

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 23 April 2009
Main Hall, Rickinghall Village Hall

Present:

Parish Councillors: Mrs E Draper (Chairman) Mrs M Carrington-Brown
Mrs G Crossley-Holland C Last S Pattenden
J Stacey

Parish Clerk: Leeann Jackson-Eve
PC Nick Kegge
District Cllr Sara Michell
Two members of the public

7.30pm The Chairman welcomed those present and opened the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Councillors M Bryant, P Jenner and B Johnson, and noted from County Councillor Charles Michell.

2. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting 26 March 2009.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 March were agreed and signed.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:** The following items were reported:

- **Caravan on Fen Lane** – The owner had removed the caravan but re-sited it in Botesdale Parish in the track opposite the Bowls Club.
- **Snape Hill bottle banks and litter** – The Clerk had requested the removal of the industrial bin at Walsingham Mews and had asked SCC whether it was of an appropriate size for relocation to Snape Hill next to the bottle banks. Waiting to hear from the refuse collection people.
- **Parish Liaison Meeting** – This was attended by BPC Chairman William Sargeant and his report would be circulated.

4. **Magazine Input:** Councillor Draper to draft a report.

5. **Members Declaration of Interest on agenda items.**

Cllr Stacey Personal Interest Item 11

6. **Public Forum:**

7.50pm RESOLVED, with all agreed, to adjourn the meeting for the public forum. The Vice-Chairman reconvened the meeting at 8.08pm.

7. **Correspondence:**

- 7.1. **Suffolk County Council:** The PC noted that Suffolk Household Waste Recycling Centres would no longer accept Gypsum Plasterboard.
- 7.2. **MSDC:** Noted that the Stowmarket Area Action Plan Issues and Options Sites Document was now available for inspection and comment from 6 April to 18 May.
- 7.3. **MSDC/SCC:** Noted that a number of information and discussion events were being held across Suffolk on the future organisation of local government in Suffolk.
- 7.4. **The Boundary Committee for England:** Structural Review of Suffolk: Further Draft Proposal. Agreed that the Clerk would write reiterating earlier comments with the previous submission attached.
- 7.5. **Came & Company** – Noted for future reference the offer to SALC Members – 15% discount on insurance premium paid in 2008 subject to conditions.
- 7.6. **SALC:** Local Government Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. The Council noted the amendments to the Local Government Act 1972, due to come into force on 1 April 2009, and that their implementation had been delayed due to an adverse effect on some councils. The amendments included allowing only elected councillors to become Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen and requiring 5 elected councillors in order for a council to operate and be quorate.

- 7.7. **SALC:** Invitation to renew membership subscription. £331 due 31 May. RESOLVED, with all agreed, to continue with membership of the Association. Account to be submitted for payment at the May meeting.
- 7.8. **SALC:** National Training Strategy Course: The Power of Well-Being. To be circulated for information.
- 7.9. **SALC:** Training for 2009. To be circulated for information.
- 7.10. **Suffolk Acre:** Invitation to renew membership subscription. £25 due 30 April. RESOLVED, with all agreed, to continue with membership. Account to be submitted immediately for payment to meet due date.
- 7.11. **Suffolk Acre:** Noted an invitation to a conference "Vitalising Rural Communities for the 21st Century".
- 7.12. **NHS Suffolk:** Formal consultation on Improving Out of Hours Care. No comment.
- 7.13. **Hartismere High School:** Formal Statutory Proposal to Change School Status from Community to Foundation. To be circulated for May meeting
- 7.14. **Suffolk County Council:** Noted the closure of the B1113, Rickingham to Gislingham, to carry out repairs and resurfacing work. From 11 May to 18 May.
- 7.15. **Suffolk County Council:** Noted receipt of invitation to take part in the Parish Paths Partnership (P3 scheme) for 2009/10. Agreed that the Clerk would put together the information needed and submit the joining forms.
- 7.16. **MSDC:** Land at Kiln Farm, Candle Street – Noted that this application would be presented to the Planning Committee on 29 April 2009 at 9:30am.
- 7.17. **MSDC:** Noted a report from Environmental Services with information about the District receiving a Five Gold Star rating at the Clean Britain Awards.
- 7.18. **Communities Against Waste Site (CAWS):** Noted the invitation to a meeting about the waste site proposals at Shepherds Grove, Stanton, 1 May at 7pm in Stanton VH.

8. Planning:

8.1. **Planning Applications:** None.

8.2. **Notice of Intent to prune/remove trees in the Conservation Area:**

8.2.1 **Brook House, Bury Road, Rickingham Inferior.** Ref: 0804/09. Remove 3 No. Conifers and 8 No. Poplars. Top 1 No. Yew Tree. The PC had NO OBJECTIONS to the proposed works. However, it was felt that far too many tree work applications had been passed by MSDC with a detrimental effect on the Conservation Area and it was agreed to ask the new Trees Officer to come speak to the PC.

8.3. **Notification of Planning Decisions by Mid Suffolk DC:** None.

