene.

078/13 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 Paxton and seconded by Cllr. Greene.

In relation to the cheque for E-On Cllr. Greene reported that the lamppost outside 2 Whittaker Mews had not worked for a number of months. The clerk said she would report this and would not post the cheque until the lamp had been repaired.

079/13 PLANNING

Applications

P/2013/01020 – 46 Dovefields, Rocester – Erection of a single storey side and rear extension to form garage, store and conservatory and formation of hard-standing to the front. – No objections

P/2013/00863- The Knoll, Old Uttoxeter Rd, Combridge – Erection of dormer extension and bay window to front, dormer extension and single storey rear extension with balcony above to rear, single storey rear extension to form boiler room and replacement detached garage. – No objections

P/2013/01022 – 8 Rivercroft Close – Conversion of integral garage to form additional living accommodation. – No objections on the condition that there is adequate car parking on site.

P/2013/00983 – Horse Shoe Farm, Old Uttoxeter Rd, Combridge- Erection of detached double garage with office above – No objections

P/2013/01013 – Eyes Farm Bungalow – Dove Lane, Rocester- Conservation area consent for the demolition of existing bungalow and outbuildings.

The Parish Council object to the application on the following grounds:

There is an issue with the enforcement of the use of the buildings within a conservation area. The members also object to the demolition of a perfectly good bungalow without notification in the application of what they intend to do with the land. There is also dubious information in the report and no archaeological information at all. The Design & Access statement mentions 18 dwellings but there is no detail of this. The site is also outside the new development boundary. The Dove First School with a right hand bend and no pavements is within yards of the access to the development.

The Parish Council would not want the extra hassle and expense of more land so the applicant or his purchaser can build more houses.

Applications Granted

P/2013/00805 – Former Queens Arms, Ashbourne Rd, Rocester- Removal of existing fireplace and installation of replacement fireplace with multi-fuel burner.

P/2013/00691- Former Queens Arms, Ashbourne Rd, Rocester- Installation of 2 replacement windows o street elevation.

080/13 ROCESTER VILLAGE HALL MONTHLY REPORT

Jenny Woodward read out the monthly report which is attached.

Jenny informed the council that a shortfall had occurred in respect of the cost of renewing the flat roof. This had come about as a result of the original contractor who JCB had recommended pulling out of doing the job. The shortfall equates to the cost of the VAT and Jenny asked the council if they could stand this cost. Cllr. Atkins proposed that he would contact JCB and request that their donation is made payable to Rocester Parish Council and they pay the invoice to the contractor. This would enable the council to reclaim the VAT.

Cllr Sutton proposed that the Parish Council give an assurance to the Village Hall Committee that this cost will be covered. All councillors were in favour.

Cllr. Hollis discussed the review of the lease between the Parish Council and the Village Hall. He offered to review the lease with the help of David Yorke.

081/13 CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION

- (a) SPFA – Invitation to AGM and Minutes of the last AGM –Read out and noted
- (b) Tamworth Borough Council – Protection of Staffordshire Regiment Mascot – Read out and noted.
- (c) E-on – Savings on Street Lighting – Read out and noted.

- (d) Sara Botham – ESBC – Neighbourhood Forum Priority Setting – See Public participation above.

082/13 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- (a) ESBC – Consultation on Licensing Act Policy
- (b) Community Council of Staffordshire – BKV Results
- (c) Harley Bussey – Thank You Letter
- (d) Philip Somerfield –ESBC- Letter Re: Primus, Castrum Court- the clerk was asked to write to Cllr. Smith and Philip Somerfield and ask why this application was not put in front of the planning committee. A copy of the letter is also to be sent to Richard Grosvenor. A letter is also to be sent to Cllr. Smith requesting that he attends more Parish Council meetings as the date has been changed to enable him to attend more frequently.
- (e) Community Council of Staffordshire – AGM and Annual Report

083/13 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Atkins reported that things had been quiet at the County due to it being holiday time.

The roundabouts on the B5030 are due to start at the end of the Alton Towers season and should be completed by March 2014.

The model of the Messines Ridge is being dug at Brocton Common on Cannock Chase and is open for members of the public to visit.

Stafford Hospital TSA report is out for consultation.

Burton Hospital is in special measures.

The Highway budget has been delayed. There are a lot of projects in consultation around the county.

Entrust is up and running which offers education support.

084/13 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT.

The Borough Councillor was not in attendance.

086/13 COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Mr. Chris Podmore expressed an interest in re-joining the council. Cllr. Atkins proposed and Cllr. Barlow seconded that Chris Podmore is co-opted onto the council. All councillors were in favour. The clerk is to issue Chris with the relevant forms to be completed.

087/13 OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

The clerk informed the council that she had been approached by the partner of Caroline Hill to see what the council wanted to offer in respect of the Land at the Rear of Rocester Garage. Cllr. Atkins requested that the clerk contacts the district valuer, Jamie McDonald to ask him to value the land on behalf of the council.

The clerk asked permission to dispose of the shredder that was no longer in working order and was not repairable. Cllr. Atkins proposed that the shredder be disposed of, all councillors were in favour.

088/13 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council, is to be held on Monday, 14th October 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: 45 pm

CHAIRMAN