

# RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 5 January 2017

Main Hall, Rickinghall Village Hall

**Present:** Cllr Robin Brown  
Cllr Dominic Ebert  
Cllr Geoff Short

Cllr Gillian Crossley-Holland  
Cllr Rosemary Jones  
Cllr Sally Smith

Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve  
District Cllr Derek Osborne  
County Cllr Jessica Fleming  
8 Members of the public

7.30pm The Chairman welcomed those present and opened the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence:** None.
2. **Casual Vacancies in the Office of Parish Councillor:** None.
3. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 1 December 2016:** The minutes of the meetings were agreed and signed.
4. **Magazine Input:** Cllr Jones.
5. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None.
6. **Public Forum:** 7.33pm RESOLVED, with all in favour, to adjourn the meeting for the public forum. *Cllr Fleming reported that the Sizewell C consultation would close soon. She also reported that there had been developments in Neighbourhood Plans following a Ministerial Statement on 12 Dec 2016. Cllr Osborne reported that an MSDC representative would be attending the public meeting about the Neighbourhood Plan on 18 January. Members of the public spoke about the planning application at The Tudor House, Bury Road and expressed concerns about the style of the proposed house, which wasn't in keeping with the other properties on Bury Road. In addition, the size of the house was similar to other properties but the plot was significantly smaller. Although Tudor House was not a listed building, having been moved from its original location in Stowmarket, objectors noted that it had some historic importance which would be diminished by the proposed house. Finally, it was felt that there were too many houses off the same access onto a fast section of Bury Road.* The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 7.44pm.
7. **Planning:**
  - 7.1 **Planning Applications:**
    - 7.1.1 **The Tudor House, Bury Road, Rickinghall.** Ref. 4893/16. Severance of garden and erection of a two storey detached dwelling. Councillors noted the objections and agreed that the size of the building was out of proportion to the plot, the orientation and barn-like style were not in keeping with the surrounding properties and its proximity to Maplestead House would lead to overlooking and loss of light. It was also commented that although Tudor House was not listed, it did have some historic importance and made a contribution to the street scene which was compromised by the proposed building. Finally, there was some concern about serving another property off that access on a relatively fast section of Bury Road. It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to object to the proposals on that basis.
    - 7.2 **Notice of Intent works to tree(s) in the Conservation Area:** None.
    - 7.3 **Notification of Planning Decisions by Mid Suffolk DC:**
      - 7.3.1 **Gable End, The Street, Rickinghall.** Ref. 3245/16. Demolition of an existing shed and erection of a detached dwelling. PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED.
      - 7.3.2 **St Georges House, 3 St Georges Drive, Rickinghall.** Ref. 3924/16. Tree works (TPO). NO OBJECTION.
      - 7.3.3 **Redwings, Rectory Hill, Rickinghall.** Ref. 3918/16. Tree works (TPO). No objection. NO OBJECTION.
      - 7.3.4 **Newholme, Bury Road, Rickinghall.** Ref. 4012/16. Tree works (Con Area). No objection. NO OBJECTION.

7.3.5 **Stone Cottage, The Street, Rickinghall.** Ref. 3994/16. Conversion and extension of garage to form holiday accommodation and annexe. Erection of outbuilding. PLANNING PERMISSION REFUSED.

8. **Progress Reports:**

8.1 **Chairman:** None.

8.2 **Clerk:** The Clerk reported that emails reminding Highways and the Street Lighting team of ongoing projects would go out shortly.

9. **Correspondence:**

9.1 **MSDC:** The PC noted the confirmation that there would be no precept referendum in 2017.

9.2 **St Botolph's School:** The Headteacher had received a number of queries about capacity at the school and wrote to the PC to say that the perception seemed to be that the school wouldn't have the capacity to take any additional children if new homes and thus families moved into the area. He said that in some instances this was true but on the whole the school did have the capacity to take in more pupils and out of the seven classes there was currently space for additional pupils in all except for yr6, yr5 and reception. In total they had space for 29 new children throughout the school, the equivalent to a whole class

10. **General Items:**

10.1 **Vehicle Activated Sign:** The PC considered two quotes for vehicle activated signs, both from companies approved by SCC Highways. It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to accept the quote for the Radarlux sign for approximately £2,315, as the specification was better and the unit appeared to be better value than the Westcotec sign. This would be subject to approval by Botesdale Parish Council, who was sharing the cost, and to the results of contacting local users of the sign. At that point the purchase of accessories, such as additional batteries or brackets, would be considered. The Clerk would ask SCC about funding for the poles and councillors were asked to consider locations.

10.2 **Footpath Map Display:** The PC considered four quotes for an upright map information board and it was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to accept the quote from G Cobbold for an oak-framed board at a cost of £460, subject to approval by Botesdale Parish Council, who was sharing the cost. There would be further costs of £150 for the design of the map panels and around £100 for printing.

10.3 **Precept 2017/18:** It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to sign the precept request for £20,390.

10.4 **Litter Pick:** A date was set for Saturday, 22 April at 10am-12pm, to meet in the Village Hall car park (with the VH's permission). It was agreed to leave the waste for MSDC to pick up at the bottom of Snape Hill.).

11. **Finance:**

11.1	<b>Account Balance:</b>	£30,614.77	
	<b>Income:</b>	£ 1.69	Credit Interest
		£ 374.40	MSDC – Street Sweep Grant

11.2	<b>Accounts for Payment:</b>		
	L Jackson-Eve	£ 624.90	Sal/Exps Dec 16
	T Gaddis	£ 140.05	St Clean Jan 16
	HMRC	£ 134.80	PAYE for LJE – 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter
	MSDC	£ 165.25	Walks Leaflets Design and Print
	Botesdale PC	£ 360.00	Contribution to Xmas Tree
	Rickinghall VHMC	£ 216.00	Hall Hire for 2017

RESOLVED, with all in favour, to approve payment of the accounts above.

11.3 **Budget Report:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report was noted.

12. **Highways Issues:** None.

13. **Councillors' Reports:**

- **Public Rights of Way:** The footpath signpost opposite Rickinghall Stables on Mill Lane and the signpost on the opposite side of the bypass from Garden House Lane were both damaged.

- **Village Hall:** There would be a jumble sale at the beginning of February.

14. **Items for the next meeting:** None.

15. **Next Meeting:** 2 February 2017

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.52pm.