

Rocklands Parish Council (RPC)  
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in Rocklands Village Hall  
7.00pm on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015

Present: David Howie Chair  
Nicola Southgate Vice-Chair  
David Witt  
Shirley Colenutt  
Cath Jones  
David Roberts  
Ian Scholes  
Kim Austin Clerk  
William smith District Councillor

Also present: 4 members of the public.

**1. To consider accepting apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. To record declarations of interest from members in any items on the agenda**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. To approve the minutes of the last council meeting on Monday 6th July 2015**

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes that had been circulated prior to the meeting as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair, Cllr. David Howie.

**4. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes (6/7/15), not on the agenda**

There were no matters arising.

**5. To adjourn the meeting for public participation**

Meeting adjourned at 19.05 and opened to the public.

There were no comments from the public. The meeting re-opened at 19.06pm.

**6. Donations to churches and other organisations**

Donations were agreed as follows:

All Saints PCC	Churchyard	£ 85.00
St Peters PCC	Churchyard	£ 85.00
Rockland Playing Field	Playground	£120.00 (£160.00 last year)
Rocklands Village Hall	Hall Maintenance	£120.00 (£ 80.00 last year)
Central Norfolk Methodist Circuit	Churchyard	£ 70.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£480.00</b>

There was some discussion that the £160 donated last year to the Playing Fields had included £80 towards the children's' play area which was possibly not going to happen in the near future. Playing Fields wanted to use the money towards heaters this year or to replace the wall lights. It was decided that the Playing Fields and the Village Hall should receive the same amount so the £240 was divided equally between the two. The Playing Fields and Village Hall therefore both received the same amount of £120 this year. The total donated remained the same at £480. All donations would be reviewed again next year.

Signed .....

Date .....

## 7. To report on Finance

The Clerk delivered the financial report.

### 7.1 Financial position

The bank account balances as at Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015

Barclays Community Account	£	2784.84
Barclays Saver (Reserve) Account	£	702.45
<b>TOTAL as per bank</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>3487.29</b>

### 7.2 Money in since last meeting

Business Saver A/C	£	0.09
<b>TOTAL IN</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>0.09</b>

### 7.3 Cheques out (to sign)

CHQ 548	Clerk's expenses (4 ½ months)	£	44.70
CHQ 549	All Saints PCC (Churchyard)	£	85.00
CHQ 550	St. Peter's PCC (Churchyard)	£	85.00
CHQ 555	Rockland Playing Field (Playground)	£	120.00
CHQ 556	Rockland Village Hall (Hall Maint.)	£	120.00
CHQ 553	Central Methodist Circuit (Churchyard)	£	70.00
CHQ 554	Breckland Council - Uncontested Election Costs	£	75.00
<b>TOTAL OUT</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>599.70</b>	

### 7.4 Standing Orders

Kim Austin	Clerk's wages
Pearce and Kemp	Street lighting
e.On	Electricity

## Notes from the Clerk:

### Election expenses

Cllr. Witt mentioned again that he still hadn't received his election expenses. The Clerk to look into.

### Mazars External Audit

Mazars external audit is complete and the signed off accounts have been returned. Notices to this effect have been posted on PC notice board.

## 8. To consider planning applications.

### 8.1 Planning outcomes since last meeting

3PL/2014/1016/F **LESLIE**/Glebe Cottage - New dwelling (58) REVISEDAS (66) - **PERMISSION**

3PL/2014/1016/F **LESLIE**/ REVISED/Glebe Cottage/New dwelling (58/66) - **PERMISSION**

3PL/2015/0384/F **PASKE**/Land Chapel Street - **17 new dwelling** (62) - **REFUSAL** (Resubmit 10)

NOTE: It was noted that the Chapel Street development had been reduced from 17 to 10 houses and was to be re-submitted.

3PL/2015/0565/F **BECKETT**Eden Meadows - New meeting room (67) **PERMISSION**

3PL/2015/0601/F **BARHAM** Land 17 The Street - **1 Det/2 Semis** (68) **REFUSAL**

3PL/2015/0638/F **SHARPE** April Cottage - Replace garden building (69) **PERMISSION**

3PL/2015/0620-1/F **BATCH** Holly Cottage - **Addnl beds/dormer** - SEE 2014/1017/F (70) **PERMISSION**

3PL/2015/0653/F **HOWLETT** Rodwells Road - Agri Barn and dwelling (71) 6/7 **WITHDRAWN**

Signed .....

