



**ROCKBEARE
PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman: Jeremy Wollen

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**MINUTES OF ROCKBEARE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2020
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, Mark Readman, Susan Wollen, Phil Franklin and Simon Brodie

Also, in attendance –two members of the public and Cllrs Ray Bloxham and Sara Randall-Johnson (CC)

Parish Clerk: Carolyn Y. May

APOLOGIES: None

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr Please declared an interest in matter relating to Marsh Green Village Hall - Correspondence

Public Participation Session:

Mr John Tredant, owner of Carradale Farm, raised the issue of the proposed 'Grange Development' He stated that he had concerns about the access to and from his property (at Rewe Lane), should the development go ahead.

The Chairman advised Mr Tredant that the Parish Council, as a body, was opposed to the proposal but that it was currently at a very early stage. There were no plans to discuss the matter at the extant meeting.

Cllr Ray Bloxham (Cornwall Council) stated that the proposal is not compliant with the DPD.

Mr Ivan Randall raised the matter of the planned road layout from the proposed development. Although it is not shown on the available plan, Mr Randall assumes that there would have to be a roundabout at the point of entry/ exit from Gribble Lane and the old A30. If the Planners permit ingress and egress from the development, by way of the access created on Gribble Lane, this will cause problems in the village.

At that juncture, Cllr Wollen stated that the existing layout would be changed. Mr Randall responded by stating that if there was to be a roundabout, it should form part of a one-way system, to avoid problems in the village. Cllr Wollen advised that the proposal is at an early stage and not yet being consulted upon.

AGENDA

486.0 MINUTES

- 486.1 The Minutes of the last meeting of Rockbeare Parish Council, held on Wednesday 15th January 2020, at Rockbeare Village Hall, were considered. Cllr. Allen raised a query relating to any decision made in respect of the proposed mapping of grey water areas in the village. It was **agreed** that no decision had been made about the proposal. However, it was ascertained that the required information should be held by Devon County Council (Highways Dept). The Chairman advised the Meeting that he would discuss the matter with Helen Selby.
- 486.2 It was **proposed** by Cllr Susan Wollen, **seconded** by Cllr Franklin and **RESOLVED** that the minutes for the meeting held on 15th January 2020 would be approved and signed as a correct record of that meeting. Seven in favour and one abstention. **Carried.**

487.0 REPORTS

Chairman's Report

- 487.1 The Chairman reported that, on Tuesday 28th January 2020, he had attended at the Independent Examination of the Cranbrook Local Plan. This meeting had been set up to address draft matters, issues and questions relating to the four Expansion Areas for Cranbrook. Over 230 questions were raised.
- 487.2 Many interested parties were in attendance at the meeting, including developers. The Chairman was, fortunately, in a position to voice the concerns of Rockbeare Parish in relation to the proposals under consideration (particularly those appertaining to the Grange and Cobden areas).
- 487.3 The Inspector in charge of the Examination, listened to the many opinions offered and took many notes in relation to, inter alia, perceived conflicts with the Rockbeare Neighbourhood Plan.
- 487.4 On Wednesday 29th January 2020, the Chairman attended the Airport Consultative Committee meeting. Attendees were given a tour of the airport terminal, security measures and of the Gate 5 Terminal, which is being utilised for the new Ryanair routes. Attendees were advised that Ryanair requires an aircraft turnaround to be completed in 25 minutes, therefore, the new facility has been designed to facilitate the speedy boarding of passengers.
- 487.5 It was reported, at the meeting proper, that the annual passenger figure is likely to be less than the 1 million plus, reported for the previous year. The fall will be slight but is attributed to the recent Flybe re-organisation.
- 487.6 Long Lane improvements are scheduled to commence in early course, with plans to divert traffic behind the Flybe Academy during the period that major alterations are being carried out. The Chairman has also been advised that the FAB project is still considered to be viable, with work on the same possibly commencing in 2021.

