



RINGSBALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Parish Council held at the Village Hall on **Thursday 30th November at 7pm.**

Present:

Councillors: H.Nunn
N.Last
L.Hitchcock
D.Shann
B. Shann

In Attendance Cllr Kay Oakes
Cllr Dan Pratt
Peter Watson – SpeedWatch Coordinator
6 members of the Public

The Chair advised those present that the meeting would be recorded.

RPC/60/23/24 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Lacey Luther - Clerk

RPC/61/23/24 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None were received.

RPC/62/23/24 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday September 26th 2023 be approved as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

RPC/63/23/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

There were 6 members of the public present.

Mr Williams requested that both his name and that of his wife, be removed from the Parish Council headed paper as they no longer serve as parish councillors.

A number of questions were asked by a resident regarding the speed reduction measures and what steps Council had taken since the last meeting. In response, Councillors confirmed that the results of the speed survey were awaited before specific investigations were undertaken.

A resident had looked speed signs etc at nearby parishes and noted that in Great Bricett the roundels looked much brighter and clearer than those in Ringshall. She suggested that those in Ringshall be updated. Cllr Oakes will look into this with the Highways engineer.

RPC/64/23/24 TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Oakes reported that, due to a malfunction of the electronics no data had been collected during the speed survey. A new survey will start from November 30th and run until December 15th with data available approximately two weeks after that. Cllr Oakes confirmed that the results will be in the public domain and will be available on the Parish Council website.

Cllr Oakes mentioned the County Council's budget and the payment of flood monies for those affected by the recent flooding.

Cllr Oakes reported that the contractors responsible for erecting the finger post at the junction of Stowmarket Road and Weir Road did a very poor job with the post not having put in deep enough and with insufficient concrete. Cllr Hitchcock offered to cut the hedge behind the signpost to allow it to be positioned further back from the road.

RPC/65/23/24 TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

Cllr Pratt confirmed that his report was on the Parish Council website. Cllr Pratt advised that the District Council's roll with regard to flood monies is mainly administrative and he reported that fortunately our area was not directly affected by the floods other than those on the highways. Cllr Pratt went on to report on the Cosy Homes Insulation Scheme, details of which can be found in the Newslink magazine and on the website. This is for homes that have an EPC rating of C or below and the grant covers up to £3500 per property.

Cllr Pratt reported that owners of listed buildings could find it easier to make sensitive energy efficiency improvements under new plans being considered by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils. Currently, property owners must apply for Listed Building Consent to make any changes. But the councils could now become the first rural councils to introduce Local Listed Building Consent Orders (LLBCO).

In specific areas, these would still safeguard valuable heritage assets but streamline the process for approving balanced and sensitive energy efficiency improvements. Technical specifications would be set out, and there would still be council oversight. The consultation runs until 29th December and can be found on the Council's website.

RPC/66/23/24 HIGHWAYS

Cllr Oakes had no update as the flooding Barking had taken priority.

RPC/67/23/24 PLANNING

- a) Council noted the decision to grant permission for DC/23/04820
 - b) Council noted the decision to partly grant permission for DC/23/04934
 - c) Council noted the decision to refuse permission for DC/23/03972
 - d) Council noted the decision to grant permission for DC/23/05305
- The application for a cartlodge at Nayland Barn was recommended for approval.

RPC/68/23/24 CLERK'S REPORT INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) . It was agreed to approve the NALC pay increase. It was agreed to approve the pay increase being applied back to April 2023.
- b)
 - a. A thank you letter had been received from the Four Parishes Newslink magazine
 - b. It was agreed to approve a donation of £500 towards grass cutting at St Catherine's Church.
 - c. It was agreed to approve a donation of £100 to CAB
 - d. It was agreed to approve a donation of £50 to Headway
- c) . The Finance Report was given and is available on the website
- d) . It was agreed to approve the payments and receipts for November
- e) . The budget monitoring report was read out. Currently £2800 under budget. The payroll for £54 had been omitted.
- f) . Request to purchase a new printer for the Clerk.
It was agreed to wait until a new Clerk is appointed.
- g) . Damaged sign on Stowmarket/Weir Road
This was covered in Cllr Oakes report

- h) . To note the adoption of a joint local plan by Babergh and Mid Suffolk as of 20th November
Cllr Pratt noted that this Plan replaces the 1998 Legislation

RPC/69/23/24 SPEED REDUCTION MEASURES

- a. Speed Watch Report

The reports for September and October were presented by Mr Watson.

- b. Update on speeding survey

This was covered in Cllr Oakes report

RPC/70/23/24 TO DISCUSS BUDGET OPTIONS FOR 2024/25

Cllr Nunn proposed that Council approve an increase on Budget of 5%. This was seconded by Cllr Hitchcock and unanimously agreed.

RPC/71/23/24 E-MAIL FROM RESIDENT ASKING FOR COMMUNICATION OF MEETING DECISIONS OUTSIDE OF INTERNET

The email was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Pratt reported that a visit to the site had been made by the Environmental Health Department. A baffle and acoustic wall had been suggested to reduce the noise. The planning application is due before committee in February, but this may be deferred until the new systems are in place.

It was agreed that, if requested. Copies of the minutes could be posted out to those without internet access.

RPC/72/23/24 RED LION PUB

Cllr Pratt reported that the Red Lion pub has now been sold and will reopen as a traditional pub once renovation work is completed.

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RPC/73/23/24 NEW DOG WASTE BIN

Cllr Hitchcock reported that despite an initial approval from Highways for the bin to be sited on the 30 mph sign post, this has since been retracted and a new site is to be sought.

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RPC/74/23/24 VILLAGE LITTER PICK

It was agreed that this would take place over 2 Saturdays in March, 2nd and 9th, and for those volunteers unable to attend on a Saturday, the equipment would be available for them on weekdays during this period.

A notice to this effect will be placed in the Four Parishes Newslink. Bin bags will be requested from MSDC and will be available from Cllr Hitchcock.

RPC/75/23/24 CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING SCHEME

The signs for this have already been placed in noticeboards in the village, but unfortunately the Four Parishes Newslink magazine had already gone to press.

RPC/76/23/24 RINGSHALL PLAY AREA UPDATE

Mr Watson asked when a litter bin would be situated within the play area. Cllr Nunn recalled that this matter was discussed in the summer when it was agreed that one of the two bins already sited on the playing field would be moved to the play area. Cllr Pratt asked to be advised when the bin is re-sited so the refuse collectors are notified.

RPC/77/23/24 MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Mr Williams reported that he still holds the key to the noticeboard at Charles Tye, despite no longer being a Parish Councillor. It was agreed that this would be kept until a new Parish Clerk was appointed.

RPC/78/23/24 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY 30th January 2024 at 7pm

The meeting closed at ...8.30...pm

Chairman: Dated:.....