



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
20TH MAY 2013 AT SHAVINGTON SPORTS CENTRE**

PRESENT:

Councillor R Squirrell – Chairman
Councillor Robert Dodd - Vice Chair
Councillor Andy Pennance
Councillor Chris Flaherty
Councillor Maurice Simon
Sue Togay– Clerk

In Attendance:

CEC Cllr Brian Silvester, PC Daniel Sambrook, Mr Michael Follenfoot from 'Hands Off Wistaston' Campaign.

21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor Marjorie Dodd

22. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Cllr Robert Dodd ref any details of the planning application on Rope Lane - . 11/4549N or any planning application relating to potential land in Rope that may be in his ownership.

23. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th March 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

24. MATTERS ARISING:

Councillor Marjorie Dodd – Rope PC received and accepted a letter of resignation from Marjorie Dodd. The Clerk would inform Democratic Services at CEC as the representative of the Returning Officer and also arrange for correct notices to be displayed in the parish noticeboards in relation to the councillor vacancy.

Street Lighting various incidences of unlit street lighting columns were discussed as Barnwell Close had now been fixed and Cllr Pennance had had some success reporting faulty lights via the CEC system.

20mph Speed Sign at Berkeley School–Cllr Silvester had chased up this matter but it was still not working.

CEC Highways Minor Works Programe 14/15– This was now available and the request for extension of double yellow lines on Laidon Ave outside the school were included on the schedule. Also included was the pedestrian crossing on Rope Lane near Bankfield Avenue. Looking at the priorities on this list and low budget available, it would seem that at present we should expect to see the double yellow line item be completed if nothing else.

Bankfield Avenue – It had been previously mentioned that this are was in bad repair with extensive pot holes and the extensive wear of the road markings. Cllr Silvester to chase up with Highways

25. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Hands Off Wistaston - Michael Follenfoot from HOW spoke about how this group of approximately 20 residents was formed after their concerns for the large amount of potential planning applications in the area. The actions that it was taking were: display notices asking people to protest and the need to sign an e petition on the CEC website therefore raising the status of the green gap as CEC Leader had requested evidence of volume of petition., to write to Edward Timpson MP, discussions with Cllr Margaret Simon who had attended meetings, as 55% of residents were over 55 a collecting petition in high footfall areas. Mr Follenfoot came to Rope PC meeting to ascertain its stance and also felt that there was some merit in adjoining parishes working together. Rope PC stated that it had not yet decided on its course of action. (see also Planning Matters – Item 27).

26. POLICE MATTERS:

Crime Figures – for the period of 2 months April/May there had been 17 incidents of asb and 8 criminal incidents with shoplifting continuing to be a problem. Councillors were also alerted to incidents in the general area of eastern European people watching victims at supermarkets using chip and pin and then



following them home to obtain the card and use fraudulently.

Suspicious vehicles and vans had also been approaching children and telling them to come nearer in this area. There was information on the Police Website and all schools had issued notification to parents to be vigilant.

Dog Fouling: there had been a number of approaches from the general public to state that they felt that the new initiative with the spray cans was very effective. More chalk spray was

Berkeley School Field – was again being used by general public. Cllr Flaherty was asked to formally report in this incidents to the Police.

Speeding on Gresty Lane – Cllr Pennance had witnessed a car and motorbike racing.

It was pointed out that no paperwork or Invoice had yet been received in order to pay for the PCSO's. and PC Daniel Sambrook would ascertain the present position.

27. PLANNING MATTERS:

The Chairman referred to the Gresty Oaks Scheme which would become a formal planning application in the near future. As a council Rope PC need to formally agree if we wish to oppose the scheme. It was decided that if the application was received before the next meeting on July 8th, then Rope PC would hold a special meeting if necessary.

The Chair had been speaking to Cllr Peter Yoxall of Shavington PC and there had been some discussion about the procurement of a planning consultant so that a robust comment could be provided and the concept of Rope PC joining forces with Shavington PC and contributing to this action had also been discussed as there could be some economy of scale.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact Shavington, Wistaston and Willaston Parish Councils to ascertain if they would like to join forces and engage a consultant together on the issue of green gap – not site specific.

Following on from Mr M Follenfoot's comments the Council discussed further action with regard to developments in the area. HOW was an independent group and Willaston and Wistaston PC did not themselves lead these campaigns. In line with this, it was decided that Rope as a Council should stay at arms length but via a newsletter or poster advise its residents promptly of the planning applications being received in order for them to make comment. The Clerk/Chair to do this at the appropriate time.

Rope PC discussed whether CEC Leader Cllr Michael Jones should be invited to our parish meeting but it was decided that The Clerk/Chair would instead write to the Leader and ask him to ensure we receive some support as he has offered to other parishes.

A planning application had been received today electronically ref demolition of garage and construction of reception orangery and granny flat at The Byre, Eastern Road. The Chair would circulate for comment.

28. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Green Gap Meeting, Willaston – already discussed

Wybunbury United Charities Meeting 13/14 – A cheque for £151.78 to the charity had been received and the \charity Representatives would put up posters in relation for Book Grants.

29 CLERKS REPORT:

General Correspondence Received: None. All contact this period has been electronically. This is forwarded to the Chair who will then pass on any relevant information to all Councillors.



30. FINANCE:

A. Requests for Financial Assistance:

None.

B Payments

Section 137 Payments:

None.

General Payments:

£316.27 Clerk's Salary in total divided into 2 cheques for salary and HMRC Tax contribution.

Software to calculate amounts.

£8.00 Mid Cheshire Footpath Society

C. Annual Audit:

The Clerk had provided a copy of the Annual Return for 2012/13 which was to be included in the paperwork now to be sent to the Internal Auditor, JDH. The Clerk ran through the figures on the documentation with explanation and requested that Rope PC accept the information contained on the Form and approve and sign the document.

RESOLVED: That Rope PC accept the information and the Annual Return 12/13 and the chair sign this on its behalf.