Date .....

NOTE: Howlett (71) was withdrawn before it was refused. The Parish Council was very surprised at this outcome. Planning had been concerned about the size of the development and the fact that it was isolated and would therefore encourage the use of a car ....

## 8.2 Applications pending outcome

3AG/2014/0019/AG **BIDMEAD**/Tuppins Farm/ Extension to existing agri building - (53)

NOTE: Still says PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIRED on planning website.

3PL/2015/0518/F **ANNISON**/White Hart/7 **Bungalows** (64)

NOTE: It was noted that this application would be re-submitted for less dwellings.

3PL/2015/0640/F **BAINBRIDGE** Land South of Spinney - Dwelling and Garage (73)

NOTE: The hearing for this application is scheduled for this month.

3PL/2015/0678/F **IRWIN/DAVIDSON** Bell Lane - Free range chicken unit (74)

## 8.3 New applications since last meeting

3PL/2015/0384/F **PASKE**/Land Chapel Street - **10 new dwelling (was 17)** (62R/75) **Resubmitted**

NOTE: RPC would object on the same grounds as for the 17 dwellings previously.

3PL/2015/0815/F **BARHAM**/5 The Street - replacement dwelling (76)

3PL/2015/0384/F **ANNISON**/Moorfield Annex - Change of use (77)

NOTE: RPC had NO OBJECTION to this application

## 8.4 New applications since agenda issued

NONE

## 8.5 Application and allotments (Barham)

The Clerk had received an email (August 25<sup>th</sup>) from Stephen Bush (Agent for Dean Barham) confirming that Dean Barham was very seriously considering the **donation of land** to the rear of his site in The Street to the parish **for use as allotments**. He went on to say that this would depend on the result of both the planning appeal (submitted) against Breckland`s refusal of planning permission for 3 properties adjacent to the 2 he has permission for, and his application for a replacement property for number 5. This application would give an access to the suggested allotments. Mr Bush said that the email from him was to basically confirm Dean's intentions and to quote Mr. Bush; *'this depends on the 'thoughts of our `friends` in the planning department of Breckland Council'*.

The Clerk had replied to Mr. Bush confirming that the councillors were aware of his email and it would be on the agenda for discussion at this meeting.

The Parish Council confirmed that they had not objected to Dean Barham's applications in the first place and that any decisions were now out of their hands. The allotments may be a good idea as then RPC wouldn't have to worry about the land being built on in the future. Whilst the Parish Council were appreciative of the offer, they were not sure whether 'donation' meant transfer of ownership or not.

Great Ellingham have an allotment society for future reference and advice should it be needed. District Cllr. Bill Smith said there was nothing wrong with 'bartering' sometimes.

## 8.6 Kerry Foods application

Although this application is not strictly in the Parish of Rocklands it could still affect the volume of traffic on the roads around the Parish. Kerry Foods have applied to upgrade and expand the facility on their land in Little Ellingham. There would be a new entrance and exit, 60 more employees, spaces for 20 more cars and increased HGV traffic. In Great Ellingham the already dangerous turning opposite the school would be impacted. Concerns were raised over narrow roads, large transport vehicles, 24hour deliveries and drivers getting lost and ending up in Thieves Lane, Rocklands. As this application could impact both Little and Great

Signed .....

Date .....

Ellingham and Rocklands it was suggested that the chairs of all three parishes meet to discuss. Cllr. Howie agreed to meet with the other chairs and said he would bring up the subject of planning training too.

Cllr. Colenutt suggested that the sign to Little Ellingham be removed from the end of Thieves Lane OR a sign put in place saying NO LORRIES or NOT SUITABLE FOR LORRIES. The current traffic is already considerable.

### **Local Plans**

This led to a discussion about the 5 year (year on year) rolling plan/land supply where more land for development would need to be found each year. Both Parish Councils and District Councils would be on the treadmill because they had been successful at resisting development in the past. Breckland Council have no option other than to meet the demand for land. It is assumed therefore that building/development will be outside the settlement boundary. District Cllr. Bill Smith said that councils would need to be inventive. The Local Plan will be finished next year.