County Councillor Report (Cllr Bloxham)

- 487.7 Cllr Bloxham advised the Meeting of the new requirement, that websites should be accessible by everybody. This must be addressed by Parish Councils by September 2020.
- 487.8 Helen Selby is attempting to set up meetings in order to discuss each Parish's priorities for the next year. On March 3rd and 4th at the DCC Highways Sowton Offices. Cllr Wollen will book an appointment for the 3rd March 2020.
- 487.9 The Cranbrook Plan hearing has been stopped for the present. There is a document from the Inspector, which had been published on the EDDC Website, relating to the decision. There have been

disagreements over the viability because the infrastructure in the expansion areas has to be addressed by the developers. To date no agreement has been reached between the developers and EDDC Planners in relation to the same. The Inspector has advised that there are issues to be resolved, prior to the matter continuing. There are issues of viability to be addressed, if these cannot be resolved then development cannot be undertaken. It must be remembered that the Cranbrook Development is zero rated for CIL, everything is dealt with under S106 therefore no additional monies will be available for infrastructure. All infrastructure has to be provided for locally, under the development. A matter of concern relates to the situation that could arise if the Cranbrook Development does not go forward. That is, under the local plan, Cranbrook is scheduled to provide 8,000 houses by 2031, EDDC has to deliver 17400 homes in the same period of time. If things do not work out, there would be no '5-year land supply' and that could mean 'open season' for developers.

- 487.10 At that juncture, the Parish Clerk requested permission to address the Meeting. Once permission had been granted, the Clerk stated that she would like to publicly thank Cllr. Bloxham for the support provided to the Parish Council by him, over the past month. The Clerk stated that it had been sterling work, outstandingly carried out.

Cllr Sara Randall-Johnson

- 487.11 Cllr Randall Johnson advised the Members that the Devon and Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service approved the Council Tax rise for the coming year by 1.99% (maximum possible), that amounts to a Band D increase of £1.72 per household for the whole year. The increase will be re-invested in the 'on-call' firefighters at Honiton, Ottery and other Stations, to provide payment and contracts.
- 487.12 The Chairman asked about the plans for closure of other fire stations in the area. Cllr Randall-Johnson stated that stations earmarked for closure were 'low-usage' facilities. There are eight such facilities in total but only two are closing: Topsham and Budleigh Salterton. Staff from these stations will be relocated to Exmouth and Clyst St George.

488.0 PLANNING

Cllr Allen raised a query relating to the Developments in the SE Corner. He queried if there were two separate developments scheduled. Cllr Bloxham explained that these two proposals were actually the same development. The Development Plan Document, published by EDDC, is effectively a masterplan for the area. This does not apply to any developer at all. Within that Plan there is an outline Planning Application, which has been brought forward by the landowner, citing the DPD to bring that forward. However, the application does not comply with the DPD.

PA20/0347/LBC – No comment.

489.0 WESTCOTT GREEN

- 489.1 **Cllr. Forrest** reported that Westcott Green continues to sustain substantial damage from vehicles driving across the same. Since November 2019, there have been five, 45-ton trucks that have driven over the green, leaving trenches (at various depths). On 16th February, a large truck was witnessed being driven at a fast rate, and in a reckless manner, towards the green. When the driver reached the green, he skidded the vehicle round and proceeded to drive over the top of the green, causing considerable damage. **These actions did not amount to rational behaviour.**
- 489.2 There are five children, under the age of 12 years, who reside in the neighbouring two houses. These children often play on the green and are, therefore in potential danger.
- 489.3 The Chairman of Rockbeare Parish Council attended at the location in order to witness the damage. And Cllr Forrest has asked the Chairman and both County Councillors to treat this matter seriously. He has written to Cllr Bloxham, requesting that a 7.5-ton weight limit should be imposed on the road to Westcott. There is no reason for 45-foot trucks to come into the hamlet.

