



**ROCKBEARE
PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman: Jeremy Wollen

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**MINUTES OF ROCKBEARE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH 2019
AT
MARSH GREEN VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Cllr Jeremy Wollen (Chairman) and Cllrs: Colin Please, Jonathan Allen

Also, in attendance – Cllr. Sara Randall-Johnson; two members of the public

Parish Clerk: Carolyn May

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Ray Bloxham (Devon County Council); Cllr. Simon Brodie; Cllr. Mark Readman and Cllr. Ron Forrest

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest made.

Chairman's Announcement - Prior to the commencement of the meeting proper, the Chairman advised those present that Item 7 on the agenda (Youth Service Provision) had been deferred until the meeting of the 17th of April 2019, to enable interested Members of the Parish Council to be in attendance.

Public Participation Session:

- A member of the public requested to be provided with the accounts relating to the work carried out at Westcott, stating that public money had been utilised for the same. The Clerk stated that the monies used had been provided from a private source, for the specific purpose of the work carried out.
- The member of the public then made comment about the content of Parish Council Minutes, stating that he wished them to be more detailed. The Clerk stated that Minutes are not intended to provide verbatim accounts of discussions, rather they provide a flavour of the meeting. It was pointed out, by the Clerk, that the member of the public habitually raised this matter and that he had been provided with an explanation on more than one occasion. The Clerk suggested to the Chairman that the comments were vexatious and harassing in nature and asked that the Members be invited to determine that point. It was **proposed** by Cllr Wollen, **seconded** by Cllr Please and **RESOLVED** that the comments and continuous raising of the matter were vexatious and harassing in nature. Two in favour, one against **Carried**.
- The Member of the public then raised, for a third time, the matter of Part II meetings, which he clearly disapproved of. The Clerk stated, for a third time, that the Parish Council was entitled to discuss confidential matters under Part II arrangements.

AGENDA

392.0 MINUTES

- 392.1 The Minutes of the last meeting of Rockbeare Parish Council held on **Wednesday 16th February 2019** at Marsh Green Village Hall were considered.
- 392.2 It was **proposed** by Cllr Please, **seconded** by Cllr Wollen and RESOLVED that the minutes for the meeting held on 16th February would be approved and signed as a correct record of that meeting. Two in favour; One objection. **Carried.**
- ### 393.0 REPORTS:
- 393.1 Cllr. Randall-Johnson (Devon County Council) addressed the meeting. The Councillor alluded to the recent budget setting process, advising that there would be an increase in Council Tax, across the county.
- 393.2 Cllr Randall-Johnson advised that there would be a 9.4% rise in relation to the Children's Services Budget; the Adult Care/ Health Budget is to be increased by 2%; there is to be a 0.7% increase to the Highways Budget and a reduction to Corporate Services.
- 393.3 The meeting was advised that the sum of £18 million had been received from Central Government, for highway maintenance. This sum could only be expended on 'Capital' repairs. Whilst road patching costs are deemed to be a capital expenditure, filling in of pot holes is regarded as a 'revenue expenditure' and cannot, therefore be undertaken with the monies provided. Therefore, Devon County Council has elected to invest funds from the grant in order to purchase road maintenance machinery.
- 393.4 Members were advised that both Cllr, Bloxham and Cllr Randall-Johnson have been allocated the sum of £10,000 each as their 'locality budget'. However, applications for grants from these sums will not be considered until May 2019.
- 393.5 Cllr Randall-Johnson spoke about 'County Lines', explaining that the project addresses the issue of the criminal exploitation of vulnerable people (including children) by gangs and organised crime networks, to sell drugs. She added that, in Devon, such businesses are earning in the region of £7 million per week. The Cllr asked the Meeting to encourage vigilance. Should there be a suspicion that any vulnerable person in the Parish is being exploited, the police should be informed.
- 393.6 The Clerk thanked Cllr Randall-Johnson for her contribution towards the Rockbeare Primary School playground markings.
- 393.7 The Road Warden scheme was alluded to by a member of the public. In particular, he questioned the availability of insurance cover for those undertaking tasks. Cllr Randall Johnson advised that there was a requirement for persons operating under the scheme to undertake approved training, prior to the matter of insurance cover being addressed.

