

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 6 July 2017

Main Hall, Rickinghall Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Robin Brown
Cllr Dominic Ebert
Cllr Geoff Short

Cllr Gillian Crossley-Holland
Cllr William Maskell

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

8.10pm The Chairman welcomed those present and opened the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Rosemary Jones and Sally Smith.
2. **Casual Vacancies in the Office of Parish Councillor:** None.
3. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 1 June 2017:** The minutes of the meetings were agreed and signed.
4. **Magazine Input:** Clerk.
5. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None.
6. **Public Forum:**
County Cllr Fleming reported that there was a new service delivery model for Highways department. It has been divided into three areas and the Rickinghall area was now covered from a hub in Halesworth. There would be a co-ordinator for the area who would liaise with parish councils and a greater emphasis on reporting things online. There was also a facility to report the need for verge cutting. From 1 July 2017, Network Assurance would no longer email copies of notices of roadworks or diversions routinely to parish clerks or councillors. However, anyone could sign up to the new alert system for any area of the country at www.roadworks.org.
District Cllr Osborne reported that all district councillors now have a budget of £6,250 to give grants to local organisations.
Residents were very unhappy about the lack of notification from MSDC for the application at Rectory Hill, which left them with less than the regulation 21 days to respond to the application. It was also noted that a notice had not yet been posted on site. Otherwise, they had two main concerns with the application: pedestrian safety and access issues. It was noted that the access was located near a blind bend at the brow of a hill and on a fast road into the village from the bypass. It was felt that further traffic at that location would be dangerous. It was also noted that a proposed access for a house on the straight section of Rectory Hill had been refused in 2012 for reasons of safety. There was a lot of concern about pedestrian safety as there would be additional foot traffic, particularly school children, from the site to The Street and the footway stops at the edge of the site. It was noted that provision of an extended footway was not possible due to the narrow width of Rectory Hill, particularly near the junction with The Street. This, coupled with the poor visibility at the bend/hill, made pedestrians and cyclist very vulnerable. Additionally, as an access between the A143 and The Street, Rectory Hill was frequently used by large commercial and farm vehicles, despite a weight restriction. Residents felt that a width restriction should be imposed, as well as greater enforcement of weight restrictions. Traffic measures/pedestrianised rights of way were suggested.

7. Planning:

7.1 Planning Applications: None.

- 7.1.1 **Land at Rectory Hill.** Ref. DC/17/02657. Outline Planning Application (Access to be considered) for the erection of 10no two storey dwellings, formation of new vehicular access to Rectory Hill and associated parking and landscaping. The Parish Council, RESOLVED, with all in favour, to oppose the application on the basis that concerns about access and pedestrian safety (as outlined in item 6) had not been adequately addressed in the application.

- 7.1.2 **Stanley Cottage, Bury Road.** Ref. DC/17/02407. Householder Planning application - Erection of a glass link between cottage and annexe. Installation of package treatment plant, re-build of roof to cottage, alterations to driveway and erection of timber palisade fence. The Parish Council RESOLVED, with all in favour, to support the application.
- 7.1.3 **Stanley Cottage, Bury Road.** Ref. DC/17/02408. Application for Listed Building Consent - Complete renovation of cottage and annexe, erection of single storey glazed link extension between cottage and annexe (to include annexe as part of principle accommodation), installation of package treatment plant, re-build of roof to cottage, alterations to driveway and erection of timber palisade fence. The Parish Council RESOLVED, with all in favour, to support the application.
- 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 **Willow Cottage, West Hall Road.** Ref. 1566/17. Erection of first floor extension over flat roofed annex. Planning Permission GRANTED.
- 7.4 **Neighbourhood Plan:** Cllr Brown and the Clerk reported that the three surveys – a combined Household and Housing Needs Survey, a Youth Survey for 11-18 year olds and a Business Survey – were in the process of being delivered, with a deadline of 28 July. The drop-in “Issues and Options” event would take place at The Bell on 8 July at 10am-3pm.
8. **Progress Reports:**
- 8.1 **Chairman:** The Chairman had attended the MSDC parish liaison meeting which had focussed on MSDC’s move to Endeavour House in Ipswich and the resulting changes in work practices. Officers had also outlined the progress of the draft Local Plan. It was noted that consultation for the Plan would take place in the autumn and the full Plan would come out in spring 2019. The Chairman was in the process of arranging a meeting with Tom Barker, MSDC’s Assistant Director – Planning for Growth, concerning development in the village.
- 8.2 **Clerk:** None.
9. **Correspondence:**
- 9.1 **MSDC:** From 1st July, Mid Suffolk District Council would be charging for pre-application advice. Fees would start from £84 for a written response and more for a site visit.
- 9.2 **Boundary Commission:** It was noted that the Commission was undertaking an electoral review of Mid Suffolk and warding arrangements consultation would take place until 14 August.
10. **General Items:**
- 10.1 **Traffic Restriction Order:** There was no update.
- 10.2 **Vehicle Activated Sign:** Two posts had been installed and the one at Bridewell Lane was expected to be installed in mid-July.
- 10.3 **Walks Map Display:** The Clerk had ordered the panels printed.
11. **Finance:**
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| 11.1 | Account Balance: | £38,715.75 |
| | Income: | £ 208.89 HMRC VAT Reclaim |
| | | £ 1,261.61 BPC Contribution to VAS |
| | | £ 7,441.00 Grant for Neighbourhood Plan |
| 11.2 | Accounts for Payment: | |
| | L Jackson-Eve | £ 538.88 Sal/Exps Jun 17 |
| | | £ 567.32 Additional Hours/Exp (Neigh Plan) |
| | T Gaddis | £ 226.32 St Clean Jul 17 |
| | HMRC | £ 377.61 PAYE for LJE – 1 st quarter |
| | MSDC | £ 552.00 Dog/litter bin emptying |
| | Community Workshop Ltd | £ 289.80 Printing Rickinghall News |
| | Bryant Bros. Builders | £ 115.00 Secure ROCP Entrance |
- RESOLVED, with all in favour, to approve payment of the accounts above.

11.3 **Accounts for Payment (August):**

L Jackson-Eve £ 620.99 Sal Jul 17

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

11.4 **Budget Report:** To receive 1st quarter report.

12. **Highways Issues:** The new road surfacing on the B1113 Finningham Road did not seem to be completed. The Clerk would enquire. Snape Hill needed a litter clean. A street light on Rectory Hill was obscured by overgrowing foliage.

13. **Councillors' Reports:**

- **Parish Assets:** It was noted that the ROCP post at Micklewood Green had been repaired following a break in. The PC noted a proposal from a Mr S Rowell who was interested in restoring the post to its original condition. It was agreed to ask him for more details of what he planned to do and how it would be funded.

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

15. **Next Meeting:** 3 August 2017 (if planning) or 7 September 2017

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.21pm.