

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 24 January 2008
Committee Room, Rickinghall Village Hall

Present:

Parish Councillors:

Mrs E Draper (Chairman)

P Jenner

Mrs M Carrington-Brown

S Pattenden

M Bryant

Mrs G Crossley-Holland

B Johnson

C Last

J Stacey

Parish Clerk: Hilary Butler

County Cllr: Charles Michell

District Cllr: Sara Michell

SNT Officer: Pc Pauline Shadbolt

Two members of the public

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

1. **Apologies for absence.**

All members of the Council were present.

2. **To confirm the minutes of the Meeting 20 December 2007.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 December, circulated with the agenda, were agreed and signed.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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

There were no Declarations recorded.

5. **Public Forum:**

7.35pm RESOLVED, with all agreed, to adjourn the meeting for the public forum. The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 7.52pm.

6. **Magazine Input:**

Cllr Stacey to prepare a report of the meeting for the RBR Parish magazine.

7. **Correspondence:**

7.1 **Suffolk CC – Re: Byway 21 Rickinghall Inferior.**

Modification Order under the WCA 1981 confirming the addition of a byway open to all traffic to the definitive map from U5909 north to the Hinderclay Parish boundary.

RESOLVED, with all agreed, that a letter be sent to Suffolk CC requesting that a Traffic Regulation Order limiting use of the byway by motorised vehicles to access only.

7.2 **Suffolk CC – Suffolk Bus & Rail Strategies.** Noted for circulation following the meeting.

7.3 **Mid Suffolk DC – Parish Plans Update.** Noted for circulation following the meeting.

7.4 **Mid Suffolk DC – LGFA 1992 – Parish precepts 2008/09.** Noted.

7.5 **Mid Suffolk DC - Local List Consultation – Validation of Planning & Related Applications.** Noted without comment.

7.6 **Suffolk Accident Rescue – Appeal for financial assistance (Reg Charity No 263238).** Agreed that this should be held over with any other requests for consideration at the April meeting.

- 7.7 **R Coxford** – Rights of Way Issues/Parking Restrictions The Street/provision of a noticeboard.

The Clerk informed the Council that she had forwarded details of the missing fingerposts reported by Mr Coxford to the Rights of Way Officer at Suffolk CC on receipt of his email.

Cllr Carrington- Brown proposed that the Council to write to Suffolk CC objecting to the inordinate amount of time, June 2005, it is taking to determine whether or not the requested Waiting Restrictions (double yellow lines) in The Street will be instigated. Seconded and agreed.

It was noted that the proposed site for the new shared notice board is in the Parish of Botesdale and that it seemed prudent at this time that any decision be held in abeyance until such time as the proposed council merger has been properly debated and a decision made.

8. Planning:

8.1 **Planning Applications:**

- 8.1.1 **Tudor House, Bury Road, Rickinghall I.** Ref: 0113/08 To vary 70m visibility distance.

RESOLVED, with all agreed, to SUPPORT the application without comment.

- 8.1.2 **Plot 8, St Georges Drive, Rickinghall S.** Ref: 0213/08 Erect one dwelling.

RESOLVED, with all agreed, to SUPPORT the application without comment.

- 8.2 **Notice of Intent to prune/remove tree(s) in the Conservation Area**
None received.

- 8.3 **Notification of Planning Decisions by Mid Suffolk DC:** The following decisions by the District Council were noted.

- 8.3.1 **Flint Cottage, The Street, Rickinghall.** Ref: 3229/07 2 storey rear extension. Planning Permission REFUSED 3 Jan 08.

- 8.3.2 **Gardens adj to Tudor House, Bury Road, Rickinghall Inferior.** Ref: 3847/07 Prune & remove trees in accordance with schedule. NO OBJECTIONS 19 Dec 07.

9. Finance:

- **Account Balances:** 24 January 2008
Current A/C £ 371.30
Deposit A/C £16,443.11

- **Accounts for Payment:**

H Butler	£269.25	Sal/Exps January 08
J Rose	£101.00	St Sweeping
Pearce & Kemp	£ 47.29	Inv 10265 Dec A/C
Redgrave CC	£ 20.00	Grant s137 - Father Xmas 2007.
Botesdale PC	£ 31.25	Copying Oct-Dec 07
Sandy Lane Nursery	£ 99.65	Trees etc Re. Low Meadow (7.2 20 Dec)
Direct Debits:		
E.On Energy	£ 52.95	Inv/No H60B3BEFE Dec A/C

RESOLVED, with all agreed to approve payment of the accounts detailed above.

