



RINGSHELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall on **Tuesday 28th March 2023 at 7.30pm.**

Present:

Councillors: C.Payne (Chair)
N.Last
L.Hitchcock
D.Shann

In Attendance Cllr Dan Pratt
Peter Watson – SpeedWatch Coordinator
L.Luther – Clerk
7 members of the Public

RPC/115/22/23 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – County Cllr Kay Oakes , Cllr A. Williams, Cllr H. Williams and Cllr. H. Nunn.

RPC/116/22/23 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION – None were received.

RPC/117/22/23 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING. It was AGREED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 31st January 2023 be approved as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

RPC/118/22/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION:

There were 7 members of the public present. No issues were raised.

RPC/119/22/23 TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – County Cllr Oakes' report was circulated prior to the meeting.

RPC/120/22/23 TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Cllr Pratt had circulated his report prior to the meeting. Cllr Pratt was asked about the People and Places scheme and Cllr Pratt reported that the scheme was an alternative to the neighbourhood plan with significantly less red tape. Cllr Pratt offered to provide further information on the scheme.

RPC/121/22/23 HIGHWAYS

- a) Flooding on Lower Farm Road is an issue under investigation by Cllr Oakes and is awaiting further information, in the form of photographs of the issue, in order to furnish Highways with necessary information required to resolve the situation.
- b) Light Issue at top of Lower Farm Road. Clerk reported that the light had been dimmed to alleviate the problems the brightness of it was causing – namely momentary night blindness upon approach.

RPC/122/22/23 CLERK'S REPORT INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) Nothing to report.

- b) Clerk provided an updated financial report, which was distributed to all councillors and had been made available on the Parish Website.
- c) Clerk presented details of payments and receipts made on behalf of council. **It was AGREED** to authorise all payments and receipts.
- d) Clerk advised costings for Internal Auditor and asked Council's permission to Appoint Trevor Brown, who performed the previous year's audit. **It was AGREED** to appoint Trevor Brown as internal auditor for the 2022 – 23 Audit.
- e) Clerk presented the details of the external Auditor, as appointed by the Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments Ltd. (SAAA) and advised they had already been appointed.
- f) Litter Pick. It was reported that only a few people participated in the Litter Pick this year, but as usual, a large amount of litter was collected.
- g) Clerk advised Council that a licence has been applied for, to site the new dog waste bin on the SCC furniture at the end of Offton Road. Licence was pending approval.
- h) Clerk advised the meeting dates for the next two years.
- i) Chair advised on the Clerk's laptop and the unstable nature of it. Chair reported that it is part of the terms and conditions of employment of the clerk, that suitable equipment is provided. **It was AGREED** that Clerk would obtain three separate quotes for the cost of replacing the laptop and would present these at the next meeting.

RPC/123/22/23 TO APPROVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- a) Clerk reported on the annual requirement for council to review Internal Audit Control and Risk Management Arrangements. Chair read out the summary of the document and its objective. **It was AGREED** that the document be signed and approved by the Council.
- b) Clerk reported on the annual requirement for council to review the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders, in preparation for the Annual audit process. **It was AGREED** that the documents were approved and were to be signed by the Council.

RPC/124/22/23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) Council noted the decision relating to planning application DC/23/00232 Coromandel.
- b) Council considered the planning consultation request DC/23/00921 Chestnuts Farmhouse. **It was AGREED** that Council had no comment.
- c) Council considered the planning consultation request DC/23/01103 & DC/23/01104 Listed Building Consent and Planning Permission for two storey extension for Annexe Accommodation. **It was AGREED** that Council had no comment.

RPC/125/22/23 SPEED SURVEY

Chair reported on the Speed Survey's results. The report is available on the Ringshall Parish Council Website for everyone to read. The survey had an excellent response, with 57 returned and completed, out of 82 delivered. Out of 57 surveys returned, 55 of them were from residents who had concerns about the speed of traffic travelling along Lower Farm Road. **It was AGREED** that council accepted the findings and conclusions of the report. **It was AGREED** that a public meeting to discuss the conclusions of the report would be held on Tuesday 30th May 2023. **It was AGREED** that Clerk would invite a representative from the Highways Department to attend, along with a representative from the Police and from Wattisham.

