



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 8TH JULY 2013 AT SHAVINGTON SPORTS CENTRE

PRESENT:

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

In Attendance:

CEC Cllr Brian Silvester, PCSO Michelle Minton, Russell Wells, Simon Wells, Mark Hinckley (Rope Lane Nursery).

31. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor Chris Flaherty, Councillor Maurice Simon

32. 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.

33. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20th May 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

34. MATTERS ARISING:

Councillor Vacancy – In line with the correct procedure advised by CEC, the Clerk had been notified that there had been no request for an election and therefore the process of co-option could now go ahead. Notices would be placed in the parish noticeboards and also a feature in the planned newsletter in order for Councillors to consider any applicants at the meeting on 16th September and co-opt one of the candidates.

CEC Highways Minor Works Programe 14/15– There had been a request for a dropped kerb at the lay-by at Oak Tree Walk. Cllr Silverster would follow up this with Highways.

20mph Sign at Berkeley School – Cllr Silvester reported that this should now be working.

Potholes Bankfield Ave – reported to Highways.

35. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mr Mark Hinckley of Rope Lane Nursery expressed some disappointment that the Parish Council had not contacted him directly in relation to any issues it had with the nursery which had than been directed to Cheshire East to be addressed. The Council explained that most issues were not under any powers of authority that the Parish held and could only be addressed by The Borough Council. The Clerk was asked to speak to the relevant Cheshire East Planning Officer about the final decision on the Planning Application that had been refused as Mr MH had stated that he had not received any information. Mr MH requested that in future he would like to work direct with Rope PC and forge a good working relationship with it. The Chair agreed that a better working relationship should be developed to deal with any future problems and Mr Hinckley may wish to present to the Council at a future meeting.

36. POLICE MATTERS:

PCSO Michelle Minton gave a report on ASB and crime in the parish of Wistaston/Rope: There had been 36 traffic related calls and Gresty Lane was presently being highlighted as the speeding problems had increased. There had been two traffic accidents in one week. It was mentioned that the bollard on the chicane nearest Rope Lane had been damaged, replaced by a temporary sign, also damaged and no permanent replacement had been installed despite reminders to Highways. This had been the situation for a long time. Councillor Silvester will chase this up.

Other issues reported included thefts from Tesco Express, insecure vehicles and sheds, 3 car windows damaged (very prevalent in general in the Crewe area), fraud relating to card cloning, missing person, suspicious person calls, concern for safety of an individual and a facebook problem with a pupil from Shavington High School.



The Chair explained that he was planning a newsletter and asked Michelle to provide some advice to be included with regard to shed break ins.

Mr Hinckley from Rope Lane Nursery mentioned the large amount of breaks in at the nursery with 30 recorded break ins resulting in £64k worth of machinery being stolen in one incident. PSCO MM confirmed that they had flagged up this issue with night patrols in the area. The Chair commented that crime issues reported to Rope PC at its meetings had not been included mention of the Nursery incidents. After further discussion with Councillors Mr MH was advised that any complaint about Police Follow Up should be reported to the Police Commissioner and that the Council supported any initiatives to reduce crime in the Parish.

37. PLANNING MATTERS:

Land at Crewe Road, East Shavington 13/2069N. Outline planning application for the construction of up to 275 dwellings, including access, landscaping, recreation and amenity open space, associated infrastructure, the demolition of 28 Crewe Road and demolition of the single-storey extension to 56 Crewe Road.

Discussions took place with regard to this application especially in relation to School provision. Rope PC to raise objection.

Land NW of Church Lane, Wistaston 13/2649N – Outline Planning Application for proposed residential development of 325 dwellings. This was in green gap and the chair was concerned that the report commissioned by Developers was challenging the supply of housing in line with CEC Local Plan. If developers are right, we may see huge estates in our green gap areas. Rope to raise objection.

The Chair wrote to Councillor Michael Jones after the last meeting reminding him that he would support our objections and had received a very short response.

At the last meeting we wrote to Wistaston, Willaston and Shavington PC's in relation to joint response to be commissioned by a consultant with the costs shared between councils. We had received responses from Wistaston and Willaston but they had not offered to take part in this activity and we were awaiting response from Shavington PC before any further action was taken.

It was decided that we needed to keep an eye on the Gresty Oak application as it was due in at CEC. In order to support our residents, we would prepare a newsletter pointing out the references and details of the application when it was received informing our residents to make comment. We would also support this action with a public meeting at the appropriate time.

To prepare for this the Clerk to ascertain what the turn around time would be for printing and cost of 1k double sided folded full colour copies. The Chair to prepare a draft newsletter for approval. Clerk also to also ascertain the availability of the upstairs room at Shavington Sports Centre for a public meeting.

28. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Berkeley School Governors Meeting. Councillor Pennance had attended. The problem with overhanging trees was still not solved as Mr Gillot had been given a price for the work but no further action had been taken. Chair of Governors was going to make contact with him again.

29 CLERK'S 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:

£476.05	Aon Insurance
£5.00	CE for rent on Fuller Drive Noticeboard
£123.84	JDH for Internal Audit
£253.07	S Togay – Clerk's Salary
£63.20	HMRC for tax on Clerk's Salary
£83.19	The Bench for chalk based paint

Note 1: In the May minutes, 2 cheques had been prepared in relation to the Clerk's Salary and payment of Tax to HMRC. As the software needed to calculate these amounts, no figures were stated in the minutes. It can now be confirmed that cheques dated 20th May were for £253.27 – Clerk's Salary and £63.20 – HMRC.

Note 2. The awaited Invoice from Cheshire Constabulary had now been received for PCSO so the cheque approved for £3933.34 at May meeting could now be issued.

Note 3. The Clerk had received a VAT refund for £51.00.

C. Annual Audit:

The report from JDH for the Internal Audit with reference to the Annual Audit 12/13 had now been received and any issues were highlighted:

1. These were relating to Rope being a registered Employee for tax purposes which had now been solved in the 13/14 financial year.
2. The second item was in relation to a request for an original Current Account Statement that had not been received for end of year from National Westminster Bank. The Clerk had requested a second version but as it was just a print out, the Auditors had still asked for an original one. The Clerk would approach the Bank again for an original copy.

The Annual Return would now be sent to BDO, the delegated External Auditor for the next few years.