

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 17th July 2018

Present

Councillor Rob Brown (Chairman)
Councillor John Bowden (Vice Chair)
Councillor Yvonne Isaac
District Councillor Rose Lock

Councillor Martyn Hookway
Councillor Tina Jafrate
County Councillor Andrew Saywell

There were four members of the Roborough Community Partnership Association Ltd present.

Item 1 Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillors Ewan Huggons, Michael Folland.

Item 2 Minutes of the Annual General meeting and the Parish Council meeting held on 15th May 2018.

The minutes of the Annual General meeting and the Parish Council meeting were read and signed as correct. Councillor Rose Lock pointed out that since the last council meeting where she volunteered a grant towards the night landing scheme the system had changed and the Parish Council would need to apply direct to Torridge District Council for a grant up to £10,000. County Councillor Andrew Saywell pointed out that he had submitted a written report late to the last meeting. This had been circulated after the meeting.

Item 3 Declaration of Interests.

There were no new interests declared.

Item 4 The Chairman will invite any members of the public present to raise any matters of concern with the Parish Councillors.

It was felt by the Chairman that **item 7a** on the agenda should be addressed at the beginning of the meeting. Draft proposals from the RCPAL and the Parish Council had been circulated prior to the meeting. A member of RCPAL was invited to speak and pertinent points of concern were read to the Parish Council. Councillor Yvonne Isaac questioned the wording of the proposal from the Parish Council. Councillor John Bowden expressed his concerns about the possibility that if in the years to come the Parish Council found itself left with maintenance costs which would be unable to be met from a small Precept. Councillor Brown asked for the opinion of the other Parish Councillors present. Councillor Rob Brown explained that as trustee he would be not be happy to hand over soul control without some input on decisions. **The Chairman asked the Councillors, individually, who were in favour of giving RCPAL sole control of the Parish field, retaining no decision-making power (or even veto) by current or future Parish Councils. Some councillors thought that** wording could be changed to make the proposal more acceptable. However, Councillor Rob Brown stated that his position had become untenable as he felt that to have no input on decisions on the Parish field would be an abrogation of the duty of the Trustees. Councillor Rob Brown handed his letter of resignation to the Clerk and left the meeting. The way forward was discussed and it was agreed that a further joint meeting, with RCPAL, would be the best solution. RCPAL will advise the Parish Clerk of suitable dates. Councillor Tina Jafrate volunteered to facilitate a joint meeting with RCPAL to work through the issues. She suggested that the content of the document that was read out by RCPAL should be circulated electronically to all the Parish Councillors and dates should be circulated for a joint meeting. District Councillor Rose Lock and County Councillor Andre Saywell asked to be informed of the agreed date for the meeting which they will attend if possible. The Vice Chairman Councillor John Bowden took the Chair and the meeting continued as per agenda.

Item 5 Matters arising from the previous Parish Council Meeting held on the 15th May 2018.

- Update on felling Elm Tree Councillor Rob Brown/District Councillor Andrew Saywell.
County Councillor informed the Parish Council that DCC has been in contact with Western Power. A date for the felling of the tree is yet to be reached. He will provide an update when detail are known (AP1)
- Financial Report. Clerk.

Nat West Current A/C	£4,461.00
Nat West reserve A/C	£ 379.07
NS&I	£1,699.67

The Clarks Salary for the year will be taken from the Precept in September.

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1. Highways update Councillor John Bowden has been following up the request from the Parish Council to change the signage directing heavy lorries away from unsuitable access to the Village. He was informed that this has not been addressed as the person responsible for road signs has been moved to cover staff shortages. Councillor Saywell suggested that the signage should be addressed within 6 months.
 2. A Parishioner reported that on the verge turning left from Parkins a large growth of possibly Japanese Knot weed was growing where earth had been dumped by highways workman. Councillor Bowden contacted Councillor Saywell and was informed that it was not their policy to remove any invasive plant unless it was encroaching onto private land.
 3. Councillor John Bowden reported that the road leading east out of the village was in need of repair and has been scheduled to be resurfaced this year. However, the planned work has been removed from the schedule held by Devon County Council. County Councillor Saywell was requested to look into the reason for this. (AP2)
 4. The poor drainage at Folly Goyle is ongoing. County Councillor Saywell confirmed that highways have raised a works order for it to be jetted.
 5. Councillor John Bowden continues to report pot holes and he was informed by County Councillor Andrew Saywell that the winter backlog of pot holes caused by the cold weather has now been cleared and pot holes reported should be repaired in a timely fashion.
 6. There is planned work to be done on Rapson Hill regarding the running water caused by a gully problem.
- Update on website Councillor Tina Jafrate.
Councillor Tina Jafrate reported that the website had not been updated since May due to personal reasons. It was pointed out that several links had been broken and that the section with current Councillors would need to be updated.
 - Removal of unsafe play equipment.
Councillor Martyn Hookway will arrange a time to remove the condemned slide and rocking horse. Councillor John Bowden said he will assist if required. (AP3)
 - Repair of Parish Field Gates
It was agreed unanimously to obtain quotes for replacing the gates to the playing field. (AP4) Councillor John Bowden to obtain quotes from Torrridge Gates.
 - General data protection regulations. Clerk.
Letters have been sent to the grass cutting contractor and the internal auditor informing them that their contact details will be used for Parish Business only. This is to come in line with the new General data Protection Regulations. Councillor Rose Lock issued the Society of local Council Clerks official documentation for Parish Councillors to complete. (AP5)

Item 6 Correspondence since 20th March 2018

- Clerks and Councils Direct magazine.
- Hags Playground Equipment advertisement.
- Letter - from SSE regarding energy contract renewal.

Item 7 New Business

b, County/District Councillors report.

District Councillor Rose Lock informed the Council she had resolved the problem of food waste not being collected in parts of the Parish.

1. County Councillor Andrew Saywell reported of a planned major road closure on the A3124 past Rosemoor from the 10.09.18 - 30.11.18 Traffic diversions will be put in place and Rosemoor will remain open.
2. Devon County Council is embarking on an economic strategy which will benefit Market Towns like Great Torrington.
3. Transport links are also being looked into to improve access around the County.

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c, Planning Applications:-

1/0615/2018/LBC

Replacement of UVPC windows and doors.

Meadows House Roborough.

d, Cheques for signature. None

e, Recycling programme - Not all houses in Roborough have received their recycling boxes.

It was pointed out to Councillor Lock that some homes have not received their recycling boxes. (AP6)

Councillor Lock will deal with this when she has receipt of the addresses of those homes without the recycling facilities promised. (AP7) Clerk to send relevant names and addresses.

f, Renewal of Contract with Southern Electric due by 1st August 2018.

(AP8) Clerk will contact Southern electric and renew the contract.

g, New Parish Clerk for 2019.

The present Clerk will remain in post until July 2019. This will mean that the Local Elections will have been held and the annual audit will be completed for 2018/19.

Item 8 Any other Business

- The Clerk will contact Torrington District Council regarding the Councillor vacancy. (AP9)
- Councillor John Bowden stated that at the next meeting a new Chairman would be required as he felt that he was not able to take on the position.

Item 9 Date of the next Parish Council meeting

18th September 2018