RPC/126/22/23 WATTISHAM AIRFIELD DRIVING EXPERIENCE TRACK DAYS UPDATE

No complaints had been received prior to the meeting. **It was AGREED** to wait and see if further action would be required by the Parish Council.

RPC/127/22/23 PLAY AREA UPDATES

- a) Grass Cutter. Clerk reported that two grass cutters had been selected as options for purchase for the play area and presented them to Councillors for discussion and a final decision as to which one would be purchased. **It was AGREED** that the Weibang Virtue 46 SVP Variable Speed Lawnmower would be purchased by the Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council.
- b) Clerk reported that a WhatsApp group had been set up, comprising of local residents who were volunteering to mow the grass within the play area. The group would be run on an ad hoc basis, whereby volunteers would monitor the grass levels and decide between them when it was in need of cutting and who would do it.
- c) Clerk reported that the sign had been ordered for the Play Area and was awaiting completion. It would be collected in the next week and put up by Clerk.
- d) Use of CCTV on Area. Currently there is CCTV which covers the play area, as operated by the Ringshall Village Hall Management Committee. **It was AGREED** to leave the CCTV as it was and review as and when needed.

RPC/128/22/23 RINGSHALL PARISH CHURCH

- i) Chair reported on a meeting with Ringshall Church Officials, held on 21st March between Church Officials and members of the Parish Council, and the Clerk.
- ii) Council discussed the written request for £600 and **It was AGREED** to postpone a decision on the additional £600 the church had requested until Parish Council could see a copy of the Annual Report at the May meeting.
- iii) Council discussed future grant applications and **It was AGREED** that they would be agreed upon on a case by case basis.

RPC/129/22/23 UPCOMING ELECTIONS

Clerk reported that the Nomination Forms that were sent out to candidates, needed to be handed in to Council Offices by Close of Business 3rd April 2023. Clerk could hand forms in on behalf of Councillors, or they were able to take them and submit them, themselves.

RPC/130/22/23 CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

Council discussed the Coronation celebrations, which were to be held on Saturday 6th May at Ringshall Village Hall. **It was AGREED** that the official opening of the Play Area would be held on this day, at 4pm. **It was AGREED** that Clerk would purchase some ribbon for the occasion. **It was AGREED** that Kieran Shann would be involved in the opening ceremony.

RPC/131/22/23 VILLAGE HALL ROOF REPAIR

Clerk reported that the Village Hall Management Committee had got in touch, to ask if the Village Hall Roof repairs could be put on the agenda and that they would like to discuss the next steps with the Parish Council. Clerk forwarded details of a now out of date report, on the condition of the roof and some previous quotations acquired for an idea of costs to repair it, for information purposes. **It was AGREED** that Parish Council certainly supported the endeavours of the Village Hall Management Committee to get the roof repaired. **It was AGREED** that Clerk needed to ascertain further information on the ownership of the village hall, in order to establish whether the Parish Council could accept funds from the Village Hall Management Committee to pay for roof repairs, that VAT could then be reclaimed. In order

to prevent VAT Fraud, it is important to establish the legal specifics of ownership first. Clerk has submitted an enquiry to SALC and will be following that up.

RPC/132/22/23 GREEN NATIONAL GRID PYLONS CONSULTATION

Council discussed the Green National Pylons consultation and its impact on the local area. Chair shared maps which showed how the scheme would affect the Parish of Ringshall. Councillors discussed the physical effect of the pylons. **It was AGREED** that Council would write to MP Jo Churchill to oppose the siting of the pylons above ground and to urge them to site the cables offshore, under the sea.

RPC/135/22/23 MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The recently published sustainability statement for the proposed development at Anglia Business Park, Ringshall to be discussed at the next meeting.

Future Council meetings to begin at 7pm.

RPC/136/22/23 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY 23rd May – Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30PM

The meeting closed at 9.18pm.

Chairman: Dated:.....