

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROOKSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE ROOKSDOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE, PARK PREWETT ROAD ON MONDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2014 COMMENCING AT 19:45

Present: Cllrs Cavalier (RC), Cordner (AC), Khan (NK), Mahoney (PM), Nyengedza, Parkinson, Statham (CS) (Chairman) & Ward (AW)

In Attendance: B Cllr Cherrett, Simon Bound (SB) & Debbie Adlam (DA) representing RCA, 3 members of the public & the Parish Clerk.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Chandler (indisposed) & C.Cllr Reid.

2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The Clerk declared an interest in the Item 9(b), (salary payment).

3. **MINUTES**

59/14
RESOLVED It was to receive, confirm the accuracy of, and sign, the minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2014.

4. **COUNCIL VACANCIES**

Discussion of the co-option of Mrs C Nyedgenza had been deferred from the previous meeting of the council. Following a brief personal presentation from Mrs Nyedgenza,

60/14
RESOLVED It was to co-opt Mrs Nyedgenza to fill the remaining vacancy on the council. Proposed by CS, seconded by RC.

Cllr Nyedgenza completed a declaration of office and took her place at the council table.

5. **REPORTS & FEEDBACK: BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLORS & THE POLICE.**

(a) **Police Report:** No report was received.

(b) **B Cllr Cherrett (KC)** reported (i) problems of damp, principally in Norrie Court, which is complicated by the fact that the landlord believes it to be caused by lifestyle, while the residents claim it is a construction problem (ii) Community Centre (RCC) Snagging: KC, SB & DA had had a very worthwhile meeting. An on site meeting is to be held with BDBC officials to identify extant problems and those that had been rectified at RCC expense, with a view to recompense (iii) KC had explained to residents complaining about the state of "the hospital road, that it is a private road and repairs are dependent on available funding [The intention is that the developer (TW) will upgrade this road to highways standard prior to vacating the site Rooksdown development] (iv) complaints had been received re lack of bus shelters and changes to the bus routes. ***Cllr Cherrett's written report is at Appendix A. .***

Cllr Ward joined the meeting at 20:11 and left the room at 20:20.

(v) Neighbourhood Planning: KC encouraged RPC to develop a Neighbourhood Plan, even if only a framework, to expended later, as this will affect future funding allocations. CS said that now that RPC is at full strength, this will be addressed initially by the Planning Working Party.

(c) **Cllr Reid's** report is at Appendix B to these Minutes. It was suggested that RPC respond to a consultation on the Mobile Library Rationalisation, suggesting that the Mobile Library Bus should stop near the Co-op/headway House car park and the Playbus should stop at the Community Centre.

(d) **Community Association:** SB reported (i) that the new minibus provides the opportunity for a raft of community opportunities, and has enabled RCA to assist residents affected by the flooding, in particular in Buckskin area (ii) Winklebury Community Association has practically wound up and the likely new occupants of the Sycamore Centre are the Sea Cadets (iii) Rooksdown Youth Club (RYC) continues to go from strength to strength- membership is now free and the number of members is rising. RYC is looking to run its own young leaders

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course(s) (iv) RCA is planning a Homework club, workshops in the school holidays to supplement the Streetz initiative, an Easter Monday event & the Summer Fayre on 13th July
(v) RCA has contacted the new developers, David Wilson Homes (DWH) re community relationships/commitment (vi) RCA is considering acting as the local agents for the Lands Trust regarding the Spinney.

6. MATTERS FOR REPORT

- (a) **The Old Hall @ Rooksdown:** it is believed that the planning application has been well received and is likely to be determined by officers rather than the development control Committee.
(b) **Road Traffic Management:** Agreement has been reached with all stakeholders, and a meeting is planned for 3rd March to take the matter forward.
(c) **Public Consultations:** the mobile library rationalisation was discussed earlier.
(d) **Fireworks Event:** covered later under Matters Raised by Councillors.
(e) **Other ongoing matters:** (i) The Barn Right to Bid Application has been submitted and acknowledged by BDBC (ii) action on routine matters such as the procurement of an A4 sign and approval to locate a notice board at the Co-op has been subordinated to more strategic matters such as RTB, LIF etc, but will be followed up.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no requirement for an Open Forum.

8. PLANNING:

61/14
RESOLVED

It was
to confirm responses to new planning applications/proposals as follows:

13/02423/FUL	N.Hants Hospital	Car Park extension to form an additional 192 spaces	No objection. Comment on the need to be mindful of the hospital's working hours/traffic peak periods/inconvenience to local residents, particularly those in Lavender Copse, which is not shown on the site plan.
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b. Planning Decisions: The following decision was noted.

