



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 16TH JANUARY 2017 AT SHAVINGTON SPORTS CENTRE**

**PRESENT:**

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

**In Attendance:**

Sue Togay – Clerk, PCSO Victoria Moulton, Superintendent Peter Crowcroft..

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

CEC Councillor Sarah Pochin,

**2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

Councillor Stefan Pyra in relation to Shavington Academy.

**3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**4. MATTERS ARISING:**

**Shavington Academy** – Councillor Pyra asked if the invoice for room hire had been received and confirmed that it was a reasonable rate. He also asked if a request had been received with respect to the Rope School Prize which it had not.

**Wistaston War Memorial** – A meeting to discuss the Wistaston War Memorial was planned on 9<sup>th</sup> February when there would be further information available.

**Wistaston Sports & Leisure Club** – no invoice for membership or request for donation had been received as yet.

**5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

None

**6. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT**

**Councillor Sarah Pochin provided a written report as follows:**

- Berkeley losing funding in the re-allocation of govt funds may have some impact on the Car Park Project as although monies are secured from CEC, Berkeley Academy has low reserves and could be affected by further add on costs. CEC are therefore trying to push through the project before the funding cuts hit.
  - Councillor Pochin is presenting at Berkeley Academy to their Year 5's in her capacity as a member of CEC Strategic Planning Board (SPB) as they are carrying out a project on planning processes and how sites are assessed. A delegation of pupils have also been invited to an SPB meeting to Witness Proceedings
  - Councillor Pochin would like to arrange another formal Ward Walk and would like to include the date on an up and coming leaflet.
  - Any action regarding SID's still ongoing with Fuller Drive unit being moved and Rope Lane unit being reinstated. She is continually requesting action on this matter.
  - Primary School Expansion in Rope – nothing planned.
  - An outstanding site visit on the parish walkways to assess surface work repair with Councillor Margaret Simon is still outstanding as it had been delayed by Xmas etc..
  - A meeting was held with Edward Timpson MP about various issues including educational funding cuts and support for the S77 in relation to Berkeley Car Park when it comes before the Secretary of State. Be assured he is working behind the scenes on our behalf.
- Councillor Pochin asked if Councillors could feed back any issues to her. Councillor Margaret Simon will inform her of the following: Street gutters and the walkways needed sweeping.

**7. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

Included in other sections of the minutes.

**8. HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

**Gullies** - The Parish had been informed that the gullies in the parish were being cleared **Bankfield Avenue** resurfacing now completed.



Gresty Lane Grass Verges - were again churned up and Councillor Silvester suggested we request bollards be installed. After discussion it was decided that as the Rope Lane Nursery Application was expected to be approved that we monitor the situation and only take action if the problem persists.

#### **9. POLICING MATTERS:**

PCSO Victoria Moulton gave a brief summary of ASB and Crime in the area which was very positive. There had been no ASB in the Parish. Reported Crime incidents were also very low with incidents including theft from a motor vehicle, attempted theft from a motor vehicle, criminal damage to property and criminal damage to Rope Lane Nursery. There were no trends evident. School patrols were continuing and Speedwatch sessions had taken place on Rope Lane.

Councillor Brian Silvester asked if there was any formal statistics available in relation to time spent in the Parish. PCSO Moulton explained that the information was compiled on a quarterly or six monthly basis and PC Ollie Cross would supply when available. The provision of Beat Reports were extremely useful.

Councillor Silvester also requested the results from the Speedwatch sessions and whether any parking fines had been issued. PCSO Moulton agreed to supply Speedwatch results when available and that Highways had installed measurement equipment and both PCSO Peter Corbett and herself were now trained in use of the enforceable cameras. She confirmed that some parking fines had been issued in September but none recently.

Councillor Silvester requested that as a promise by the PCC had stated that every resident would be provided with information of a named PCSO, this information should be included in the Annual Newsletter to residents.. Even though this information was included on the Police website Superintendent Crowcroft stated that he would feed back this suggestion to the PCC.

Superintendent Peter Crowcroft was in attendance and thanked the Parish Council for the invitation. After 10 years since the introduction of PCSO's it was time for a fundamental review hence current visits to funding partners. Letters had been sent out to all funding partners by The Police & Crime Commissioner(PCC) regarding present and future proposals for funding of PCSO's. Important points to note:

- At present funding amounted to one third of costs but in 18/19 this will change to full funding.
- The PCC would like every community to have a named PCSO and a free standard offer would be available. This standard level of service had not yet been decided but once formulated, communities may decide that this level of service is all that is required.
- An enhanced level of service would be available which Rope may wish to consider. Full funding would be required but this may be shared by funding partners.
- The enhanced service would be bespoke(within reason) with almost a service level agreement formulated by PCC and Parish and as we were therefore not the employers, we would be encouraged to be demanding customers.
- The cost of a fully funded PCSO would be approximately £33,400

Discussions took place in the light of this information and Councillors agreed that further discussions needed to take place with neighbouring parish councils especially Shavington PC when further information was available in order for any decisions to be taken..

The Chair explained that there had been problems with the present PCSO agreement as the letter issued on September 25<sup>th</sup> 2015 had not been received by the Council. However now that a copy had been provided there was a 1% increase which had not been approved when the Precept had been set due to lack of information at the time of the meeting. In fact the increase had been more than 1% once the invoice had been received. The Clerk had noticed the increase and had been in communication with the PCC Accounts Department and an invoice and credit note had now been received to correct the amount due. The Chair now requested that a resolution be considered by the Council with regard to approving the 1% increase in the cost of the PCSO for 17/18.

**RESOLUTION:** That Rope Parish Council agree to the 1% increase of the cost of PCSO Provision for 2017/2018. Councillor Brian Silvester wished it noted that he abstained.



The Chair thanked both PCSO Vicky Moulton and Superintendent Crowcroft for attending the meeting.

**10. PLANNING MATTERS:**

The Local Plan Examination is paused at the moment for consultation. There is still no 5 year supply of housing land.

Wistaston and Willaston PC's had circulated Neighbourhood Plans for consultation. If a Neighbourhood Plan allocates sites for housing then if the Planning Authority do not have a 5 year supply but do have a 3 year supply, then the Neighbourhood Plan will carry weight.

**11. FEEDBACK ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS:**

**Wistaston Sports & Leisure Club** - - Councillors Chris Flaherty and Margaret Simon had attended their meeting and belonged to one of their subgroups. Further meetings were planned however Councillor Flaherty may be unable to attend as the day had been changed and this did not allow attendance because of her work schedule.

**12. CLERK'S REPORT:**

**General Correspondence** - All relevant correspondence had been forwarded to Councillors electronically.

**13. FINANCE:**

**A. Requests for Financial Assistance:**

None

**B. Payments**

**Section 137 Payments:**

None

**General Payments:**

**RESOLVED:** That the following payments be made:

£328.57	S Togay – Clerk's Salary
£179.40	Shavington Academy for Room Hire Jan – Nov 2017
£3874.17	Police & Crime Commissioner for PCSO