

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF ROCESTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY, 11th NOVEMBER 2013 AT 19.30 HRS
AT ROCESTER VILLAGE HALL**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms S Farnell (Clerk), Sara Botham (ESBC),

APOLOGIES: Cllr. C. Smith (ESBC)

104/13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Sara Botham from ESBC attended the meeting to discuss the improvements on the skatepark. The boys now wanted concrete ramps. Sara believes that this project would not be viable for the Neighbourhood Forum and has left it with the boys to do further investigations on costs etc. Cllr. Atkins suggested approaching local companies for assistance with the project.

Sara reported that the Neighbourhood Forum is to be held on Tuesday, 19th November 2013 at Branston Golf Club to set the priorities for next year. Cllr. Hollis, Cllr. Paxton, Cllr. Barlow and Cllr. Podmore said they would try and attend.

105/13 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Council held on 14th October 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. Woodward.

106/13 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. Green.

The clerk informed the members of the council that the hourly rate for A. Scales had changed slightly due to the increase in the minimum wage.

107/13 PLANNING

Applications

P/2013/01181- 53 High Street, Rocester – Erection of a single storey rear extension – The members of the council had no objections

P/2013/01220 – JCB (Excavators) Ltd, Lakeside Works, Rocester – Erection of extension to create fourth floor offices, including alterations to the third floor – the members of the council had no objections on the condition that Section 106 money is made available for car park barrier and passes for the village hall car park that is used by JCB employees.

108/13 CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION

(a) ESBC – Pre-Submission of the Local Plan – Consultation Document
The following response is to be sent to ESBC in relation to this consultation document.

- 1) Is 40 hectares sufficient employment land allocated (See Strategic Policy 3)

- 2) Do we need more certainty over a new secondary and primary school site over and above what we have secured – i.e. is it appropriate to defer a site allocation to a further document (See Strategic Policy 10)
- 3) Should the Infrastructure Delivery and Implementation (See Strategic Policy 9) policy set out a more explicit intention for a mixed S106/S278 and CIL approach to maximise the contributions from developers (n.b. CIL values are often much lower where as S106/S278 sum is optimised for the site in question – currently it is a bit vague.
- 4) The role of the Stoke & Staffordshire LEP and Staffordshire County Council funding (e.g. Pinchpoint) recognised in the evidence base (e.g. Employment Land Review) has not made it through and adequately reflected in the Local Plan itself, with a non-objective bias towards the Greater Birmingham LEP. Is East Staffordshire trying to change its housing market to accommodate Birmingham's needs / what are the implications in terms of funding new infrastructure. It is very vague on Section 106 and 278 funding, would this be enough for the necessary infrastructure.
- 5) Distribution and Deliverability of Housing (Strategic Policy 4): What other alternative is preferable [n.b. I appreciate that planning applications have been determined (often through appeal) but some are currently live – e.g. West of Uttoxeter, and those with known constraints, e.g. flood plain in Rocester].
- 6) The overall number of houses has increased by 2700. How have they arrived at the figure of 11648. The correct type of housing stock is necessary for what people need.
 - (b) Cllr. Atkins –Letter re: Flag Poles – Reply confirming that Rocester parish Council would like to participate in this offer.
 - (c) Aspire Planning – Manor House Wind Turbine – write to Head of Planning stating the members concerns.

109/13 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A meeting has taken place in Uttoxeter with Geoff Morrison and other organisations about the Uttoxeter Town Deal.

The work on the roundabouts has started in Rocester, there is now a one way system through the village. Stafford Hospital Trust administrator has been given another 40 days to come up with a solution.

110/13 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT

The Borough Councillor was not in attendance.

111/13 VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr. Green notified the members of the council about two forthcoming events at the Village Hall. Rocesters Got talent which is a sell out and the Christmas event on 7th December tickets will be on sale soon.

112/13 CHRISTMAS 2013

Cllr. Atkins notified the members that £350 would be available from the County Council towards the cost of the Christmas Lights project.

The quotes for the extra trees and lights were discussed and Cllr. Atkins proposed that the L.G. Woodward quote be accepted with amendments made for excluding the timers and linking the electricity into the box that feeds the Buttercross Lights.

Cllr. Hollis suggested that the clerk visits Woodward's to check the quality of the artificial trees.

The clerk thanked Cllr. Barlow for the kind donation of sweets for Santa Claus to give out to the children on the night.

It was agreed that the lights should be switched on at 6pm on the evening of the 7th December 2013.

Cllr. Hollis and the clerk agreed to meet at 5pm to set up the table of raffle prizes. The clerk is to notify Kesh of the times.

113/13 ALLOTMENTS LEASE

Cllr. Atkins asked the members if they had read the draft lease from the Allotments Association and if they were happy for the clerk to meet with Geoff Arris to discuss it further.

114/13 JOHN HUTCHINSON MEMORIAL BENCH

The clerk informed the members that the bench was due to be delivered this week and asked what inscription they would like on the bench. It was agreed that Cllr. Barlow would contact Willy Ratcliffe and ask him to inscribe 'In Memory of John Hutchinson'.

115/13 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council, is to be held on Monday, 9th December 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 21.35 hrs.

CHAIRMAN