



## **RINGSBALL PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Parish Council held at the Village Hall on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 7pm.**

**Present:**

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

**In Attendance** Cllr Kay Oakes  
Cllr Dan Pratt  
L.Luther (clerk)

**RPC/31/24/25 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

**RPC/32/24/25 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**RPC/33/24/25 TO RECEIVE ANY APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION**

None

**RPC/34/24/25 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**It was AGREED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024 be approved as a true and accurate record.

**RPC/35/24/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

None

**RPC/36/24/25 TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Oakes's report was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Oakes gave her update on a few different issues within Ringshall.

- a) Cllr Oakes had spoken to the company that installed the new finger post and they refused to acknowledge that they had installed the post incorrectly. As a result, Cllr Oakes has ordered that the work be done by Highways instead and the post be re installed correctly.
- b) Cllr Oakes reported that the subsidence at the side of the road at Bakers corner had been resolved.
- c) Cllr Oakes looked at speeding signs around Ringshall School with her highways engineer, to determine if installing more would be effective. After long discussion the decision was taken to carry out two speed surveys, one on Offton Road and one on Lower Farm Road. The results from the surveys that were done showed fairly average speeds, and nothing that could be considered alarming. In the light of those results, it was decided that no more signs would be needed. **It was AGREED** that Cllr Oakes

would send clerk the data collected, so it could be forwarded to Martin Kinsey at Wattisham.

- d) Handrail by the Bus stop. Clerk advised that she had contacted Suffolk County Council to identify if they were the owner of the handrail, but SCC reported that they were not the owner. **It was AGREED** that the handrail was not safe and would be removed altogether.

**RPC/37/24/25 TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:**

Cllr Pratt’s report was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Pratt just added that he was pleased that the Food waste recycling project that was to be implemented from 2026 would be a positive change for the county.

**RPC/38/24/25 HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Oakes reported on all issues during her report, so all items have been addressed and were up to date.

**RPC/39/24/25 PLANNING**

- a) Council noted the decisions relating to DC/24/01146 & DC/24/01147.
- b) No other planning matters were discussed.

**RPC/40/24/25 CLERK’S REPORT**

- a) Clerk requested authorisation for overtime, as Clerk had been away on holiday, but all the work was completed, so requested 5 hours for holiday time, especially as there was an additional meeting, and clerk completed the training course for playground inspection and planning training. **It was AGREED** to approve 5 hours overtime, to be paid in August pay.
  - a. Clerk reported that she had attended the playground inspection training and as a result had updated the website, adding a tab in for the play area, and including an accident form that people could complete in the event of an accident. Additionally, the monthly inspection report template had been updated to comply with the training completed and better reflect the levels of risk that were present, if any and subsequent remedial action required, if any.
  - b. Clerk reported that CILCA training had been booked for the end of August and the cost could be split between Ringshall PC and Great Finborough PC.
  - c. Clerk reported that an error had been made when completing the AGAR form. Clerk spoke to SALC who recommended that the error be amended and Chairman should initial the error, to show it was acknowledged by the Parish Council. This had been accepted by the external auditor, and Clerk wanted to ensure that Council were aware of the mistake and the actions taken to rectify it.
- b) Payments and receipts were as follows and **It was AGREED** to authorise all payments.

Payments	Amount	Payments	Amount
Clerk Pay June	£269.80	Purchase of Strimmer - Refund to Lacey Luther, invoice attached	£229.00
Clerk Pay July	£269.80	Petrol and replacement parts for strimmer	£29.79

Clerk working from home Allowance	£25	Tax payment	£9.60
Battery for Defibrillator	£267.00	Suffolk Cloud invoice - Switch to .gov.uk domain	£150.00
SALC Planning Training	£168.00		

Receipts	Amount
Bank Interest Received	£87.82

- c) Clerk read out the Finance report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, and posted on the website for all to view.
- d) Clerk presented the bank reconciliation, which had also been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Last reviewed and **it was AGREED** to approve the bank reconciliation.

