



**ROCKBEARE  
PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman: Jeremy Wollen

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**MINUTES OF ROCKBEARE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019  
AT  
MARSH GREEN VILLAGE HALL**

**The Parish Clerk advised the Meeting that the proceedings would be recorded.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Jeremy Wollen (Chairman) and Cllrs: Colin Please, Jonathan Allen, Ron Forrest, Susan Wollen, Phil Franklin

**Also, in attendance** –one member of the public.

**Parish Clerk:** Carolyn Y. May

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Mark Readman, Cllr. Simon Brodie, Cllr. Ray Bloxham (Devon County Council)

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

**Public Participation Session:**

Mr Ivan Randall referred to paragraph 466.3 of the Minutes from the November 2019 Parish Council Meeting and asked if there was any update on the matter. The Chairman stated that he intended to communicate with Helen Selby, in order to discuss the same.

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**AGENDA**

**467.0 MINUTES**

467.1 The Minutes of the last meeting of Rockbeare Parish Council, held on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019** at Marsh Green Village Hall, were considered.

467.2 It was **proposed** by Cllr Please, **seconded** by Cllr Susan Wollen and **RESOLVED** that the minutes for the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019 would be approved and signed as a correct record of that meeting. Unanimous. **Carried.**

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## 468.0 REPORTS

### Chairman's Report

- 468.1 The Chairman reported that, following torrential rain on the night of 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019, the village remained substantially unscathed, apart from Parsons Lane, which was only passable by larger 4x4 vehicles.
- 468.2 Clay Hill experienced a build-up of a large body of water, approximately half-way up the same. This resulted from the new drains being overwhelmed. The body of water remained in situ over the weekend and a number of vehicles remained stranded at the location – resulting in the road becoming impassable.
- 468.3 On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November, the Chairman contacted Helen Selby (Devon Highways), in order to report the problem on Clay Hill. He commented upon the helpfulness of Helen to address the matter. By lunchtime on the 25<sup>th</sup> November, Helen had arranged for a crew to attend at the location in order to pump the water from the road and to properly clear the drains.
- 468.4 Helen Selby also undertook to investigate possible solutions to the problem, to prevent the situation recurring.
- 468.5 The alterations at Silver Lane and the Trash Screen (outside the Manor) worked effectively.
- 468.6 On 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019, the Chairman reported a potential leak, on the old A30 (opposite the Jack in the Green) to Devon Highways. Later that day Helen Selby advised the Chairman that the matter had been reported to the appropriate authority and would be addressed in early course. However, to date, the situation has not been resolved. The Chairman advised the Meeting that the footpath at the location is used by a large number of parents and children and the spray arising from the surface water resulted in their being drenched, as they were passed by vehicles. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would report the matter again.

### Mr Ivan Randall

- 468.7 Mr Ivan Randall offered to update the Meeting on the current situation at the land adjacent to Clay Hill. He stated that he had attended at the site with the landowner to inspect the area. It was ascertained that all of the four drains at Clay Hill are running together. However, the problem may arise from the existence of a slope, which runs from the old A30 to the point where the pooling of water occurred. At that point, there is a dip in the road, which fills with water when it rains. This is a historical design and an inspection of the adjacent field highlighted the existence of two large chambers (presumably to channel water from the road) which were clogged up. The landowner has now jetted these (previously unknown) drainage channels and they are now clear. Mr Randall advised that these chambers would have to be monitored but added that, in future, it is now known what has to be done to alleviate the road flooding problem.
- 468.8 Cllr Allen raised the issue of the flooding situation at Rockbeare 'Old Bridge'. The Chairman advised that the matter is in hand and that Helen Selby had arranged for work to be undertaken in that area. The verges have been cut back and the gullies cleared.
- 468.9 There were no other reports to be considered.

## 469.0 DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE

- 469.1 The Clerk advised the meeting that the matter was in hand.
- 469.2 The Chairman raised the issue of the electricity connection to the defibrillator, for Marsh Green. The Clerk advised that, providing the defibrillator is correctly installed and properly metered (with the

Parish Council accepting responsibility for the costs incurred in relation to installation and running), the owner of St Andrews' House would permit the electricity being run from his property.

469.3 The Chairman commented on the beautiful Christmas Tree, which had been placed in the bus shelter at Marsh Green. Members agreed that the tree was stunning and gave a sense of community to the area. It was **agreed** that the Parish Clerk would communicate with the owners of St Andrew's house in order to thank them for providing the tree and the lights upon it.

#### **470.0 RECORDING OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

470.1 The Clerk advised the meeting that the voice recorder had been purchased and was, currently, in use.

#### **471.0 PLANNING – No matters for discussion**

#### **472.0 CORRESPONDENCE - No matters for discussion**

#### **473.0 BUSINESS & FINANCE**

473.1 The monthly payments schedule was considered. It was proposed by Cllr Allen, seconded by Cllr Please and **RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments would be approved. Unanimous. Carried.

473.2 Members were provided with a comprehensive list of cheques drawn against the Parish Council Account, for the current financial year.

#### **474.0 BUDGET & PRECEPT SETTING – 2020/21**

474.1 The Parish Clerk provided the Meeting with an update in relation to the Parish Council's current financial position. It was stated that there had been no major capital payments made during 2019/20 and that the Parish Council was close to holding the maximum permissible sum.

474.2 The Clerk requested that Members consider formulating a list of projects which they would like to see undertaken within the next twelve months, so that sums may be allocated to the same. The Chairman suggested that consideration be given to some solid, capital projects, which would benefit the village.

474.3 The Clerk advised the Members that the precept did not rise for 2019/20.

474.4 It was **proposed** by Cllr Please, **seconded** by Cllr Forrest, that the annual precept should remain the same as last year (£31,951). Unanimous. **Carried**

#### **475.0 FLOODING UPDATE**

475.1 Mr Ivan Randall had previously advised the Meeting in relation to the situation at Clay Hill.

**The Meeting closed at 20.08 hrs**

Next Meeting – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 - at Rockbeare Village Hall.