

Rampton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held in the Village Hall, Rampton at 7.30pm on Monday 14th December 2015.

Members Present Cllr Edward Morris
Cllr Muriel Arden
Cllr Ivor Lewin
Cllr Pam Hawkins
Cllr Rebecca Sheppard
Cllr Libby Hauton
Cllr Barrie Doyle

Also Present Catherine Brines
5 Members of the Public
Clerk of the Council

Apologies: Cllr Ogle Cllr Critchley

1. Members Present/Apologies

As above

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared

3. Approval & signing of minutes of the last meeting

Minutes approved.

4. Matters Arising from the minutes

Cllr Morris reported that the fencing and footpath at the back of the Village Hall was in progress, just waiting for the Hospital Board to approve it. The Chair thanked Cllr Morris for his efforts with this. There was a brief discussion about the drain, which Cllr Lewin offered to look into.

5. Routine Matters

Police Report

PC Bailey sent his apologies that he couldn't be here but had e-mailed to say that there were no reported crimes to date. He wished the Parish Council a good Christmas and said he would compile and end of year report in January.

Highways

The footpath had been done. Cllr Hawkins said she had had people coming to her saying they appreciated it being done but were concerned about areas where water was standing on the path. Cllr Lewin explained that the oil needed to come out of the tarmac and once this had happened then the water should dissipate naturally and not stand. However there was still a problem with dog fouling on the footpath.

Cllr Sheppard said the sign for the Playing field still needs turning around, no one had heard back from Highways about this. The Clerk was asked to follow this up.

Also the sign at the school was flashing 24 hours a day and this needs looking at as well.

Rampton Parish Council

Cllr Sheppard said that some people had asked her about having the street lighting turned on at night. There was a discussion about this, the consensus was to ask the council to turn the lights on. The Clerk to contact Highways about this.

Torksey Ferry Road was discussed again as it was in a dreadful state, the Clerk had heard anything back from Laura Summers about this.

Drains in the Village seem to have collected the leaves around them giving cause for concern. It was explained that we have the street cleaning done in October but unfortunately the leaves had not all fallen by then. Cllr Doyle will try and get another street cleaning done.

Cllr Doyle said the street light outside the Village Hall had been done. However the sign outside the Rectory which had been damaged Highways had come back to him and said it was not their responsibility but had passed it onto the relevant department.

Planning

Application 12/01661/VOC: To use an existing temporary access road for a further three years. Land East of Rampton Hospital, Retford Road Woodbeck. No objections received.

The Chair said that she saw Plans around the table which should have been back a while ago, she felt that this wasn't good enough and that a more effective and timely process was needed. She asked for ideas of how to make this work better. There was a discussion about this and it was decided that Plans should come to the meeting and be discussed here and decisions made on the night.

Village Hall

Cllr Lewin reported that the Store room fascia/soffits all painted and done. Village Ventures was sold out again and had been well received. The Chair felt some other bits needed doing, Cllr Lewin had spoken to a chap about some of these issues and he had given him some ideas which he will look into in the New Year.

Cllr Doyle said all around the base of the hall bricks need to be chopped out and replaced and some damp works required. He estimated that it would need £6,000 spending to do everything. The Chair said that she and Cllr Doyle would look Building Better Communities to see if there was any grant money there.

Renewal of the water supply pipe still on hold, Cllr Doyle still regularly checking the meter.

Health & Safety

It had been noted that a Notice on the Board was out of date. Cllr Doyle explained that the PAC testing had been done this year and all signed off but unfortunately the Certificate had not been received.

Rampton Parish Council

Cllr Doyle said that Mr Dixon had raised the issue of the car park with him, so Cllr Doyle has infilled the hole some more to bring it up to level.

Village Warden report: There has been an incidence of dog fouling on the footpaths through the centre of the Village. I have been approached by several Councillors to quote for painting Village bus shelter, several things need to be considered before I quote for this to avoid wasting Parish Council funds.

1. Shelter leaks at both front corners in heavy rain
2. An alternative to the current bin, preferably moved to land beside shelter.
3. Smokers are putting out their cigarettes on the wall leaving burn/ash marks.

I have visited Alison Wells at Hall Farm Christmas shop, Newton on Trent to thank her for supplying the Village Christmas tree.

The guttering and roof need sorting out before it can be painted. Cllr Hutton suggested using this as a fun community project involving the children, this was thought to be a good idea once the repairs were done. The Clerk was asked to write to Highways about this. Cllr Sheppard felt it might be prudent to get two quotes for the work as well in case we don't hear back from Highways. Cllr Lewin to do this.

6. Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk had been in touch with Bassetlaw and been told that by registering our interest did not tie us into anything and should we wish not to pursue in the future that would not be a problem. The Chair asked for it to be put on the February agenda.

7. Pinder Park

Safety Surfaces: Had received an e-mail back from Andy McKay at Sovereign which was read out, "As a gesture of goodwill we are happy to complete the required works to the existing Rubber Mulch surfacing for a reduced price of £539.54 plus VAT (to cover the costs of the materials required). Originally, the price we quoted was £1,312.04 plus VAT. This is based on the works being completed at the same time as your new order, currently on hold"

The Chair felt that we would not be going back to Sovereign, she thought it might be cheaper to get rid of these surfaces and put down grass tiles. It was felt that the surfaces were not dangerous and could wait a few more months until a decision made about was going to be put down and then could ask the ne contractor to see if they would help.

