

**ROCESTER PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Monday 14th May 7.30pm - Rocester Village Hall.**  
**(To be approved May 2019)**

Present - Cllr Green, Cllr Barlow, Cllr Bietowski, Cllr Mellor, Cllr Fowell, Cllr Atkins  
 3 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence** - PCSO Carroll, Cllr Smith
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** – Approval of minutes of meeting held on Monday 9th April (previously circulated)  
 Proposed - Cllr Barlow Seconded - Cllr Mellor
3. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations - None Received**
4. **Public Participation - Annual Reports**  
 Chairman's Report - Cllr Green reported to the meeting. See Appendix A  
 Village Hall Report - Cllr Green reported back to the meeting - See Appendix B  
 Breakaways Report - Mrs K Yorke reported back to the meeting - See Appendix C  
 Rocester Local History Report - Mrs K Yorke reported back to the meeting - See Appendix D  
 Rocester Camera Club - Mr D Yorke reported back to the meeting - See Appendix E
5. **Election of Officers**  
 Chairman - Cllr Green was proposed to continue as Chairman by Cllr Atkins, Seconded by Cllr Mellor  
 Vice Chairman - Cllr Atkins was proposed to continue as Vice Chairman by Cllr Green, Seconded by Cllr Bietowski
6. **Adoption of Standing Orders and Council Code of Conduct and Ratification of Publication Scheme, Business Risk Register ,Financial Regulations , Business Risk Register.**  
 All Councillors agreed to adhere to regulations as per their acceptance of office.  
**Action - Clerk to update additional policies throughout year. Clerk to chase outstanding member of interest forms.**
7. **Finance and Administration**  
 Report on Payments to be made –

<u>Date</u>		<u>Amount</u>
30/4/18	Interest	.68
27/4/18	First Half of Precept Payment	10,516.00
	<b>Income Total</b>	<b>10,516.68</b>

**Expenditure**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Tax</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>
14/5/18	Catherine Thompson	436.15	0	436.15	3720
14/5/18	Anthony Scales	271.30	0	271.30	3721
14/5/18	Janet Gregory	191.38	0	191.38	3722
14/5/18	HMRC	91.60	0	91.60	3723
14/5/18	Zurich Municipal	1391.68	0	1391.68	3725
14/5/18	Your Gardener - A Weetman	178.25	0	178.25	3726
14/5/18	Reimbursement to Marchington Parish Council Half of Clerk membership to SLCC and ALCC	88.50	0	88.50	3727
14/5/18	Precept - Church Grant	600.00	0	600.00	3728
14/5/18	L G Woodward	1229.32	245.86	1475.18	3729
	<b>Expenditure Total</b>	<b>4478.18</b>	<b>245.86</b>	<b>4724.04</b>	

Proposed - Cllr Barlow Seconded - Cllr Atkins

## 8. Planning

### a. Planning Applications Received

#### **P/2018/00440 - Rocester Spar, High Street, Rocester, ST14 5JU**

Display of one externally illuminated fascia sign, grey and clear vinyls to front window, non-illuminated panel to side elevation and non-illuminated welcome sign to door

**Due to disability the Parish Council have concerns about the blanking off a door and request that the signage is see through. Especially due to the step**

**Building Control for door signage**

### b. Planning Decisions Received

#### **P201800217 - The Paddock, 28 Dove Lane, Rocester, ST14 5LA**

Siting of a timber cabin for use as annexe to the main dwelling - Permitted

### c. Planning Appeals and Withdrawals - None Received

## 9. Borough Councillor Report - Not Present

10. **County Councillor Report - Cllr Atkins** - Community Fund is now open for applications.

11. **Village Hall Update- Cllr Green** see Appendix B

## 12. Chairman/Councillor Report

## 13. Clerk Reports -

- a. Ashbourne Road Update - awaiting update from Richard Rayson
- b. Insurance renewal - Renewal quote with Zurich Insurance was accepted
- c. Clerk Pay rise - Council approved the NALC recommended pay award for Parish Clerk
- d. Internal Auditor Appointment & End of Year Accounts - to be presented at June meeting
- e. GDPR - Update - Ongoing
- f. Defibrillator Update - Ongoing
- g. Community Fund Application - **Action - Clerk - Application to be made for defibrillator funds**

## 14. Correspondence Received

- Play Inspection Company - Annual Inspection required.

