

Minutes of a meeting of Rothersthorpe Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Church Street, Rothersthorpe on Monday December 1st 2014 at 7.30p.m.

Present: Mr J Considine – Chairman, Mrs C Nolan, Mr P Dickens, Mrs J Johnson, Mr J Morphy, Mr R Boscott and Ms J Botterill.

In Attendance: Mrs J Kirkbride – County Councillor

Mrs S Murphy – Clerk

2 Members of the public – Ms C Warren

Mr D Causebrook

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs J Eliot, Mrs A Addison and Mrs K Cooper.

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr Dickens declared an interest in agenda item 5, relating to Neighbourhood Planning.

3. Public Open Session

Mr Causebrook, the current owner of The Chequers, addressed the meeting. He explained that he wished to clarify some misunderstandings regarding the condition of the Chequers. The kitchen was not pulled out but taken by the previous tenant. The beer pumps were taken by the brewery. It is in the same state as it was before he took it over. There are covenants in place to run it as pub. The second and third floors have been enhanced. Mr Causebrook and Ms Warren left the meeting.

Mrs Kirkbride addressed the meeting and said that NCC are presently looking at the budget for 2015 – 2016. It will be difficult as there are more cuts on the way. At present there is no good news for road improvements etc. Ofsted are looking at the NCC safe guarding children policy, which has been classed as inadequate. Hopefully this time there will be a better outcome. The Angel Street project is underway and will be finished in 2015. Mrs Kirkbride left the meeting.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous parish council meeting held on October 22nd 2014 were amended and signed.

5. Matter Arising

School Playing Field

Mr Considine had spoken to Mrs Fountain and explained that due to the safeguarding issues at the school and the increase in vandalism it is unlikely that the school will make either the playing field or the playground available to the village. The VHMC have said that the playing field is available for use when the hall is hired.

Neighbourhood Planning

Prior to the discussion Mr Dickens left the meeting. Mr Considine asked Mr Boscott to lead this item. Mr Boscott explained that it was important to send a message to SNC that the parish council is

not giving support for any area and a cautious response is required. SNC have asked local land owners to put sites forward for consideration. There are 6 sites suggested in Rothersthorpe. These are:-

1. Land at corner of Kislingbury Road and Banbury Lane, a ridge and furrow field (proposal 36 dwellings 1-5 years)

2. A strip of land alongside Kislingbury Rd near New Cottages (proposal 12 dwellings 6 – 11 years)

3. Field adjacent 28 Kislingbury Rd. This was identified in 2011 as a potential site for 4 affordable homes (numbers unconfirmed 1- 5 years)

4. Land at Banbury lane and rear of St John's Close (numbers unconfirmed 1-5 years)

5. The Conker Field, Church Street (numbers unconfirmed 6 – 11 years)

6. Small parcel of land opposite Conker Field. (numbers unconfirmed 6 – 11 years).

Following a discussion the parish council would prefer to only have provision based on housing needs and a five year supply of land, rather than opening up an unwanted opportunity for a larger expansion of the village. The only area for consideration so far is only part of the land (area 3) in the Local Plan and limit any development to a maximum of 10 houses within 5 years. All other suggested sites would be classified as unfavourable in the medium term.

It was agreed that Mr Boscott would draw up a letter, to be sent to all the houses in the village, to recap the discussion and talk through all the sites and ask for any comments by January 5th.

Following the end of the discussion Mr Dickens returned to the meeting.

Churchyard Wall Noticeboard

The noticeboard has been moved and now is situated in the inset of the village hall wall.

Cemetery Rates

SNC have responded and explained that cemeteries/burial grounds are not exempt from rating (unless "attached "to a place of religious worship) hence there is a liability for business rates. This is because there is an income stream resulting from most cemeteries/burial grounds so they are a "business". As the parish council do not have any other rating liabilities, it would be able to apply for small business rate relief. The clerk to contact SNC.

NCALC Rates

It was agreed at the NCALC AGM that the increase in subscriptions would take place from April 1st 2015 rather than two smaller increases. This means that the subscription for Rothersthorpe from April 2015 will be increased to £263.22. from £146.28 in 2014.

Laurel Hedge / Allotment Trees

The laurel hedges have been cut back and the trees in the allotment will be taken down shortly.

Bench at the crossroads.

Mrs Murphy had contacted the householders adjacent to where the bench is to be situated and they had responded with several concerns. It was agreed that Julie Botterill will contact Mr Osborne about the situation of the bench and speak to the householder.

6. Clerk's Report**Street Lamp – Church Street**

The quotation to replace the street lamp by the nursery in Church Street is as follows :-

To remove existing lantern to tip and to supply and install 1x P567W 42WPLT lantern would be £310.00 (ex VAT).

To replace the lantern using a Libra 36W PLL lantern (similar to Grafton Way) would be £340.00 (ex VAT).

It was agreed to proceed with the replacement and install a Libra 36W PLL lantern at £340.00 (ex VAT).

Rothersthorpe Primary School Foundation

Following a meeting of the Trustees of the above foundation, the parish council have been asked to nominate three trustees. It was agreed to nominate Mr Philip Dickens, Mr Richard Smart and Mrs Sarah Murphy.

Proposed:- Mr J Considine. Seconded:- Mr J Morphy. All agreed.

7. Planning**Applications**

S/2014/2136/FUL

Ms Claire Warren

The Chequers

North Street

Change of use from A4 (public House) to C3 (dwelling house)

The Chequers, 28 North Street

Rothersthorpe

The Parish Council object to the above application because it would mean the loss of an important community amenity of which there are few in the village. The Chequers is also an important historical part of the village.

S/2014/2149/FUL

Mrs K Pagett

11 Berry Close

Rothersthorpe

Demolition of existing garage and construction of two storey side & part two storey, part single storey rear extension.

11 Berry Close Rothersthorpe.

The Parish Council have no objection.

8. Finance**Expenditure**

Allseasons: – to 30.10.2014

£324.00 Chq.No.000896

VAT:£54.00

Allseasons:- 28.10.2014

£168.00 “ “ 000987

VAT:£28.00

Mrs S Murphy – Petty Cash

£100.00 “ “ 000898

Rothersthorpe Village Hall – Room Hire

£24.00 “ “ 000899

9. Highways / Footpaths

Tree – Banbury Lane

It was suggested that it would be a good idea to replace the tree that had recently been taken down on Banbury Lane with a new one. The clerk to make enquiries to see if this would be possible.

10. Representative Reports

School Governors: nothing to report.

VHMC: The new stage has been very successful.

Neighbourhood Watch: Several incidents in neighbouring villages.

Speedwatch 2015.: The Parish Council agreed to support the campaign for 2015.

11. Date of the next Meeting

Monday January 12th 2015 at 7.30p.m.

Signed.....Dated.....

Meeting closed at 9.10p.m.