The grant application was successful. The Chair and Cllr Doyle had a meeting with Streetscape today and more or less worked out a programme. He will design a Multiplay which is suitable for younger children up to aged 8 which is what the Awards For All Grant was for.

The Wren Grant was costed to the penny so trying to work out with Streetscape a MUGA that satisfies our requirements and to see what we can get for our money.

Rampton Parish Council

Also the footpath which was quoted for which goes along Retford Road is 80 meters in length which should future proof us.

The Chair said there was one hic cup in that Bassetlaw have told us we may need Planning Consent. Cllr Doyle has been speaking to Planning and will have meeting with Dave Askwith one he has retrieved the original plans from the archives ready for us submitting a drawing of the siting of the MUGA.

Doug from Streetscape had spoken informally with John Foster, Parks chap at Bassetlaw Council and he in turn was going to speak with Dave Askwith as well.

8. Open Session

A member of the public asked about Torksey Road and what was happening about the maintenance of it. It was a Public Highway and we would need to write to Laura Summers about it again. Another member of the public said that Laura had told her that she would be willing to pay for plainings but we would need to get someone to put them down and level it. It was suggested that the Parish Council write to the Strawsons at the Willows to see if we got the plaining would they be willing to put them down as it was the heavy vehicles going to the Willows which had done a lot of the damage. The Clerk was asked to contact Laura Summers to see if we could get the plainings in the first instance.

A member of the public wanted to remind the Parish Council that they had put up the precept last year by 40% and could that be bared in mind when discussing tonight.

Another member of the public asked if there could be plans of what is going to be done on Pinder Park to be displayed somewhere so people could see what was going on. Also had they taken in account the ongoing running costs of when this development was finished.

It was also asked what the plans were for the strip of land the Chair refers to as no mans land? The Chair said that the Parish Council will attempt to do something about it in the future.

9. Emergency Plan

Cllr Sheppard had spoken to Mrs Van Nieuwenhuyzen and had a meeting with her in January.

10. Accounts

The Nottinghamshire Building Society Account was discussed as the Parish Council needed to amend the signatories on this. Mrs Janice Wilkinson was no longer a Councillor so she needed to be removed as a signatory and Councillor Barrie Doyle was nominated to be added as a signatory to the account. The Parish Councillors at the meeting agreed these amendments.

Rampton Parish Council

A New Audit scheme had been formulated by NALC and circulated round to the Parish Councils. The Parish Council needed to discuss this to see if they would like to be part of the new procedure or opt out of it and make their own arrangements should the need arise. Cllr Doyle briefly explained what the new scheme was about, essentially from 2017 Parish Councils with a turnover of less than £25,000 did not need to submit their accounts for Audit. However should a question arise from a member of the public then the Council needed to have an Auditor they could call on. The Councillor discussed this, they voted on the issue and decided to opt out of the scheme.

Precept:

The Clerk had circulated a projected budget which the Councillors went through item by item to get a better understanding of what the money was being spent on.

There was a discussion about the 3rd party contribution as it was felt that it was a one off payment and not part of the running costs of the council. It was felt this payment should come out of the reserves and not the precept money as it skewed the figures. It was felt by some of the Councillors that the Parish Council should not put up the precept again this year. A vote was taken on whether the 3rd party payment should come out of the reserves and not the precept.

4 votes yes

2 abstentions

1 no

It was agreed to take the payment out of the reserves and not the precept.

Cheques presented for signature

Cheque no. 1609	Lindum /fire Services Ltd	£ 127.24
Cheque no. 1610	FCC Recycling (UK) (3 rd Party)	£ 5373.39
Cheque no. 1614	Alan Bland Village Warden expenses	£ 5.00

The Clerk asked if the Parish Councillors were happy to sign 3 posted dated cheques as there was not going to be a January meeting. It was agreed

Cheque no. 1611	Village Wardens Sept & 3 Q Salary	£ 358.80
Cheque no. 1612	Clerks 3 rd Quarter Salary	£ 433.60
Cheque no. 1613	HMRC tax on Clerks Salary	£ 108.40

The amount in the current account as at 30 November 2015 is £17,699.51

It was suggested that the Councillors take this sheet away and properly digest the figures before making a decision on the precept and brought back to the next meeting

11. Any Other Business

The Clerk had received an e-mail from the Solicitors regarding the Land swop, they had contacted Land Registry who had advised there was no set

Rampton Parish Council

procedure to deal with first registration applications in these unusual circumstances involving an ancient Pinfold title/Inclosure Award. They have asked for statutory declarations by members of the Parish Council or residents who have personal knowledge of the council's use and occupation of the land. They listed 6 questions which would need to be answered and they would pursue it from there.

The Chair said she was happy to do this if the Parish Council agreed. She asked for Cllr Morris input as well.

12. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that there was to be no meeting in January.

Next meeting Monday 8th February 2016

Meeting ended at 9.39 pm