



**ROCKBEARE
PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman: Jeremy Wollen

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**MINUTES OF ROCKBEARE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 15TH MAY 2019
AT
ROCKBEARE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Cllr Jeremy Wollen (Chairman) and Cllrs: Colin Please, Jonathan Allen, Ron Forrest, Mark Readman

Also, in attendance – Cllr. Sara Randall-Johnson (Devon County Council); three members of the public.

Parish Clerk: Carolyn May

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

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest made at the commencement of the meeting.

409.0 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

409.1 It was **proposed** by Cllr. Forrest and **seconded** by Cllr Readman, that Cllr Wollen would be appointed as Chairman for the year 2019/2020. Unanimous. **Carried.**

409.2 It was **proposed** by Cllr. Forrest and **seconded** by Cllr Readman, that Cllr Please would be appointed as Vice - Chairman for the year 2019/2020. Unanimous. **Carried.**

Public Participation Session:

Mr Mark Cornish raised a question relating to the amount being carried forward by the Parish Council, from the past Financial Year. The query was addressed by the Clerk.

410.0 Youth Genesis

410.1 Mr Jon Oliviero, from the Youth Genesis organisation, gave a presentation to the meeting, in respect of the youth services provided by his organisation.

410.2 Jon explained that the organisation seeks to establish a more sustainable service in the areas in which it operates. This is achieved through the identification and use of community assets and by working in community partnership.

410.3 The groups with which the organisation tends to work were highlighted, and included: young carers, young people at risk, young people and mental health, domestic abuse, Special Educational Needs

and young people not in education or employment (NEET), young people with chaotic lifestyles and those with health & fitness, or identity issues.

410.4 It was emphasised that the organisation looks to recruit and provide training for volunteers from the local area to run the groups, which are run during term time only.

410.5 The process for establishing the service was then discussed. Jon emphasised that the process can take from 6 – 18 months and involves: establishing the need, holding an ‘interest evening’, forming a ‘reference group’, volunteer recruitment, identifying and accessing funding and launching the service.

410.6 It was suggested that the main core of the youth attendees might be drawn from the Year 6 students at Rockbeare Primary School.

410.7 The cost of the service is estimated at £8,000 - £12,000 per annum depending on the number of weekly sessions required.

410.8 It was **agreed** that the matter would be placed on the June Agenda for discussion. The Chairman thanked Jon for attending the meeting and for the presentation.

411.0 MINUTES

411.1 The Minutes of the last meeting of Rockbeare Parish Council held on **Wednesday 17th April 2019** at Rockbeare Village Hall were considered.

411.2 It was **proposed** by Cllr Please, **seconded** by Cllr Readman and **RESOLVED** that the minutes for the meeting held on 17th April 2019 would be approved and signed as a correct record of that meeting. Unanimous. **Carried.**

412.0 REPORTS

412.1 Cllr. Sarah Randall-Johnson (DCC) provided the meeting with an update on local matters including;

- Moore Lane Roundabout, Exeter – road improvements being carried out in order to ease traffic congestion;
- DCC has provided a sum of £250.00 to enable work to be carried out in relation to climate change and the reduction of our carbon footprint;
- The availability of a Community Funding Grant

412.2 Cllr Readman enquired about the impact of the loss of the Conservative majority at EDDC, following the recent elections. In particular, he asked if the political drive will change.

412.3 Cllr Randall Johnson explained the priorities of different political groups and warned of the possible loss of the ‘Five Year Land Supply’. This forms part of the strategic planning process.