- **Budget/Precept 2008/09:**

- RESOLVED, with all agreed, to set a BUDGET of £13,515 for 2008/09 and in addition to retain Earmarked Funds of £9,300 as detailed in Appendix 1.
- RESOLVED, with all agreed, to request a PRECEPT of £11,400 from the District Council. The Precept request was signed by Cllrs Draper, Johnson and Pattenden, countersigned by the Clerk.
- RESOLVED, with all agreed, to consider all requests for financial support at the April meeting.

10. Councillors Reports:

Highways Issues: The following items were noted to be reported to SCC.

Briar Lane: Large pothole noted just south of the junction with the A143.

The Street: Sets lifting near junction with Hinderclay Road as previously reported.

The Street/Bury Road: Noted a large build of leaf mould in the gutters. MSDC to be asked to clear this ASAP.

Street Lighting: Noted that the lights in the bus shelter, Bury Road, and at top end of Rectory Hill are both out. (Report to P&K).

Parish Assets: Cllr Clive Last noted that the paint on the village sign is cracking. Cllr Last was asked to contact the sign maker and seek guidance on the matter.

11. Provision of Allotments: The Clerk reported that Botesdale PC will be sending out a questionnaire to its residents in the next edition of the RBR Parish Magazine. Nothing further had been received from SCC in respect of the land in Hinderclay Road.

12. SALC - Accounts & Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006. (Item 7.5 22/11/07). To receive a report from Cllr Pattenden regarding the Council's internal records. Cllr Pattenden reported that he had yet to carry out the review.

13. Affordable Housing Site – Hinderclay Road:

Agreed, in principal, that the preferred option would be for the Parish Council to accept ownership of the shelter belt if suitable terms could be arranged.

14. Proposed Mid Suffolk Walking Festival:

- The Chairman reported that 6 walks have been arranged during the fortnight of the festival.
- Cllr Crossley –Holland proposed that at its next meeting the Council consider supporting the Festival by making funds available for hall hire, refreshments etc. The sum of £100 was suggested.

15. Registration of Parish Council owned land with HM Land Registry: Deferred until appointment of new clerk.

16. Any urgent business/Items for the next agenda:

- Cllr Crossley-Holland requested that arrangements for the next village litter pick be considered at the next meeting.
- The Clerk informed the Council that Mr Dunkley is no longer able to service the PC strimmer (used for paths maintenance) or supply fuel for it. The Clerk will therefore make arrangements for Tripp Batt to service it and Cllr Bryant will arrange for a supply of fuel. Any fuel costs incurred by Cllr Bryant will be refunded on production of a receipt.
- Noted that the Street Cleaning/Parish Paths Maintenance Contract is due for renewal on 1 April and must be considered at the next meeting.
- Cllr Stacey proposed that Low Meadow be put on the next agenda for the Council to approve a fund for works, to include the pollarding of trees etc, by the Barwoods group. It was agreed that, in line with the Council's Financial Regulations and the Agreement the Council has with Barwoods for management of the site, the group should provide a properly costed budget for the works, which will then be considered by the Council.

17. Employment matters:

8.55pm Under the **Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960** the Council RESOLVED to close the meeting to the public to discuss the appointment of the new clerk.

The Chairman reported that under the powers granted to it at the last meeting the Employment panel had, having interviewed three applicants, offered the post to Mrs Leeann Jackson-Eve at SCP15 on the NJC scale. Mrs Jackson-Eve has been sent a formal offer with a commencement date of 1 February 2008. It was agreed that providing Mrs Jackson-Eve accepts the post then Mrs Butler's contract with the Council will terminate on 31 January 2008. Arrangements will be made to transfer the Parish Council's files as soon as practicable after this date.

18. Next Meeting: 28 February 2008.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL
BUDGET 2008/09

Appendix 1

Item	Budget
Administration	£2,225.00
Clerks Salary & Allowances	£3,400.00
Village/Assets Upkeep	£500.00
Street Lights	£1,400.00
Street Sweeping	£1,450.00
Parish Paths (P3)	£400.00
Chairmans Exps	£60.00
Councillors Exp	£200.00
Training & Courses	£280.00
Grants	
General Donations	£1,000.00
Churchyards (x2)	£700.00
Clerks Gratuity	£50.00
VDS	£150.00
IT Fund	£200.00
Contingency	£500.00
Other projects (NB/Low M)	£1,000.00
TOTAL	£13,515.00

Earmarked Funds 2008/09

Election Fund	£1,300.00
Street Light Replacement	£1,000.00
Allotments	£2,000.00
Reserves	£5,000.00
TOTAL	£9,300.00