14/00165/LBC	Barn At Park Prewett	Conversion of barn to 2 no. residential units including mezzanine floors and additional windows: WITHDRAWN
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c. Planning Enforcement Matters: temporary Access onto Pumphouse Way opposite The Barn: the Clerk had been advised that the current practice of vehicles accessing the newly constructed overflow car park would cease very shortly when work on the access from Dinwoodie Drive is completed (expected within the week). After that the hospital's intention is to seek an extension to the current licence (expiring in March 2014) across HCA land to use this access for hospital maintenance vehicles only.

62/14
RESOLVED

It was
that the Clerk will draft a letter to HCA, copied to KC, SR (to be sent shortly after 3rd March) setting out the safety implication of the continued use of an access at that point, and requesting that an extension of the licence not be granted, and that the hospital should reinstate the land to its former state.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) **Financial Reports 2013/2014**

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A Financial Report & Bank Reconciliation at 21 February 2014 showing balances of £55,396.11 on the 30 Day Notice account and £891.63 on the Treasurer's Account, taking account of cheques up to CQ 400 was noted.

(b) Payments for Approval

63/14 It was
RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

CQ No	Payee	Service	Amount
		New CQs for signature	
390	R. Darley	Salary February + Expenses January/February 2014	£447.11
400	HMRC	PAYE February	£97.80
390	Basingstoke 24 th West Scouts	Cancelled CQ	-£120.00
401	Basingstoke 24 th West Scouts	Replacement for CQ 390 (lost & cancelled)	£120.00
		Total	£544.91

10. LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND APPLICATIONS

It was reported that an LIF application relating to the equipment of the Old Hall at Rooksdown (PPH), but consideration is delayed pending planning approval. A further application covering the provision of street furniture (benches, bins & notice boards) is to be submitted under Round 2 by 31 March. A 3rd LIF application regarding the Pavilions has not yet been progressed due to the delay in submitting the related planning application (s).

11. CENTRALISED REGISTRY

Options were discussed and it was agreed to pursue a trial involving the use of Sharepoint (NK)

12. MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS:

Cllr Khan (NK) had submitted 4 motions:

(a) That the working groups are there to provide findings to the Parish Council for councillors to make a final decision on the activities assigned to the Working Group.

64/14 It was
RESOLVED that an informal meeting will be held to identify & agree what working parties are needed, their composition and terms of reference etc be held.

(b) That a revised meeting structure based on the following timing be adopted from March 2014:
19:45 – 21:00 Apologies, Minutes, Community officers, Updates & Community Engagement.
21:00 – 21:05 Break
21:05- 22:24 Parish Councillors related activities

65/14 It was
RESOLVED that the revised timing be introduced – the timing of the break being either after the Public Participation Session or the Planning Item, as appropriate.

(c) That a draft reporting document be approved and completed and circulated by councillors every 2 weeks.

66/14 It was

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RESOLVED that draft reporting document (at **Appendix C**) be approved and completed and circulated by councillors every 2 weeks.

- (d) That a small 80m stretch of the road close to the hospital be converted into a one way system from Rooksdown Avenue towards the Hospital. This will stop the Rat-Run in the mornings and allow local traffic to flow whilst stopping the traffic from the hospital/A340.

CS confirmed that that option had been discussed at length as part of the Rooksdown Road Traffic Management Scheme and was not acceptable as it was deemed important that there should be a two way flow of traffic at each end of the parish for strategic reasons.

13. **CORRESPONDENCE:** there were no items of correspondence to be brought to the attention of members.

14. **MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS/CLERK**

- a. **CS** asked the Clerk to insert an article regarding the availability of grants to be inserted in the next edition of the Reporter.
- b. **CS** reported that he will be attending a meeting of BDAPTC on 23 March & that action of the Lengthsman Scheme has been delayed due to preoccupation with flooding issues.
- c. **RC/AC** tabled a schedule of activities and progress regarding the 2015 Fireworks Event, which was noted by members. RC/AC are to draft a contingency plan in case of a cancellation of the event. The Clerk is to provide an OS map of the event site and place the matter on the March Agenda for further discussion.
- d. **NZ** noted that an item covering discussion of control documents such as Standing orders etc was not included in the February Agenda. Draft control document(s) are to be re-circulated and members are to circulate their views to others, with a view to agreement at the march meeting.
- e. **NZ** suggested that draft minutes be circulated to members within 7/10 days of the meeting to which they relate. The Clerk undertook to see that that target is met.
- f. **AC** commented that she had not received an electronic copy of the recent Agenda for the social media. The Clerk undertook to ensure that that is not overlooked in future.

15. **DATE/VENUE OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next scheduled meetings will be held on 24 March & 28 April following the Annual Parish Meeting 2014. All meetings to be held in Rooksdown Community Centre.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 22:33.

Date.....

Chairman.....