413.0 PLANNING

413.1 **PA19/0452/FUL** – Members considered the application, noting that it was retrospective in nature. It was acknowledged that the development breaches the ‘Garden Grabbing’ rules introduced by the Government in 2010 and the Rockbeare Neighbourhood Plan

413.2 It was **proposed** by Cllr Wollen, **seconded** by Cllr Please and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would not object to the application, on the condition that a condition, that the chalet could not be sold separately from the house, is tied to any consent given. Four in favour, one abstention. **Carried.**

413.3 Planning Decisions - noted

414.0 FINANCIAL REPORTING

414.1 **Annual Governance Statement** – It was **proposed** by Cllr Wollen, **seconded** by Cllr. Forrest and RESOLVED that the Parish Council would accept the Annual Governance Statement for 2018/19. Unanimous. **Carried.**

The Annual Governance Statement was duly signed by the Chairman and the Clerk

414.2 **Annual Accounting Statement** - It was **proposed** by Cllr Wollen, **seconded** by Cllr. Forrest and RESOLVED that the Parish Council would accept the Annual Accounting Statement for 2018/19. Unanimous. **Carried.**

The Annual Accounting Statement was duly signed by the Chairman and the Clerk

415.0 BUSINESS & FINANCE:

415.1 **To approve payment of Invoices as follows:**

400758	RVH (M&T)	20.00
400759	Expenses	165.40
400760	Salary (May & June)	865.20
400761	JP Auditing (Internal Audit)	200.00
Total		1250.60

415.2 It was **proposed** by Cllr Please, **seconded** by Cllr Forrest and RESOLVED that the payment schedule would be approved. Unanimous. **Carried.**

416.0 **CORRESPONDENCE** – none

417.0 HIGHWAYS

417.1 Cllr Allen requested that the Parish Council agree to fund the cost of flower bulbs, to be planted in the splay at Stoneylands, Rockbeare. He advised the Members that the permission of Helen Selby had been sought.

417.2 It was **proposed** by Cllr Wollen, **seconded** by Cllr Allen and RESOLVED that the Parish Council would finance the purchase of flower bulbs, and arrange for their planting. Four in favour, one abstention **Carried.**

418.0 Updates

418.1 **Village Signs** – The Clerk is to contact EDDC and obtain a price for the provision of the required signage.

418.2 **Westcott Green** - Cllr Forrest advised the meeting that he had, at his own expense, removed the posts at Westcott Green. He alluded to the proposal to place black & white reflective posts at the site and added that he was extremely unhappy about the same.

Cllr Forrest stated that he considered the conduct of the Parish Council, over this matter, to have been extremely unprofessional, adding that the Members had permitted themselves to be pushed into a position to remove the posts.

It was felt that the Parish Council had reached a point where there was no autonomy to undertake actions for the benefit of the parish, without the consent of, and conditions set out by, Helen Selby.

It was further noted that DCC offered no assistance on the matter, the only thing provided was an order to remove the posts. Cllr Forrest pointed out that there are posts and rails protecting several areas in the village and these have not been subject to an order for removal.

It was believed that there is currently a divisive situation within the Parish Council and that the focus on Rockbeare village has been detrimental to the rest of the Parish.

419.0 Flooding Update

- 419.1 Mr. Ivan Randall addressed the meeting, articulating his concerns in relation to the building/ proposed building/ potential future building in the area. He suggested that the Parish Council might consider commissioning a feasibility study, which would identify/ address potential problems that could arise in relation to drainage/ flooding, as a result of additional construction in the area. Mr Randall stated that such a report would provide the Parish Council with an important professional opinion, which could be utilised to provide evidence of impact.
- 419.2 Cllr Readman stated that, in light of the building work being currently undertaken, the Parish Council requires advice in respect of the impact of building on the village boundaries.
- 419.3 Cllr Forrest questioned why the Parish Council would commission a report that dealt with matters that were the responsibility of Devon County Council and other statutory organisations? Charging the ratepayer for such a report amounts to 'double precepting'.
- 419.4 Cllr Readman responded by stating that the cost could potentially be met from the Climate Change Fund, alluded to by Cllr Randall Johnson.
- 419.5 It was **agreed** that Mr Randall would obtain a quotation for a Feasibility Report and that the matter would be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

4.20 The public were asked to leave the chamber at 20.50 hrs as the Council moved into Part II Deliberations

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 21.00 hrs