#### **RPC/41/24/25 TELEPHONE BOX VANDALISM.**

- a) The telephone box kiosk in the village, which holds books as an honesty library for the village, had been vandalised. One side of the box had all the glass completely smashed. It was reported that the family of the perpetrator had reported that they were willing to pay for the damage. The perpetrator was known and had been arrested by the police on the evening of the attack. **It was AGREED** that Ringshall Parish Council wished to pursue criminal action against the perpetrator and that Clerk would liaise with the community liaison officer of Suffolk County Council and the Police to find out how to expedite such action.
- b) Glass replacement. In the past, the council used Unicorn restorations to help with renovation work on the telephone box. It was reported that 8 large panes and 2 small panes of glass were needed to complete the repair, so payment would be needed to cover the cost of those and labour to complete the repair. **It was AGREED** that Clerk would contact some glazing companies to find out if someone would be able to complete the repair.

#### **RPC/42/24/25 BUS STOP NOTICEBOARD**

It was reported that the Noticeboard that is attached to the Bus Shelter was in a state of disrepair. **It was AGREED** to replace the noticeboard with a more weather resistant option. Cllr Hitchcock to measure and research prices and present options at the next meeting.

#### **RPC/43/24/25 SOLAR PANELS ON VILLAGE HALL ROOF**

Council decided to wait until the Village Hall Management committee had completed a survey to ensure the roof structure would support the weight of Solar Panels. **It was AGREED** to defer discussion until September.

#### **RPC/44/24/25 SPEED INDICATOR BOARD UPDATE**

- a) Speed watch report was sent out by Cllr Hitchcock. Nothing new was reported, average speeds had been recorded, with nothing out of the ordinary.
- b) Update on Battery life of the SID, Cllr Hitchcock had been changing the battery weekly, so that the battery did not run down quite so much, and the recharge did not

take as long as it had previously. Clerk reported that the guarantee on the battery only lasted six months after the purchase of the battery.

#### **RPC/45/24/25 EMERGENCY PLAN**

The low response to the surveys that had been sent out amongst the village was discussed and **it was AGREED** to put a piece in the Parish Magazine discussing the survey and asking people to complete and return theirs.

#### **RPC/46/24/25 SAFETY OF LITHIUM ION BATTERIES - UPDATE**

Clerk had contacted Ron Bailey to enquire as to what he expected 'Parish Council Support' for the bill to look like. Clerk reported that his response advised it would simply be the inclusion of the Parish logo in documents with details of councils who support the bill, and perhaps a request to the Parish Council to write to their local MP regarding the bill. **It was AGREED** that Ringshall Parish Council would support the bill.

#### **RPC/47/24/25 RINGSHALL PLAY AREA**

- a) Clerk reported that a few small repairs were needed in the play area, cable ties to be removed, and bolts sawn down so no exposed bolt ends remain on the sign for the play area. Clerk had spoken to Kompan directly to see if parts were available for replacement, but the cost was prohibitive – in the region of £100 for a jigsaw piece and a few bolt covers. This was considered excessive and not representative of value for money by the Council. **It was AGREED** that Clerk would research to establish if the parts were available elsewhere for a lower cost.
- b) Clerk reported that the Basketball Net was in need of some small repairs, but had forwarded the report on to the Village Hall management Committee for review and action, as it was not owned by the Parish Council.

#### **RPC/48/24/25 NORWICH TO TILBURY PROJECT**

A resident had been in touch with the Council asking for Action concerning the Norwich to Tilbury project. Council put a notice on NextDoor, inviting residents to submit their comments, concerns and opinions to the Clerk in time for the closing of the consultation. None were received, but the Council chose to resubmit the previous comments that had been issued to the local MP at the time, reemphasising the Council's reluctance to support the project. It was also suggested that residents who had concerns about the project, could be sign posted to other initiatives in other villages, for example Offton Village had set up a working group that were discussing the project at length.

#### **RPC/49/24/25 RESIDENT COMPLAINT CONCERNING DRIVING ALONG WARE AND WATTISHAM ROAD**

Councillors discussed the disruption at the time, which was the result of the SPA Project, where a new water main was being installed through Suffolk, via Wattisham, and one of the outcomes of the project was increased traffic through Wattisham Village and subsequently along Ware and Wattisham Road. **It was AGREED** that Clerk would write to the resident to advise them of the existence of the project, and to signpost them to Cllr Oakes, to get in touch when the project is completed, if traffic issues remain.

#### **RPC/50/24/25 MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

None raised

**RPC/116/24/25 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING** – The Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7pm.

**The meeting closed at ...8.14pm**

**Chairman: ..... Dated:.....**