

Minutes of a meeting of Rothersthorpe Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Church Street, Rothersthorpe on Monday June 5<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 7.30p.m.

Present:- Mr R Boscott – Chairman, Mrs C Nolan, Mrs J Johnson, Mr S Major and Mrs J Botterill.

In Attendance: Mrs S Murphy – Clerk

Members of the Public: Mr M Barber, Mr J Morphy and Mr I Kissane

Mr Boscott addressed the meeting and advised Councillors and members of the public that under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, members of the public are permitted to photograph, film, broadcast and report on the meeting, subject to the efficient running of the meeting not being disrupted.

Before the start of the meeting Mr Boscott reflected on the work and contributions of Mr Dickens to the life of the village. Through his contributions as a parish councillor and then chairman, a school governor, and chairman of the Village Hall management Committee he helped to make Rothersthorpe quite special. He will be sadly missed.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from SNC Councillor Addison (meeting) and SNC Councillor Cooper (meeting).

**2. Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest on any items on the agenda.

**3. Public Open Session**

Mr Boscott addressed the meeting and spoke about both councillors, who had recently resigned. Harriet Griffith brought a new dynamic to the council with a youthful point of view. Although Janet Eliot had only been a parish councillor for a short time she brought her experience as a District Councillor to the role. Mr Boscott thanked them both for their help and contributions.

Mr Barber addressed the meeting. He concurred with Mr Boscott with his comments on Mr Dickens. He re-iterated that Mr Dickens had been Chairman of the VHMC for the whole of its existence and the old village hall. He had been a school governor for over 64 years. He will be missed by the VHMC.

Mr Barber spoke about Village Hall issues. He will be retiring in November. The VHMC need new blood. If no-one comes forward the longevity of the committee is a matter of concern. He felt that the Parish Council should be aware as they are Custodial Trustees. If the VHMC ceased to function it might become Parish Council responsibility or go to NCC. The primary school is possibly becoming an academy and this could have an effect on village hall usage. The Village Hall is an important asset for the village.

Mr Kissane addressed the meeting and spoke about the field at the back of the Church /Old Rectory. They had purchased the land from Mr Dickens some time ago and had fenced it in accordingly. They

have no intention of turning it into a garden. It was agreed that Mrs Murphy would clarify the situation with SNC planning.

#### **4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous parish council meeting held on April 25<sup>th</sup> 2017 were agreed and signed.

#### **5. Matters Arising**

##### Parish Council Vacancy

If there has been no request for an election by June 6<sup>th</sup> 2017 the vacancies can be filled by co-option.

##### Rail Central

Mrs Nolan reported on the recent meeting which discussed the Highways infrastructure related to the site. The developers agreed to look at modifying the Blisworth/Tiffield turning.

##### Village Flower Planters

Following previous discussions about the parish council making a donation to villagers who maintain the flower planters, it was agreed to donate £10 per planter.

Proposed: Mrs Johnson. Seconded: Mr Major. All agreed.

#### **6. The Cemetery**

Mrs Johnson had met with Mr Judkins of Allseasons to discuss work required in the cemetery. It was agreed to remove all the ivy and hawthorn from the large Thuja tree and to reduce the tree to head height to allow more light. It was agreed to plant hawthorn plants in the cemetery hedges, which had been donated by the Robinsons, to help thicken it. It was also agreed to obtain more hedge plants in the autumn.

#### **7. Community Defibrillator**

The primary school are looking into purchasing a community defibrillator which would be situated on the outside wall of the School/Village Hall to allow it to be used when the building is closed. The East Mids Ambulance Service have a special offer which includes training and it would be registered with the ambulance service. The school are asking if the parish council and the village hall would be prepared to pay a third each towards the cost.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would contribute a third of the cost of the defibrillator.

Proposed: Mrs Nolan. Seconded: Mrs Johnson. All agreed.

#### **8. Clerk's Report**

##### Internal Audit

The Internal Auditor will be visiting Mrs Murphy on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

##### Meeting with Police Commissioner

The meeting for Parish councillors with the Police Commissioner to discuss local issues and how policing can be improved in communities has been postponed but alternative dates have been given.

**9. Planning**

Planning Policy

The draft L2A Local Plan will be finalised in the third quarter of 2018. The opportunity for the parish council to comment will be in the next few weeks. Mr Boscott had a copy of the indicative plan of the village confines. There has not been a great deal of change other than a tidying up of boundaries.

**10. Finance**

Expenditure

Came & Company: Insurance	£376.61	Chq.No 001021
Allseasons – 26.4.2017	£618.00 VAT £103	“ “ 001022

**11. Highways /Footpaths**

White/Yellow lines outside School.

These have all faded badly and need re-painting - Street Doctor.

Church Street/North Street Junction

Overgrown vegetation has made visibility very poor and access dangerous - Street Doctor/Highways.

Footpath LA5 at the back of the Chequers

Access to footpath difficult because of overgrown vegetation- Street Doctor.

Berry Close footpath – will be re-seeded.

Footpath Map

Mr Major has walked all the footpaths and with Mrs Johnson will compose a response to the Rights of way survey.

**12. Representative Reports**

Speedwatch: Rothersthorpe will be kept in the programme even if enough volunteers are not found to take part.

Website/Facebook: Both working well

**13. Date of the Next Meetings**

Monday July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017 at 7.30p.m

Wednesday August 16<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 7.30p.m

Meeting closed at 9p.m.

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