## 15. Any Other Business

- Weed Killing needed - Action - Clerk - Contact Shires Weed Free £600 limit
- Will Thompson - Radmore Homes Rocester - Kind request gratefully requested re tidying up of Butter cross. **Action - Clerk - make contact**
- WW1 Memorial - Discussed current ideas - Refurbishment of the War memorial, Contact Schools, Ryecroft, Academy, Abbotsholme, Dove First. Ask PCC for ideas as well as JCB - **Action - Clerk to make contact and add item onto Agenda**

**Next meeting - Parish Council Meeting - Monday 11th June - 7.30pm – Rocester Village Hall**

**Meeting closed - 8.40pm**

## **Appendix A**

### **Chairman's Report 2017/18**

The Parish Council has achieved quite a lot this year and laid the foundations for things to happen next year.

We started the year with a change of Parish Clerk (again!) and Catherine has quickly grasped what we do and the way we do it. I am very grateful of her support and work this year, especially as I am not having to think about when will we get a new clerk, what about the audit, and can I get away on holiday?

My thanks must also go to David Yorke for his invaluable help with planning matters, and Kate for helping to keep us in touch with various local groups and events. My thanks also go to Tony Scales for his work this year. We must also thank Julia Kent for her voluntary efforts with the Public WC.

We have seen railings installed outside The Dove First School, and some new flooring at First Steps both of which the Parish Council made financial contributions to. We have also seen the installation of new CCTV covering The Village Hall, The Children's Centre and the surrounding fields and car park. A notable fall in petty vandalism in the Public WC has followed.

There are two ongoing matters for which we can see light at the end of the Tunnel (even if it proves to be a very long tunnel). These are the installation of Defibrillators and the pavement problems outside the former Queen's Arms. We are hoping the first defibrillator will be installed outside the Village Hall soon; the second will be at the Police Post and the third at The School. Our thanks to Philip, in his County Councillor Hat for supporting the Defibrillator finance and similarly to Tesco for their support. There remains some fundraising to be done for the second two.

The Pavement problem at the former Queen's Arms has been going on for far too long. However, with a scheme going out to public consultation we can look forward to the solution of this irritant in the, hopefully, not too distant future. It is worth noting that The Parish Council has underwritten half the estimated £25,000 cost; our intention being to seek some funding for this.

At Christmas we moved the Village 'Christmas Tree' to the Village Hall where we were able to have refreshments in the Village Hall. Our thanks to Woodward's for the provision of the lights. We are also grateful to JCB for providing a platform to put the lights up, and additionally for their providing half the cost of the railings at Dove First.

We are still awaiting a planning meeting at Burton regarding the application for houses at Churnet Farm.

## **Appendix B**

### **Village Hall Report 2017/18**

There has been a lot going on in the Hall over the last year. I am particularly pleased to see more children's parties happening. Note to all, a 2-hour slot with 1 hour for set up/clear up will cost you £30. We have something each evening from Monday to Thursday. However we are continuing to make a loss. It is not much, £700 this year, and we have reserves of £5300. A little arithmetic tells us this cannot go on forever. We also have £5800 in the building fund, having spent £1500 on electrical repairs. (all figures rounded). We are most grateful to Debbie (& family) for running the Bingo and making an invaluable contribution to our funds

There have been some improvements, the Hall curtains, and a repainting of the main Hall. Our thanks are due to Roy Burnett from the JCB club, together with ladies from the Church and Melvyn Mellor for the curtains, and Anthony Fowell for the painting. Thanks are also due to Anthony for repairs on the roof.

Thanks also to Janet & Kim Gregory for the cleaning and minor repairs.

The important question is what do we (the village not just those directly involved) do about ensuring the long-term future of the Hall?

There is an application in to ESBC to give us full relief on the Business rates (this year £900) and I am awaiting their response. This would go a long way(if it happens), but is not sufficient if we want to carry out any improvements and provide a sufficient cushion for unseen events.

Prices could go up. A 10% rise would bring approx. £500 and a 20% rise approx. £1000. I would be sorry to put the prices up as it may deter some of our hirers, especially the regulars who are putting on things that benefit the Village.

Although prices may have to go up because of inflation anyway the best solution would be for some volunteers from the Village getting together and putting events on. Rocester's Got Talent was extraordinarily popular for example. If two or three different groups of people got together to put two or three different events on it could make a huge difference keeping the Hall open and providing something for Villagers to go to.

Finally, and related to the last paragraph, apart from the help listed above (and my deepest apology if I have forgotten to name someone) there is only me. I cannot, nor will I, go on running the Village Hall indefinitely. What will happen if I decide to step down? Will the Hall close? Will it then just rot away becoming an eyesore? The decision is for the Village to think about. It is also not something for those up to their eyeballs in doing other voluntary things round the village and further afield. Nor is it just for the retired, younger blood is required!!