- 489.4 Cllr Forrest then formally requested that the matter is revisited by both County Councillors and the Chairman and asked that the situation is remedied.
- 489.5 Cllr Brodie agreed that the problem is serious and that he had experienced difficulties when moving his ponies. The road is used like a racetrack.
- 489.6 Cllr Forrest quoted from the case of 1965 1 (All England Law Reports 78 – TDPP v Jones) ‘highways must keep highway users on the highway and off of land which is not tarmacked highway’. This law is absolute and was heard in the House of Lords.
- 489.7 Cllr Bloxham referred to a previous discussion about protecting the green, recommendations from which have not been followed up. However, this current issue relates more to vehicle speed.
- 489.8 The Chairman stated that the recommended boundary markers would not have prevented the damage that was witnessed on the 16th February. There is a need to consider the matter further. Members were invited to consider the matter and bring their proposals to the Parish Council meetings.
- 490.0 **CORRESPONDENCE**
- 490.1 Letter from Play Group (Mrs Rebecca Peek) – request to reinstate the previous agreement whereby the Parish Council met 50% of the costs of the hall hire. The group has recently been resurrected and is very well attended. Also, would it be possible for the Parish Council to provide a grant for equipment? It was **agreed** that the Clerk would design an appropriate proforma, which can be forwarded to those who wish to ask for assistance, so that the precise requirements can be considered.
- 490.2 Letter from Helen Selby, relating to the lighting in the village. The matter has now been resolved.
- 490.3 Marsh Green Village Hall – a request for a grant to undertake electrical and building work at the Marsh Green Village Hall. Quotations have been received (£2,085).
- 490.4 It was **proposed** by Cllr. Readman, **seconded** by Cllr Franklin and **RESOLVED** that the sum of £2, 085 would be granted to the Marsh Green Village Hall Committee, in order to effect repairs. Unanimous. **Carried.**
- 491.0 **BUSINESS & FINANCE**
- 491.1 It was **proposed** by Cllr. Allen **seconded** by Cllr Forest and **RESOLVED** that the schedule of invoices for payment would be approved. Unanimous. **Carried.**
- 492.0 **UPDATES**
- 492.1 **Marsh Green Flooding** – Tree came down and was moved onto the bank by Cornwall Council Highways Department. However, this is unsightly, and the Clerk should contact the householder (Danson House) and request that the detritus be removed. It was also **agreed** that at the appropriate time (Spring), the ditches should be dug out at the expense of the Parish Council.
- 492.2 **Speed Signs** – Chairman met with Helen Selby and discussed the speed signs. Two suitable sites, one at either end of Rockbeare, have been identified as being suitable for the signs (one close to the Vicarage and one on the Triangle opposite the village hall). Awaiting written proposals relating to the same, from Helen. Once received, these will be disseminated to Members for consideration.
- 492.3 **Defibrillator** - Chairman visited Mr & Mrs Ruscoe, who live in the old church. They have agreed to pay for the electricity for the defibrillator, if the Parish Clerk can ascertain how much that would be annually. The Parish Council would then reimburse the cost. This would negate the need to attach the power source to an electricity pole. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would find out the average

charges. A double waterproof electrical socket will then be placed in the bus shelter inside an appropriate, lockable, box. It was also requested that the Parish Council should pay for an appropriate slatted seat for the bus shelter. It was **agreed** that the Chairman would obtain a cost for the same.

- 492.4 **School Garden** – Plans were disseminated to Members. Cllr Wollen stated that the Sensory Garden was not now being created. However, the Parish Council requires an amended quotation for the reduced amount of work. Therefore, this should be provided prior to further discussion.
- 492.5 **TRIP Voucher Project** – The Clerk reported that the proposed voucher scheme had been well received by TRIP and it was felt by the organisation that it was a project that could be rolled out across the area. It has been agreed that Sharon Thorne from TRIP would attend the March Parish Council Meeting in order to provide an update of the work being planned/ carried out in the Parish.
- 492.6 **Cllr Please** reported that fence panels have been placed in the Millennium Field, up against a resident's fence. – **Noted.** Also, Marsh Green Village signs are required, the person asked to arrange these has left the village.
- 493.0 **FLOODING UPDATE – Mr Ivan RANDALL**
- 493.1 Mr Randall alluded to para 485.1 asking if there was any update on the matter. The Chairman advised that this would be raised with Helen Selby at their next meeting.
- 493.2 Also, Para 485.2 – Mr Randall advised the Meeting that several of the drains from Rockbeare Village Hall to Rag Lane are chocked and require sucking out and cleaning, to ensure they are working properly.
- 493.3 Mr Randall alluded to the benefit of the Met Office computer to the area.
- 493.4 Para 485.5 – we require the plans for grey water and flood water. The Chairman will raise this with Helen Selby.
- 493.5 There are car tyre marks on the grass verge outside the old people's bungalows in Rockbeare.
- 493.6 The footpath to the Church in Rockbeare is not being used as such and people are parking on the same. This could represent a danger to those walking to the Church. The Chairman stated that, hopefully, the parking at the site would stop once the building work is completed. Burrington Estates are responsible for the parking situation.

The Meeting Closed at 20:35 hrs

Next Meeting – Wednesday 18th March 2020 - at Rockbeare Village Hall.