



**ROCKBEARE  
PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman: Jeremy Wollen

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## **MINUTES OF ROCKBEARE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2018**

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

**Also, in attendance** – five members of the public and Cllr Ray Bloxham (Devon County Council)

**Carolyn Y. May: Clerk**

**APOLOGIES:** None

### **303.0 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

303.1 It was **proposed** by Cllr. Forrest **seconded** by Cllr Please and **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Wollen should continue in the position of Chairman of the Parish Council. Unanimous. **Carried.**

### **304.0 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN -**

304.1 It was **proposed** by Cllr. Forrest **seconded** by Cllr. Readman and **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Please should continue in the position of Chairman of the Parish Council. Unanimous. **Carried.**

### **305.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

**306.0 MINUTES:** The Minutes of the last meeting of Rockbeare Parish Council held on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018**, at Rockbeare Village Hall were considered.

It was **proposed by:** Cllr. Readman, **seconded** by Cllr. Please and **RESOLVED** that the Minutes represented a correct record of that meeting and should be accepted by the Council. Unanimous. **Carried.**

The Minutes were duly signed by Cllr. Wollen (Chairman)

### **307.0 REPORTS:**

307.1 **County Councillor's Report:** In addition to the report provided by Cllr. Bloxham at the Annual Parish Meeting, Members were advised of several funding opportunities, for Parish Councils/ Groups, which have arisen. He also alluded to the Tour of Britain Cycle Race, which will pass through Cranbrook in September 2018.

## **308.0 THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

308.1 Members considered the Annual Governance Statement, presented by the Parish Clerk.

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Please, **seconded** by Cllr. Readman and RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement would be approved. Unanimous. **Carried**

## **309.0 ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS FOR 2017/18**

309.1 Members considered the Annual Accounting Statements for 2017/18, presented by the Parish Clerk.

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Please, **seconded** by Cllr. Readman and RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statements for 2017/18 would be approved. Unanimous. **Carried**

309.2 Cllr Please, seconded by Cllr. Wollen thanked the Clerk for her work, enabling the Annual Return to be submitted.

## **310.0 PLANNING – no planning Applications had been received for consideration.**

**311.0 Planning Determinations – noted**

## **312.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

312.1 The Clerk read out a letter from Mrs Rebecca Randall, Leader of the Rockbeare M&T Group. Within that letter, Mrs Randall alluded to her membership of The Friends of Rockbeare School group and the planned Summer Fayre being organised by the same. A request was made to the Parish Council, to consider funding the hire of a bouncy castle for the event. It was suggested that this would cost approximately £200.00.

Following discussions, it was **proposed** by Cllr. Readman, **seconded** by Cllr. Please and RESOLVED that:

- a. The Parish Council would fund the hire of a bouncy castle for the event, up to the sum of £200.00 and that the invoice should be addressed to the Parish Council, so that VAT can be reclaimed and;
- b. The Clerk must be provided with a copy of the appropriate insurance cover for the event/ usage of the bouncy castle, prior to the event.

All in favour. **Carried**

312.2 The Clerk read out an email received from a resident of the Parish. The resident raised some concerns in relation to activity on the field north of The Grange. The field forms part of the 'Green Wedge'.

Enquiries by the resident revealed that an archaeological survey was being undertaken by a company named 'Strata', which the resident could not find on the internet.

Cllr Please stated that the field had been purchased by Mr Roy Stewart, a major developer of industrial units. He added that the ploughed and trees cut to allow tractor access.

312.3 The Clerk had previously disseminated a letter, received from Mr Gareth Sorsby of the YMCA, Exeter. The letter constituted a response to the Parish Council's letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> April.

Members felt that consideration of the document would require a substantial period of time and it was **agreed** that the matter would be deferred until the July Parish Council meeting. It was **agreed** that the YMCA would not be invited to attend the discussions.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk would correspond with Mr Sorsby, advising him of the deferment of the discussion.

312.4 The Parish Clerk advised Members that she had received no substantive response to her letter, regarding the unauthorised removal of hedging and trees and the installation of an unauthorised entrance into the Millennium Field, by a resident of Quarter Mile Lane.