### **8.7 Land at junction of Mill Lane and Green Lane**

Cllr. Howie had been in contact with Peter Cotes, owner of this piece of land with a view to Peter selling it. Cllr. Howie had also been in contact with UK Power Networks to see about removing the over ground power lines. Unfortunately Peter Cotes has now decided not to sell.

### **9. To update on telephone boxes**

Al Bainbridge is still trying to get the electricity disconnected from the phone box at Mount Pleasant that the Parish Council wish to sell. Progress is slow. Council may consider sealed bids, with a reserve, for villagers to buy the box.

### **10. To update on Home Watch**

Home Watch is going well. Signs have been put up. Cllr. Howie is very pleased. The Co-ordinators have done a fantastic job. More people are still wanting to become involved.

### **11. To update on Village Shop and Post Office**

The shop is doing well. A Lottery grant has been received that will pay the salary for a 4<sup>th</sup> manager and hopefully the new manager will be in place before Christmas. Training is an issue as the Post Office don't do classroom training, only on the job training.

### **12. To update on Trees/Warden**

Japanese Knotweed which can become a huge problem is growing in the front garden of a house on the Attleborough Road. Survey of all Ash trees in Rocklands has indicated that they all have Ash dieback and will die.

### **13. To update on Playing Fields**

Development of the pavilion has been put back and certainly won't happen unless the road problem is sorted. Grants have been applied for to improve the Children's' playground. Looking to buy new heaters.

### **14. To update on Highways**

Highway rangers appear to have stopped coming. Stopped answering emails. It was noted that Wayland Road is a bit of a mess.

Signed .....

Date .....

**Street lighting.** Lots of outages. Three this week. Cllr. Witt to look at cost of LED replacements. The Clerk to refer to electricity bills to provide Cllr. Witt with usage. May have to get a loan/grant if possible to pay for.

**Additional Grit Bin (Wayland Road).** Elaine from Wayland Road had asked if they could have a grit bin. The cost of a new bin would be between £150-180. Decision referred. Wayland Road was discussed further as there were problems with parking in that area and the police had been called. Used to be housing for older people but is now Flagship housing for younger people and families with more cars. Nowhere to park so parking on the verges. Older people still living there have family and carers that are not able to park. Flagship & Highways know of the parking issues. Could lower kerbs and park in the front gardens ? but there would be a considerable cost involved. There is a piece of land behind Wayland. The grass is a state and cars damaged and may get worse. Could have a disabled parking area ? Cllr. Howie will talk to Flagship/Highways.

**Speeding.** No one from speed watch was present. They wanted a speed sign which would cost ~£3000. A grant that could be applied for would only be granted on a 50:50 basis.

**15. To update on Flooding**

Cllr. Roberts confirmed that he had been within 2 minutes of his garage flooding. Cllr. Witt had found his conservatory furniture had moved around and he now wondered if the water had come in unnoticed and gone away.

**16. To discuss any correspondence**

The Clerk had received a letter from Maurice Briggs (from Little Ellingham) representing a landlord with properties in Chapel street who wishes to make an application to Anglian Water to install a mains sewerage facility along the entire 'Street' providing a service that would enable other interested parties to connect to. Mr. Briggs asked if the Parish Council would be able to enquire if any residents would be interested in connecting. Mr. Briggs said that Anglian Water have recently updated parts of Great Ellingham and would start Little Ellingham next year. Applications are accepted through councils or residents provided there are 2 or more interested parties. Mr. Briggs confirmed that if a scheme were to be approved it would not happen before 2020, giving residents time to save.

Having a mail drop or an article in the Rocklander was mentioned and mains sewerage will be on the agenda at the next Parish Council meeting.

**17 AOB - To receive items for next agenda**

Cllr. Witt confirmed that his new fibre broadband was costing him 50% less than he previously paid.

**18 Date of next Meeting**

Monday 9th November 2015, 7pm, Rockland's Village Hall.

The Clerk would circulate suggested meeting dates for 2016 to all councillors.

**The meeting closed at 8.43pm.**

Signed .....

Date .....