

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF ROCESTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
ON MONDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2014 AT 19.30 HRS  
AT ROCESTER VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. Atkins (Chair), Barlow, Hollis, Green, Paxton and Sutton

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ms S Farnell (Clerk), Chris Dickson (The Red Lion Public House), Mark Dickson and Kate Yorke

**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs. Aris, Podmore and Woodward

**099/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Chris Dickson from The Red Lion public house discussed the problem of members of the public using the toilets in the public house. He has experienced damage etc. to the facilities. The clerk was asked to arrange for the sign is to be removed off the toilets and the brown sign on the main road is to be blanked out. The clerk was asked to write to the care home at Stubwood about the problem as it is being used by carers and patients.

Kate Yorke updated the council on the ESBC Local Plan.

Cllr. Hollis reported that sewerage was coming up into the gardens of properties in Northfield Avenue. The clerk was asked to contact Severn Trent and Chris Smith regarding the problem.

Mark Dickson raised the issue again about the problem of cycling on pavements and threatened to take legal action about this matter. It was explained to him again that this was not a parish council issue. The clerk reported that Highways now had permission from JCB to install the signs the other side of the underpass.

The clerk reminded the council that Chief Inspector Maskrey will be attending the December meeting.

**100/14 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Council held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2014 having been circulated, and be confirmed as a correct and true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr. Hollis and seconded by Cllr. Barlow.

**101/14 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 Green and seconded by Cllr. Paxton.

The clerk reported that the minimum wage had increased to £6.50 per hour from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014 and asked if the Tony Scales wages could be adjusted accordingly. This was approved by all members present.

Cllr. Atkins asked the clerk to bring an update of expenditure to the next meeting in preparation for the precept meeting which is to be held early January.

**102/14 PLANNING**

**Granted**

P/2014/01178–70 Mill Street, Rocester – Erection of a single storey rear extension

P/2014/01250 – Adj. The Mill, High Street, Rocester – Felling of 2 Alder Trees

### **103/14 CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION**

- a) CPRE – Request for a grant – Reply stating not at this moment in time.
- b) Fozeena Scott – Village Issues – The email was read out and noted by the council. The clerk explained that some of the issues had already been dealt with by PCSO Higgs and that she would reply on the other matters.

### **104/14 CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

- a) SPCA – Annual Report and Accounts - Noted
- b) Caroline Coates – Rocester Charities Report – The clerk was asked to contact Caroline Coates for a further update in February.

### **105/14 COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT**

The A50 Junction project A got passed last Thursday. Project B will need another planning application. It will be more interesting about how the design fits. The Esso station and the Little Chef will go.

This will need to be monitored. The Library consultation has come to a close.

Rocester Children’s Centre is one of the nine that there isn’t a solution for.

Cllr. Atkins asked the clerk to write to Helen Gill and Graham Hunt and ask how the community can get involved in the aftermath and what can be done with the building.

### **106/14 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT**

The Borough Councillor was not in attendance.

### **107/14 VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Cllr. Greene presented a draft job description for a Village Hall Manager to the members of the council for discussion.

He also presented a forecast of the finances and discussed these.

The clerk discussed her conversation with Cathy Russell from the Community Council of Staffordshire.

The clerk also explained that Graham Hunt had put her in touch with VAST who can help with these situations. A meeting is to be arranged for one evening with VAST and Cllr. Green and Cllr. Atkins.

Cllr. Hollis offered to meet with Cllr. Green to help draw up a draft business plan.

### **108/14 RIVERSFIELD DRIVE GARDEN**

The naming of the new garden on Riversfield Drive as The Roger Austin Memorial Garden was discussed. The clerk was asked to source a plaque on a stand with the following wording:

“In Memory of Roger Austin a dedicated member of Rocester Parish Council from February 2001 to April 2010. The project was funded by Trent & Dove, Staffordshire County Council and Rocester Parish Council”.

The clerk was asked to invite Ron Dougan, Graham Hunt and Doreen and Mandy Austin to the unveiling of the plaque.

### **109/14 CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES – 2014**

The clerk updated the council on the arrangements for the Christmas festivities. Three more businesses have agreed to have the extra trees. These are Abbeyfields Vets, Rocester Garage and Premeir. The clerk asked if anyone could take over the raffle as she would not be here on the weekend of the switch on. Cllr. Hollis offered to do this.

The tube and hole in the ground outside the Red Lion are scheduled to be done on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> November, weather permitting.

### **110/14 BKV COMMENTS**

This item had been brought forward from last month’s meeting. It was agreed that the clerk could go through the list and deal with the issues accordingly throughout the coming months.

### **111/14 PARKING ON STATION RD**

Cllr. Barlow reported that continental lorry's are still parking on Station Road. He had tried to call the police about this problem and he said that the restriction on Station Road is a waste of time.

The clerk was asked to contact ESBC again about this matter.

### **112/14 ROCESTER PLAYING FIELDS**

Cllr. Barlow reported that a young girl had been hurt on the playing fields as a result of a piece of wood being put into the roundabout by youths. It was reported that most of the wood had now been removed off the field at the back of the playground.

The clerk reported that an inspection of the playground equipment is due to take place within the next few weeks.

### **113/14 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council, is to be held on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 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 9.10 hrs.

CHAIRMAN