The Clerk advised Members that she had been able to contact EDDC Housing department directly and had spoken with a senior officer who will now investigate the matter.

Cllr. Please added that a resident of Quarter Mile Lane had placed, among other things, grass clippings outside his gate, on the highway. The Clerk stated that she would ask EDDC Housing Officers to address that matter also.

### 313.0 BUSINESS & FINANCE:

#### 313.1 To receive the I&E Statement for March 2018

It was **proposed** by Cllr Please, **seconded** by Cllr and **RESOLVED** that the I & E Statement for February should be accepted. Unanimous. **Carried**.

#### 313.2 To approve payment of the following invoices:

400546	Rockbeare Village Hall (Youth Club) Inv.2018/19-02	20.00
400546	Rockbeare Village Hall (M&T) Inv. 2018/19 – 05B	20.00
400547	Carolyn Y. May (Salary)	345.48
400548	Carolyn Y. May (Expenses)	87.50
400549	Colin Please (Marsh Green VH Chairs)	816.00
400550	Aalgaard Renshaw (Commemorative Mugs)	101.64
400551	Pollards	238.00
400545	DC Carpenters (Marsh Green VH Upgrade)	1792.30
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,420.92</b>

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Allen **seconded** by Cllr. Wollen and **RESOLVED** that the payment schedule for March 2018 should be approved. Unanimous. **CARRIED**

### 314.0 Highways Issues

314.1 Cllr Forrest advised the Members that the road at Westcott had been jammed by a large lorry, which had entered the village but had been unable to turn, due to the improvements to the Westcott Village Green. He added that the situation reinforced the need for a 7.5 Ton weight limit to be placed on the road leading from the airport (FAB Project) to Westcott/ Quarter Mile Lane. He added that such a restriction was also in the interests of haulage contractors, whose vehicles were being 'hung up' in the area.

314.2 Cllr. Allen asked if there was an appropriate traffic plan in existence, stating where lorries can go and when? He further enquired if the FAB Project had such a plan?

It was **agreed** that the Clerk should correspond with Chris Jenner (FAB Project) and raise the issue of lorries leaving the site – again.

314.3 Cllr. Allen enquired about the ownership of the village green at Westcott. Cllr Forrest felt that the green was Parish Council property. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would investigate the ownership matter and report her findings to the Parish Council

314.4 Cllr. Forrest raise the issue of flooding at The Old Coach House in Westcott.

314.5 Cllr Please raised the continuing issue of the open slurry pit at Turkey Lane, stating that nothing had been done and that it constituted a danger to the public. Further to this, given the elevated position of the pit itself, should the walls breach, the impact on the area would be significant.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk would report the matter to the Environment Agency.

### **315.0 Flooding Update**

315.1 Mr. Ivan Randall reported that the gate, situated at the west side of The Grange, has been widened so that larger machinery can access the land. However, he felt that the owner should be advised to strengthen the pipe that runs under the gate entrance, to avoid the same being crushed due to the weight of heavy machinery. Mr. Randall also advised that the entrance should be concreted, and the trench dug further into the linear wood, to direct the water into the woodland, rather than onto the main road.

315.2 Mr. Randall reported that the bridges at Gribble Lane and Parsons Lane had still not been repaired. The Clerk stated that she would report the issues again.

### **316.0 Questions from the Public**

316.1 One Parishioner requested to be advised of the decision of the Parish Council, relating to the erection of a noticeboard at the triangle in the village. He was advised that the proposal had been turned down.

316.2 A Parishioner raised the issue of four blocked drains at Clay Hill. Apparently, the drains are clogged with mud. Consequently, water is not draining away and is causing flooding. Cllr Wollen stated that, on a visit to the area with Devon Highways, Helen Selby had advised him that Highways intended to clear the drains and place a back collar around them, before re-concreting. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would report this to Devon Highways, copying Cllr. Boxham into the correspondence.

316.3 Cllr Forrest added that the drains at Westcott and the two (one either side of the A30) by Clay Hill also required cleaning.

The Meeting closed at 8.55 pm.