

ROYDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Parish Room, St. Remigius Church on Tuesday 28th April 2015 at 7.15 pm

Present:	David Bartrum	DB	
	Andrew Daniels	AD	
	Paul Curson	PC	Chairman
	David Goldson	DG	District Councillor
	Herbert Hawers	HH	
	Pam Murton	PM	
	Jenny Shorter	JS	
	Elizabeth Taylor	ET	
	John Taylor	JT	Vice Chair
In attendance	Katrina Burrows	KB	Clerk
	Jenny Chamberlin	JC	County Councillor
	Anne Panella	AP	Clerk Designate

Action

Welcome and Apologies for Absence

- 1 The Chair welcomed councillors and members of the public to the last meeting of this council, prior to the election. It was confirmed that all parish councilors nominated have been returned in an uncontested election.
- 2 Herbert Hawers did not seek re-election and is standing down and Katrina Burrows has resigned as Clerk. The Chair thanked them both for their commitment during their period in office.
- 3 No apologies were received.

Declarations of Interest

- 4 AD for items 8.1 and 8.2. No other Declarations were received.

Parish Clerk Replacement

- 5 The Chair introduced the new Clerk, who will take up the role from 1st May, following the interview process held on 24th April.

Residents Forum

- 6 Noted that the development site will be completed by August. The grass verges within the village have been cut.
- 7 John Taylor has spoken to a resident on the Persimmon development regarding the future maintenance of a ditch running from the old High Road along the side of the resident's property. If this area is fenced off it is not clear who will be responsible for future maintenance. It was noted that the issue of the ditch, which is sited in Diss, has been raised with Persimmon previously.
- 8 Due to the area being prone to flooding Highways need to be informed: JC **JC** offered to contact B Edwards. The Planning Dept at SNC need to be aware

of the issue for clarification purposes.

DG

9 It was noted that the overgrown shrubs on Snow Street are the responsibility of the landowner, not Highways. It is understood that nesting birds are currently preventing the cutting of the shrubs but work will be undertaken later in the season.

10 A query was raised with regard to the fence recently erected that leaves a further ditch, on former church land, with limited access. It is understood that the landowner would likely remain responsible for any on-going maintenance to the ditch. DG will seek clarification but it noted that Land Registry may be the definitive authority with regard to ownership if not the power to enforce. **DG**

11 Bollards outside school: neither has been placed but one has been placed on the opposite side of the road to the original bollards.

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th February 2015

12 These were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

13 S106 Monies: DC has now written to JC with regard to the footpath from the Persimmon Development. JC confirmed this has been forwarded to Highways: the footpath has been approved but not yet sure when the work will be carried out. It was also confirmed that the parish Council will receive the final details of the proposed route.

14 Key to Church: the issue has now been resolved.

Monthly Income and Expenditure Report

15 KB will forward the up-to-date Statement of Accounts PC. The bank statements were confirmed as £11,281.17 and £7,024.65 – current and savings accounts.

Accounts for Payment

16 The following accounts were approved for payment:

Pearce & Kemp Standing Order

E.On Direct Debit

Clerk Salary Standing Order

17 In addition an invoice from Anglian Water for £4.36 requires payment along with a Credit of £14.19 has been received.

Other Financial Matters

18 R Pither, on behalf of Diss Community Woodland, has sent a cheque for £73.56 to cover the cost of the dog bin servicing in Quaker Wood.

19 Last year £100 was donated for the use of the Parish Room to hold Parish Council meetings. Agreed to donate £130 for 2014/15.

20 £600 has been budgeted for the Parish Council to contribute to the maintenance of the churchyard. AP confirmed that parish councils have the

power to provide funds for the maintenance of an open churchyard, ie, one that still receives burials and internment of ashes. The annual cost of the grass cutting is £1,800. JT proposed £650, seconded by JT to donate £650 for 2014/15. This was agreed, with AD abstaining, but noted that an official receipt is required for the parish council records. **AD**

Village Hall

- 21 An update on the meeting held on 15th April was provided by HH: a Chairman has yet to be appointed – extensive enquires have been made and the post advertised but there has been no response. However, a Secretary, Treasurer and Booking Clerk have been appointed so all enquiries and bookings are being handled. It would be of assistance to have legal advice on the Employment Contracts.
- 22 HH remains as co-opted member on the Village Hall Committee until October and agreed the new Council will consider this appointment.

Highways

- 23 Potholes on Hall Road, by Old Farm Barns and on the A1066.
- 24 Verge cutting: it has been suggested that the verges in Darrow Lane are not cut this year, or later in the year. JC confirmed that it is not possible, with Highways cutting up to 12,000 miles of verges each year, to identify specific verges that should not be cut. Noted that the urban cut has recently been completed but the quality was not particularly high.
- 25 Dog Bin: agreed to purchase an additional bin.
- 26 Rangers visit:
- Rubbish on Factory Lane
 - Reflective bollards on High Road require cleaning
 - Darrow Road, nameplate unreadable
 - Footpath to the Green, (Manor Farm side) requires weed-killer
 - Rubbish on Factory Lane

Street Lights

- 27 Following a meeting with Pearce & Kemp with regard the invoice for the streetlight on Copeman Road, this issue has now been resolved: it was due to an overcharge by UKPowerNetworks, resulting in a refund, to the Parish Council, of approximately £600. The column for light No 7 is still in place and clarification is required when this will be removed.
- 28 Replacement Programme: this should now be reviewed following resolution of the recent issues with the contract but it was noted that all the original contacts at Pearce & Kemp have now left the company. A review of the state of the existing concrete posts is required as it is unlikely that the County Council will agree to the transfer of their upkeep until all the lights are in a good state of repair.

Brewers Green

- 29 The horse that had been on the Green has now been removed and no travellers have, as yet, arrived this year.

Allotments

- 30 Although the gate is in place, the lock is not often used but the gate is closed. The rubbish left on one allotment has been removed. A water inspection will take place on 21st May at 11.00 am: PC will attend.

PC

Planning

- 31 The following applications have been approved:

2015/0632: 102 Factory Lane: Two-storey side and single storey rear extension.

2015/0129: 108 Factory Lane: Proposed extensions to bungalows with demolition of existing garage.

2015/0353: 6 Waterloo Avenue: Single storey rear extension, extension to front of garage and conversion of part of garage to utility room

- 32 2014/2531: Breckland High Road: SNC have confirmed in writing that an appeal has been lodged against the Planning Refusal but it is not clear on what grounds the appeal is being made.

- 33 Proposed Digester: no formal notification has yet been received but if access to the proposed site, near Shelfhanger, is via Hall Lane then Roydon would be likely be affected by the volume of heavy traffic.

- 34 Local Plan: Denmark Lane. It was confirmed that the proposed 42 dwellings will be in addition to the Long Meadows site; they will be sited south of Long Meadow.

Correspondence Outgoing

- 35 8 x Minutes/Agendas
NALC with subscription
SNC with payment for dog bin service
Allotment tenancy agreement to new tenant
HMRC with VAT Return

Correspondence Incoming

- 36 Norfolk Constabulary Crime Stats March 2015

Report from District Councillor

- 37 SNC continues to function at officer level but due to election purdah there is nothing to report.

Report from County Councillor

- 38 As for SNC, no councilor meetings are being held where decisions are made but the Outside Bodies continue to meet.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.