

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF ROCESTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 10th FEBRUARY 2014 AT 19.30 HRS
AT ROCESTER VILLAGE HALL**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms S Farnell (Clerk), Cllr. C. Smith (E.S.B.C), Mark Snape (Highways), Will Singleton (Balfour Beatty), Geoff and Amanda Aris, Philip Wood and Judith Ward.

APOLOGIES: All Councillors were present

004/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Will Singleton and Mark Snape attended the meeting to update the council on the B5030 Project. The project is on target, the BT works have come to a conclusion and the work on the second roundabout has begun. The kerbs will go in tomorrow. By the end of this month both roundabouts will be in operation and the work will begin on the underpass. Traffic management systems should be off the road by the 22nd March when Alton Towers re-opens and the landscaping etc will be completed after this date. Cllr. Smith asked if the County Council were totally happy with the width of the approach to the roundabout and the circumference of the roundabout. Mark Snape said that this was a valid point and it had been shown on a plan the information that had allayed the concerns raised.

Amanda Aris attended the meeting to inform the members about the Chancel Repair Liability at St. Michaels Church. In May 2012 they received a letter from the solicitor that acted for the Bishop of Lichfield about Chancel Repair Liability. The government said that every church has to register their right to demand money by October 2013. The Parochial Church Council didn't want to see the village devalued in this way. The boundaries and original parcels of land have changed, so on this basis it was unreasonable for them to register with the Land Registry.

Philip Wood said that he had concerns about the field where Ryecroft School is proposed to go. Cllr. Atkins said that there were no plans as yet. Philip was concerned about Foot and Mouth cattle being buried in the same field.

005/14 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Council held on 9th December 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. Paxton.

That the minutes of the Precept meeting held on Monday, 13th January 2014, 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. Paxton.

006/14 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. Paxton.

007/14 PLANNING

P/2013/00913 – Land North East of Woodseat Grove, Rocester – Continued use of land for equestrian use and retention of a field shelter and storage shed – No objections

P/2014/00090 – 76 Mill Street, Rocester – Erection of a first floor rear extension – No objections

Cllr. Barlow commented that Cllr. Smith had put an article in the press about flooding on Dove Lane. Cllr. Smith said that when he worked in the insurance industry he settled two claims for flooding on Dove Lane.

008/14 CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION

- (a) Community Council of Staffordshire – BKV Competition – Application to be submitted. Sub-Committee to be formed
- (b) Ray Hirst – Letter of complaint regarding the Christmas Tree – Grahem Hunt and Chris Mitchell to be contacted to ask permission for a hole to be made in the pavement for the tree to go in.
- (c) SCC – Glynn Hook – Letter regarding Street Lighting Service – Request that the lights be dimmed in the residential areas.

009/14 CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- (a) Rocester Allotment Association – Letter from JCB re: Rocester Corner Field
- (b) SCC- Improving Education in East Staffordshire

010/14 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A consultation will be taking place regarding Youth Services. 450 people are attending Learning Disability Centres. Council tax has been frozen. A consultation will be held at Uttoxeter Racecourse about the A50.

Cllr. Atkins informed the council about the issues with external wall insulation that is being carried out in the village. Trading Standards have been informed.

011/14 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr. Smith has got the funding for the rest of the chairs for Rocester Village Hall and is now working on raising funds for the heating system for Rocester Church. ESBC council tax has been frozen.

012/14 VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr. Green had nothing to report. The AGM has been set for the 22nd April 2014. A meeting is to be arranged to discuss the lease.

013/14 JOHN HUTCHINSON MEMORIAL BENCH

Cllr. Barlow informed the members that Willie Ratcliffe was unable to do the engraving on the bench. The clerk was asked to contact Mark Bettany to see if he could do it.

014/14 COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The clerk had received a letter from ESBC informing that the council could now co-opt a new member to replace Joan LeBlanc. The letter of application from Amanda Aris was read out by the clerk and Cllr. Hollis proposed that she be co-opted as a member of the council. All councillors were in favour.

015/14 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council, is to be held on Monday, 10th March 2014 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 9.40hrs.

CHAIRMAN