Update to Rooksdown Parish Council – 24th February 2014

Update from Borough Cllr Karen Cherrett

Resident issues

I continue to be involved in helping tenants with hardship issues caused by damp and mould in rented accommodation i.e. problems with water ingress and dampness in properties. This is being looked at on a case by case basis with the landlords so that delays in addressing the issues are kept to a minimum and does not affect health.

Hospital road

This continues to be raised by residents (in the ward and visiting the ward) as a problem both for road condition and parking. I am aware that the hospital has tabled an application for 190 new spaces. I have registered comment in support of this – providing they also take action to address overspill parking in residential roads which still belong to the hospital or HCA.

Community Centre snagging

We had a positive meeting in month with BDBC contract managers and RCA seeking to resolve the long-standing issues from building hand-over and the liability for maintenance. An agreed set of actions and timeline to deal with them is underway and I look forward to report progress at future meetings.

Report It

Residents are reminded that in adopted areas of Rooksdown they can report incidents of overgrown shrubbery on paths, fly-tipping etc. to the borough council:

By phone 01256 844844

By e-mail customer.service@basingstoke.gov.uk

On the Report It feature on the web site www.basingstoke.gov.uk

Where residents are members of local management companies they may want to contact the management agent first to understand what services are provided locally and by whom.

Police – use 101 or ring the local station

Report from Stephen Reid for Rooksdown Parish Council 24 February 2014

Traffic calming

I have viewed the plans that are emerging for traffic calming and a revised Lodge Junction. I believe that they are on the right lines in terms of meeting the aspirations of the Parish Council. The feasibility designs look to address the requirements of the new David Wilson Homes development, and the Rooksdown traffic study (HCA, Peter Brett, TW and Hospital). My understanding is that the Hospital is still subscribing to the direction of travel of the expected solution.

The eventual design is likely to see the A340 dualled beyond Lodge Junction. I have raised the safety concern that if that results in traffic going faster towards / over the brow of the hill, there could be impacts on the Ambulance Stations junction and the awkward junction in the dip beyond.

There is a briefing session arranged for Monday 3 March, 1500hrs, which I plan to attend.

M3 Junction 6 / Black Dam

As reported last time, preliminary work has started on the junction improvements. There is a briefing on 5 March 1700hrs, which I plan to attend.

Rooksdown Lane

No update since last time, but kept in the report for completeness: I believe that the funding, for which I argued, is in the plan for the next financial year, starting April.

Aldermaston Road Triangle

Cllr Karen Cherett is best placed to report on this issue.

Rooksdown School

The County has passed its revenue and capital budgets and the funding for the new school is in the capital estimates. I spoke at Cabinet about the importance of this scheme and the need to see it completed for September 2015.

I have reviewed the plans twice, once at the consultation held in the Community Centre and once in Winchester. I offered some detailed suggestions. I was concerned about the central corridor becoming a wind-tunnel and suggested a change of orientation of one of the external doors. I expressed concerns about the extent of flat roofing and the attractiveness of this to vandals and irresponsible play. I also would like to see the path on the northern side made into a road with a turning circle at the end, so that the dreaded 'school run' traffic has somewhere to go rather than the surrounding roads.

The consultation in the Community Centre was well attended, showing how much the residents of Rooksdown are looking forward to this facility.

Borough Local Plan - consultation

The Borough Council is attempting to hold the housing numbers at 748 rather than the 807 that the Officers recommended. Nevertheless it looks as if potential new sites are in the mix.

I have had no indication as yet as to when already-submitted objections might be heard at the public enquiry. This may still be some months away. I remain worried that insufficient thought and investment has been earmarked for the link road from the A339 southbound and for its junctions with the A339 and the B3400.

Parking at the Hospital

My understanding is that the Hospital has submitted a planning application for more parking spaces.

Black Dam roundabout

Preliminary work has started on the junction improvements at Black Dam, a scheme that will be important to Rooksdown in terms of reducing traffic delays to and from the motorway.

Youth event

I attended the youth event at the Community Centre with Maria Miller MP: great fun.

Mobile Library

There are plans to rationalise the mobile library service which includes Rooksdown. I have suggested that stopping point for the mobile library be switched to the Community Centre. An alternative suggestion is outside the Co-op. My thinking re the Community Centre is that it is a focal point and will become even more so when the David Wilson homes are built.

Flooding

The situation in Buckskin is appalling and I have been on site most days, if only to thank the Council Officers who are working very hard. What began as an exercise in 'going the extra mile' has turned into a marathon.

Rooksdown Community Association won a round of applause in Buckskin when the offer of transport to stranded residents was reported. A brilliant idea that shows what pulling together is all about. Well done!

Stephen Reid, 23 February 2014

Appendix C to mrpc24022014
Dated 24 February 2014

Appendix C is a hard copy of the 2 weekly Councillor Activity Reporting sheet which is in landscape

orientation and cannot be reproduced electronically here.