394.0 PLANNING

- 394.1 There were no Planning Matters to be considered.
- 394.2 PA19/0109/ADV – this application has now been approved (retrospectively, with conditions). The documentation relating to conditions was provided to Cllr Allen.

395.0 ALLERCOOMBE ENTRANCE

- 395.1 It was reported that a road was being cut from the main road, through the field at Allercoombe. It would appear that work has currently been stopped.

396.0 BUSINESS & FINANCE:

396.1 To approve payment of Invoices as follows:

400748	Rockbeare Village Hall (Parish Council)	35.00
400749	Rockbeare Village Hall (M&T)	20.00
400750	Clerk Salary	428.35
400751	Expenses	82.70
400752	MNDA (deducted from Clerks Salary)	50.00
Total		616.05

396.2 The Clerk requested that the sum of £50.00 be deducted from her salary and made payable to the Motor Neuron Disease Association as a donation. It was **proposed** by Cllr Allen, **seconded** by Cllr Wollen and RESOLVED that this would be acceptable to the Parish Council and that the schedule of payments would be approved. Unanimous. **Carried**

396.3 The Clerk requested the approval of the Members, to place a schedule of all monies received and payments made by the Parish Council, during the 2018/10 Financial Year, onto the Parish Council website. It was **agreed** that this should be done and, from the commencement of the 2019/20 Financial Year, the statement should be updated on a monthly basis.

397.0 CORRESPONDENCE

397.1 Street Naming – the Clerk advised the meeting of the response from the developer (Burrington Estates) to the proposed name of ‘Sydney Crescent’. The suggestions made by the developer included a prefix of Orchard, Copse or Coppice. Members stated that none of those suggestions were appropriate. Cllr Randall -Johnson suggested that the Clerk advise the developer that the original choice of the Parish Council should stand.

397.2 The Clerk advised the Meeting of an item of correspondence receive from EDDC Planning (Thea Billiter) relating to the Cranbrook Development Plan Consultation. It was highlighted that one of the proposed facilities falls within the boundary of Rockbeare Parish. Another site falls within the boundary of Whimple Parish. Cllr Randall-Johnson provided some guidance to the Members in relation to the same. Cllr. Wollen stated that he would attend a meeting at Rockbeare Village Hall on the 21st March. It was **agreed** that the Planners from EDDC should be invited to the next Parish Council meeting.

398.0 Updates

398.1 **Village Signs** – on-going.

388.2 **Telephone Box Usage** – ongoing

398.3 **Highways** - Cllr Allen advised Members that there had been a substantial amount of patching carried out on Parsons Lane. Devon Highways was praised for the work. However, he advised the Meeting that there is still a damaged area of the road way at the north bound corner, where the road edge has been damaged. Cllr Allen advised that the area required filling in and suggested that a concrete apron should be laid. He asked whether the Parish Council could finance the work, which is hoped could be carried out by Devon Highways. Members felt that the proposal had merit and Cllr Allen suggested that Mr Randall could liaise with Helen Selby, obtaining costs for the work. Ms Selby could then liaise with the Clerk on the matter. It was **agreed** that this course of action should be followed.

In addition to the patching carried out on Parsons Lane, reference was made to the removal of the railings and the installation of finger posts. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would write a letter of thanks to Devon Highways, for a job well done.

399.0 Flooding Update

399.1 Mr Ivan Randall advised that;

Gribble Lane - many new gates have been installed with entrances having been dug out and reinstated.

Rockbeare Hill – ditches have been cleared.

A30 Bridge to Lyons Farm – All grips cleared.

Kenford Tarmacing – the Clerk to firm up a date with the contractors for April.

Green behind Rockbeare School – The posts require repair at the river.

Street Lighting from A30/ Clayhill/ Village – the meeting was advised that additional lighting would only be available where development was being undertaken.

The Chairman closed the Public Meeting at 20.20 hrs

DRAFT