## **Appendix C**

### **Breakaways Report to the Annual Parish Meeting 2018**

The Breakaways continue to meet monthly throughout the year at St Michael's Church. Membership has been maintained and this year's programme of talks and presentations has been very varied. Tamworth proved to be a successful alternative destination for the re arranged annual summer outing last year.

Riversholme was chosen for both the summer and Christmas meal this year and the New Year started with the now traditional shared supper and Quiz evening.

As well as their monthly meeting the Breakaways have participated as a group in all the fund raising activities organised by the Church, such as the Spring, Summer and Autumn fairs, the decorated Christmas window as well as the regular coffee mornings.

## **Appendix D**

### **Rocester Local History Group Report to Annual Parish meeting 2018**

A small group of us continue to meet monthly, except July and August, for an informal presentation, a general update of local history, and a chance to reminisce. We also continue to provide a resource for family historians, and have supported church events with displays on Rocester's musical heritage at the Flower Festival as well as Remembrance Day. We were also able to provide the new JCB Academy's Apprentice centre with the history of the building

As the regular group is only small this year has seen a few last minute cancellations, due to illness or holidays. Some months there is a lot of discussion about current local issues which means the prepared topic continues the following month.

The purchase of the Rocester charter prompted a meeting about other original documents, some from the Church others purchased on ebay. Law and Order was another of our topic and this was followed by notable village characters.

Recently we have been looking at farming families, some landowners and some tenants, in the Parish though we have only a limited number of photos to support the presentations. The new ones that do turn up are usually via Rocester Through the Years, for which we are very grateful.

Kate Yorke

## **Appendix E**

### **Annual Parish Meeting : 14 May 2018 - Report by Rocester + District Camera Club for the 2017 – 2018 Year**

#### **Objectives and ethos**

The ethos of the club is to promote a friendly and intimate atmosphere that fellow photographers can enjoy and in which they can improve their photography.

## **Membership**

The Club presently has 26 Members whose photographic experience is wide-ranging and diverse. They come not only from Rocester, Denstone and Hollington but a radius of around 7 miles from Rocester including also Uttoxeter, Ashbourne, Draycott-in-the-Clay, Oakamoor and Forsbrook. This demonstrates that there is indeed a need for such a club in the area.

## **Venue**

The Club continues to meet in the Committee Room of Rocester Village Hall but the increase in numbers means that the space is too small on occasion. Also, secure on-site storage facilities are limited.

Other venues have been considered but Member still wish to continue to meet in the Village Hall whenever possible.

Given this, since the accommodation places limits on numbers, the Club is no longer seeking to increase its membership above 30 persons.

## **Activities during 2017 - 2018 Year**

### **Club Year**

The Club year runs from early September to middle or late May, with less structured events held during the summer.

### **Club Meetings**

Seventeen meetings will have taken place by the end of the Club Year with finished with this AGM. 2017-18's Programme has comprised talks, demonstrations, competitions, member's evenings and one external visit.

Attendances at meetings have generally been larger than for the previous year, suggesting that the programme of events has been attractive and that the investment in using well-recognised expert speakers and facilitators has been worthwhile.

Club meetings between the AGM and the start of the new Club Year in September are more informal and 'unofficial'. Generally, they comprise visits to and participation in external activities in which individuals have a personal interest and invite fellow Club Members to join them.

Members are encouraged to continue to suggest content for future meetings.

### **Activities open to the public**

Whilst members of the public are always welcome to come to Club meetings as visitors, one major public event was the Club's Summer Exhibition held in Rocester Village Hall on 16 July last year. Considering the effort required to mount such a display of well over 100 photographs, the footfall was disappointing, even if the occasion made a small profit. Consequently, it has been decided that such an exhibition, if to be held at all, should become biennial.

However, there is now a greater concentration on a wider outreach to the public through the summer by way of mini-exhibitions at established community events such as those in Denstone, Marchington and Hollington.

### **Links with the Parish Council**

The Club has offered to give a demonstration of how its large television might be useful to the Parish Council for displaying its agenda material, most probably planning application plans and drawings. As yet, a suitable application has not been identified for doing so.

From the demonstration, it is expected that a suitable location for the permanent fixing of the TV in the Committee Room to suit all users might be established.

### **Contact with the Club**

The Club's website is still [www.rocesteranddistrictcamera.club](http://www.rocesteranddistrictcamera.club) and its email address remains the same, being [admin@rocesteranddistrictcamera.club](mailto:admin@rocesteranddistrictcamera.club)

David Yorke (Secretary) 14 May 2018