8.3.1. **St Botolphs Bowls Club, Fen Lane, Rickingham.** Ref: 0510/09. Pollard 1 No. Ash Tree to a height of 6 metres. NO OBJECTION.

8.4 **Notification of Planning Appeal Decisions:**

8.4.1 **Land to the rear of Northdene, The Street, Rickingham.** Ref: 3147/08. Erection of a detached two storey dwelling, garage and access. Demolition of wall. DISMISSED.

8.4.2 **Northdene, The Street, Rickingham.** Ref: 3148/08. Demolition of existing garden wall to open up frontage for access on to St Georges Drive, to enable new dwelling, garage and access onto St Georges Drive, Rickingham on part garden of Northdene. DISMISSED

9. Finance:

- **Account Balances:**

Current A/C	£522.98
Deposit A/C	£ 17,389.95

- **Accounts for Payment:**

L Jackson-Eve	£ 373.83	Sal/Exps Apr 09
Pearce & Kemp	£ 48.60	Inv 26658 Mar A/C
Peter Frizzell	£ 66.13	Inv 531 Low Meadow Grass Cutting

Tripp Batt	£ 61.21	Inv 036673 Service Strimmer
Windeye Products	£ 350.00	Inv 069 Village Sign Refurbishment
Suffolk ACRE	£ 25.00	Membership Renewal 2009/10
Direct Debits:		
E.On Energy	£ 52.95	Inv H7AEAD14E Mar A/C

RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve payment of the accounts detailed above. It was noted that a payment to J Rose had been included on the agenda in error and his final payment had been dealt with in March.

10. **Councillors Reports:**

Highways Issues:

- The wooden sign near the bus shelter was leaning. Clerk to report to SCC.
- Church Meadow – The road surface was breaking up where the old and new surface met. Clerk to report to SCC.
- The railing at Water Lane had not yet been repaired. Clerk to follow up.

Village Hall: The interior would be decorated by Committee members within the next month and the exterior would be decorated by the Community Payback Scheme during the summer.

Website: The Clerk would post pictures of the refurbished village sign.

11. **Allotments:** The Allotments Working Party had agreed an initial layout in principle. It was noted that BPC had agreed to be involved in the project but felt that it could not contribute equally in respect of finances for the following reasons: relative population as Rickingham was three times the size of Botesdale, the proximity of allotments was not as convenient for Botesdale, and demand was lower from Botesdale. It was agreed to formally ask BPC to elect a member to sit on the WP. The WP had been active in finding funding sources and would approach SALC and Suffolk ACRE for advice. The Clerk would obtain the form from Suffolk ACRE for a funding search. The Upper Waveney Project had agreed to speak to the WP and members would be consulted on possible dates. The Clerk agreed to write to all individuals who had expressed an interest in the allotments to let them know about the special agenda item at the Annual Parish Meeting.

12. **Payment of Grant funding:** The Council RESOLVED, with all agreed, to make the following payments from its 2009/10 budget:

Rickingham PCC	£ 900	Churchyard Maintenance s214(6) LGA 1972
Rickingham Day Centre	£ 300	s137 LGA 1972
East Anglia Air Ambulance	£ 200	s137 LGA 1972
Father Christmas 2009	£ 75	s137 LGA 1972
Pyramids Playbus	£ 60	s137 LGA 1972
Suffolk Age Concern	£ 50	s137 LGA 1972
Home Start Mid-Suffolk	£ 50	s137 LGA 1972
Botesdale & Rickingham NHW	£ 30	s137 LGA 1972
Diss Citizens Advice Bureau	£ 60	s142 LGA 1972

It was agreed that the above payments would be presented for payment at the May meeting with the exception of Father Christmas which would be made in November

13. **Emergency Planning Policy:** No update.

14. **Annual Parish Meeting:** The Clerk asked for help in setting up the hall prior to the meeting.

15. **Rickingham News:** No update.

16. **Litter Pick:** Six pickers had collected rubbish and deposited it in the VH car park and at the bottom of Snape Hill. It would be collected by the end of the week.

17. **Internal Audit Review:** Cllr Pattenden reported that the accounts were in order, understandable and easy to reference, and noted that the previous year's suggestions for improvement had been implemented where possible.
18. **Dog Bin on Water Lane:** The PC agreed to locate the new dog bin next to the telegraph pole on the Bury Road side of the Lane. The Clerk to order a bin installed on its own post.
19. **Satellite Dishes:** It was noted that there were a number of satellite dishes erected on houses within the Conservation Area without the required planning permission. It was agreed to pass on a list to MSDC Planning Department.
20. **Village Sign:** The Chairman thanked Cllr Last for his help with the removal and reinstatement of the sign. It was agreed that the refurbishment was very successful and that Mr Tacey should be sent a letter of thanks, complimenting him on the results.
21. **Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council / Items for next agenda:**
 - RVHMC Playground Funding
 - Community Awards
22. **Next Meeting:** APM on 7 May 2009
 AGM on 28 May 2009

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.28 pm.