

RUSHBROOKE WITH ROUGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Sara Mildmay-White

Clerk: Christine Mason

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6 Walpole House

Auction Street

Bury St Edmunds

Suffolk IP33 3FF

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 18th March 2024 at the Sports Hall, Rougham at 7.00pm

Councillors Present: Sara Mildmay-White (SM-W), Debbie Hockey (DH), Tracey Skoyles (TS), Jeff Horner (JH) John Newman (JN), Dan Steed (DS) Cllr Christine Old (CO)

Others In Attendance : Christine Mason (Clerk), Sara Mildmay-White (SM-W) (as District Councillor), Cllr Roger Dicker and four members of the public.

180324/01 **Apologies for absence:** County Cllr Karen Soons (KS)

180324/02 **Declarations of Interest:** No declaration of Interests were made.

180324/03 **Dispensation:** Councillors noted no requests for dispensations had been received and none were requested at the meeting.

180324/04 **Minutes:** All Councillors resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on Monday 15th January 2024 and the Planning meeting held on Friday 1st March 2024. SM-W to sign the minutes as a true reflection of the decisions made at the meetings.

180324/05 **County and District Councillor reports**

County Cllr Karen Soons: No report available.

180324/06 District Councillor SM-W's report was previously circulated, the full report will be appended to the minutes. Topics included the exhibition underway at Moyses Museum featuring the work of illustrator David Hughes. Furthermore, after restoration the portrait of Anne Clopton, one of Suffolk's richest women, has gone on display for the first time in nearly 20 years; bookings now open for government funded free activities, primarily aimed at children and young people who receive benefits related to free school meals in West Suffolk; part of the Environment Act 2021, Simpler Recycling aims to significantly improve recycling services as well as introducing nationwide consistency. A briefing for

Councillors to discuss options and how they are to be implemented to be held next week.

180324/07 **Public Forum**

With Fete monies totally £1104.44 still in the bank account, it was agreed to initiate engagement with local stakeholders to progress a function for next year. An agenda item at the next meeting. Update on the play area – still carrying out jobs, a painting /workday to be held once the weather improves, main issue each month is the zip wire, costings for a new one are in the region of £7000. At this point, SM-W introduced the present Chair of West Suffolk Council, Cllr Roger Dicker to the meeting who gave a brief synopsis of the work currently being undertaken by WSC and as civic leader of the Council his attendance at rural parish councils within his area.

180324/08 **Planning**

It was resolved that for non-contentious planning applications, the clerk be given delegated powers to respond on behalf of the Parish Council – all in favour.

180324/09 **Finance**

All Councillors confirmed receipt of the bank reconciliation prior to the meeting and agreed this matched the bank statements to the 29th February 2024; the balance of the Community Account stands at £8,783.50 and with £21,656.68 in the Premium Account the Parish Council has £30,440.18 in the bank.

180324/10 It was resolved that the following payments be approved:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Warden's salary February 2024 | £145.60 |
| Suffolk Cloud | £40.00 |
| Clerk's salary x 5 months | £2378.40 |

180324/11 **Notice Board update**

It is anticipated repairs to the Mouse Lane notice board should be completed by Easter. Two posts and concrete will be required for fixing into the ground, JH/DS to action.

180324/12 **Update from Anglian Water**

Planning application DC/240068/HEDGE to remove 12 metres of hedgerow in

five locations to facilitate installation of water mains has been put on hold for the present time.

180324/13 **Mouse Lane play area repairs**

There were no high-risk items on the latest report. The top beams of the multiplay colourful bridge have rotted and need replacing, or alternatively taped off, JH to lead. SM-W to seek advice from Stanningfield Parish Council / West Suffolk Council in locating a contractor to carry out the work. A plan to be initiated for a) repairs and b) future upgrading of the play area. Contacts for possible funding to be sourced, SM-W to do research, JH to take photographs to pass onto companies. A list to be prepared of equipment needing either replacing or repairing, JH/SM-W to action. Quotations to be obtained with further discussion at the next parish council meeting.

180324/14 **Rougham School car park**

Although the school car park was recently smoothed over and rolled, potholes have reappeared. It was agreed the original car park lease is found and as a starting point, a meeting between SW-W, JH and Geoge Agnew is arranged.

180324/15 **To confirm the current asset register**

The village warden (DL) to provide the clerk with a location list for the parish council owned waste bins. A question was raised involving the bin outside the Flying Fortress, currently being emptied by DL. The clerk to inform Bury Town Council the bin is to be taken away unless the TC wish to purchase it from us.

180324/16 **Suffolk Pest Control**

Moles at the Rougham Sports Field and Mouse Lane play area: An alternative quotation received from Compass Pest Management of £375 per annum was unanimously approved. Command Pest Control to be informed of the decision.

180324/17 **Update on Barley Homes planning application for Kingshill Street**

Regarding issues raised at the consultation period in respect of the proposed housing scheme on Kingshill Street, the developer is positively working towards addressing all issues raised with a target date to provide a complete package of information by the end of March. A full application rather than a

Reserved Matters application will be submitted, after which the parish council will be re-consulted on the proposals.

180324/18 **Suggestions/Arrangement for the Annual Parish Meeting**

Annual Parish Meeting to be held at 7pm followed after a short break by the Annual General Meeting at 8pm. Local village organisations to be invited to give an update on their activities over the year and whether the parish council can help them in any way. Suggestions included the WI, Sports Hall, Church and School, DH to send out invitations. Refreshments to be provided, SM-W/DS to action.

180324/19 **Correspondence**

A letter has been received from the Chairman of the Sports Hall asking for financial assistance towards converting the old storeroom into a carpeted soft room with easy chairs that can be used for various activities the Sports Hall could offer. The total cost is approximately £5,500. A decision of a grant application for £4000 is pending, and a balance of £1500 is held. Following discussion, it was agreed that dependant of the outcome of the grant application for £4000, in principle, the parish council would be willing to donate the sum of £2000. The Chairman to be advised.

180324/20 **Any other council business to be noted for inclusion in a future meeting**

For information only: Defibrillator battery is due to be replaced in April, DS to action, an invoice will follow.

With an increase of traffic at the two junctions at the White House, serious safety concerns were raised. A letter to be sent Suffolk Highways and copied to the local Police Inspector and George Agnew.

Reappearance of the speed camera, to be investigated.

Closure of the Post Office on a Sunday, to be confirmed.

180324/21 **Chairman to close the meeting**

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.