



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
11TH JULY 2016 AT SHAVINGTON SPORTS CENTRE**

PRESENT:

Councillor R Squirrell – Chairman
Councillor Stefan Pyra -Vice Chairman
Councillor Andy Pennance
Councillor Maurice Simon
Councillor Margaret Simon
Councillor Chris Flaherty
Councillor Brian Silvester

In Attendance:

Sue Togay – Clerk, CEC PC Ollie Cross, Mark Hinckley – Rope Lane Nursery, Brian Wood – Planning Advisor Rope Lane Nursery.

40. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

CEC Ward Councillor Sarah Pochin

41 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None

42 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23rd May 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

43. MATTERS ARISING:

Bollards outside Shavington Academy – Councillor Silvester stated these had still not been made good. Councillor Pyra had inspected and found there to be no issue.

Resurfacing of Bankfield Avenue – not yet completed.

Hedge Corner Rope Bank Avenue – this had been carried out but was of bad standard.

Parish Police Issues – the parish's issues had been addressed to The Police & Crime Commissioner. For further details see item 48.

44. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

Mr Mark Hinckley of Rope Garden Nursery (RGN) and his Planning Advisor Mr Brian Wood asked Councillors if there any questions they would like to know regarding RGN as he had noticed issues being raised in previous minutes: Councillors asked for an update on any relevant planning applications pertinent to the nursery which are in summary as follows:

1. Export and Import of Soil – This had been withdrawn twice and had been ongoing for several years without solution. Mr Hinckley explained that a new application was now being presented with additional information that was requested. Points to be addressed are:

Flood Plain – the study required further information. Mr Hinckley stated that water came from the fields and that CEC had refused to unblock the gullies. Issues with Trees on site that had TPO's on them or did not exist also needed further clarification.. Mr Wood is now working on information required for the application to be presented for approval.

The Chair asked if any highways issues had been raised. He was assured there were no problems with the present gating but there was a request for further information on gates in relation to the new staff car parking application.



2. Signage on Rope Lane Bridge – There had been a general complaint from the Parish for all signage on the bridge which required permission. Application was to be made.

3. Provision of Staff Parking – Plans were presented which included staff parking which would alleviate parking in Gresty Lane. This had not yet been submitted. Councillor Pyra asked where stock would be stored and was assured it was either gone or moved.

The Chair stated that it was encouraging to see the new plans and hoped there would be progress now that Mr Wood was advising on these issues.

ACTIONS REF PLANNING ISSUES ON RLN:

- Mr Hinckley to provide notification to the Clerk on any Planning Applications.
- Rope PC to ascertain why CEC had refused to unblock gullies.

Mr Hinckley also mentioned issues with the roundabout near the Cheshire Cheese end of Gresty Lane as the angle was dangerous for large vehicles. Councillor Margaret Simon to liaise with CEC.

The Maintenance of verges on Gresty Lane was bad as United Utility works had caused the verges to be difficult to mow. Cllr Margaret Simon to follow up.

45 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

Councillor Pochin had provided her apologies and had provided the Chair with a report: a report as follows:

Rope Garden Nursery – Cllr Pochin was requesting information from officers.

Ward Walk -this was now put on a more formal basis and was now to take place on 20th September.

Rope Lane Puffin Crossing – the present position was being ascertained.

46 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

The overgrown hedges in Bridge Close and Bankfield Avenue had been inspected by Cllr Pochin and The Chair and only one site had been reported.

Evergreen Way – the hedge at Acorn Bank needed cutting back. The Clerk to report to ANSA.

Berkeley Academy Boundary Trees – overgrown trees had been reported to the school and the Chair of governors had responded but unfortunately without solution.

47. HIGHWAY MATTERS:

Roundabout Crewe Road/Gresty Lane Junction – see item 44.

48 POLICING MATTERS:

PC Ollie Cross introduced himself as the new PC for the area. The following incidents of ASB and Crime were mentioned :

Incident regarding slashed tyres. Councillor Simon mentioned this may have a link to the parking situation near Berkeley Academy which presented some emotive responses at times. Fortunately a solution was on the horizon with future plans for additional parking and drop off.

Mr Hinckley informed Council of the lack of information in this report regarding 6 break ins in the premises at Rope Lane Nursery.



Councillor Flaherty mentioned the presence of children playing on the school grounds.

Councillor Silvester enquired if Parish Policing Priorities were to be discussed. The Chair informed Councillors that response had been received from Sergeant Daryn Wilcox in relation to:

1. Parking at Berkeley School – It was felt that the new car parking arrangements would give some solution to the situation and the Police would be working with the school in the new school year to educate drivers about the new systems in place, working towards reducing the affect that the expansion of the academy would have on the local road infrastructure. Councillor Silvester requested we write to the school asking them to supply information letters to new parents and also to the Traffic Enforcement Officers at CEC to request additional presence at the start of the new term.

2. Speeding – based on data from the SIDs in place in the parish the figures do not require any significant response but analysis has indicated that there are a very small minority that are responsible for offences between 5 – 6 am and 8 – 9 pm on Rope Lane. The Police will increase the deployment of marked patrols and speed enforcement between these times over the next few months.

Data results were discussed and it was felt that the perception of speeding was often worse than the reality. In conclusion it was suggested that we monitor the next set of data and consider whether further action is necessary.

49. PLANNING MATTERS:

Strategic – there is still no 5 year supply of housing land. The Local Plan Hearing resumes in September. The Appeal relating to Park Road, Willaston for 100 houses was taking place tomorrow and appeals had already taken place for Wittersfield and Moorfield. Decisions were awaited.

Local Planning Issues - Phone Mast – A site meeting had taken place to advise of a suitable site which was on the Rope/Shavington boundary.. A final site had been decided upon which was not within Rope. There had been no reaction from residents on the application. No action.

50. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS:

None

51 CLERK'S REPORT:

General Correspondence All relevant correspondence had been forwarded to Councillors electronically... All other items were included in the main body of the agenda.

52 FINANCE:

A. Requests for Financial Assistance:

None

B Payments

Section 137 Payments:

None



General Payments:

RESOLVED: That the following payments be made:

£262.86	S Togay – Clerk’s Salary
£ 65.71	HMRC for tax on Clerk’s Salary
£5.00	CEC License for board Fuller Drive
£390.09	Aon Insurance
£158.40	JDH (internal audit fee)
£50.58	Cllr Bob Squirrell reimbursement Website License Fee – amount confirmed by Chair (see also mins 23 May: Item 39B)

C. Audit Procedure

The Clerk had provided Councillors with copies of the Bank Reconciliation, Summary Of Accounts and figures relating to the Annual Return 31 March 2016. She requested that Rope PC approve the Annual Governance Statement 2015/2016 and Accounting Statements 2015/2016.

RESOLUTION:

Accounts had been provided to JDH Business Services and had now been returned with a clean report. They had advised that VAT needed reclaiming. The Clerk had now submitted the Annual Return 31 March 2016 to BDO External Auditors to enable completion of the audit process for the year.