

Minutes of a meeting of Rothersthorpe Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Church Street, Rothersthorpe on Monday July 3rd 2017 at 7.30p.m.

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

In Attendance: Mrs S Murphy – Clerk

Members of the Public: Mr P Sage, Mr J Morphy, Mr and Mrs J Wilson.

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.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from SNC Councillor Addison (hospital), SNC Councillor Cooper (meeting) and NCC Councillor Brown (meeting).

2. Declaration of Interest

Mrs Johnson declared an interest in Item 5 – Community Space Project.

3. Public Open Session

Mr Wilson addressed the meeting and explained that he and his wife had wished to purchase a plot in the cemetery but were concerned about the lack of current space available. Mrs Murphy explained that she was aware of the request and the parish council would be able to fulfil it when the cemetery extension was completed. Mr Boscott pointed out that the cemetery was on the agenda for discussion later in the meeting and this point would be included.

Mr Morphy addressed the meeting and said that the Community Space Committee were very close to re-submitting their planning application.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the previous parish council meeting held on June 5th 2017 were agreed and signed.

5. Matters Arising

Parish Council Vacancies

There have been no requests for an election so the parish council are able to co-opt two new councillors. The two candidates who have put their names forward are Mr Paul Sage and Mr Nick Henry. It was agreed to co-opt both candidates.

Mrs Johnson proposed Mr Sage. Seconded by Mr Major. All agreed.

Mr Major proposed Mr Henry. Seconded by Mrs Nolan. All agreed.

Community Space Project

Mrs Murphy had been informed that the Community Space Committee had received a grant from SNC towards the cost of a noise survey, traffic monitoring and improving visibility.

Rail Central

The next meeting will be on July 18th 2017 at 6.30p.m at The Walnut Tree Blisworth. Mr Boscott or Mrs Nolan to attend.

6. The Crossroads

There had been two further accidents at the crossroads. NCC are still looking into what could be done at the crossroads and the provisional costs. Mrs Nolan pointed out that Rail central are looking into potential accident blackspots in the surrounding area and the crossroads could possibly be included. It was also agreed to contact NCC Councillor Brown for his support.

7. Rothersthorpe Churchyard Wall and laurel hedges in church yard.

Mr Boscott suggested that it may be possible to repair the church wall in stages rather than all at once. It was agreed to look at the wall after the meeting to see if this would be possible.

The PCC had asked the parish council if it would be possible to cut the laurel bushes right back or to remove them completely so there is a clear view of the church which might help to deter intruders.

The Parish Council agreed to do this and also considered taking the conifers and holly trees on that side of the church yard.

The PCC also asked if the two trees which overhang the wall on to Church Street could be trimmed back. It was agreed to ask Seb Hodges to pollard both trees at the appropriate time.

8. The Cemetery

Work need to take place very quickly to extend the cemetery. The timber rails need to be removed and the old allotment area needs strimming. This will need turfing in September. Mrs Botterill said that she had been concerned about the cemetery for some time and had contacted the clerk previously about it. It was agreed to get the area strimmed, sprayed and the old fence removed.

9. Clerk's Report

Internal Audit Review

The Internal Audit Review took place on June 21st 2017.

The issues for consideration were:-

1. Financial Regulations should be reviewed and updated. It was agreed to carry this out in the autumn.
2. Memorial Hall Garden Trust:- Further information still needs to be provided and meetings need to be arranged with trust members. It was agreed that these will be held over the next six months.
3. Some information on the Parish Council website should be clearer and some minutes were listed under the wrong date. It was agreed to monitor the website to ensure that all information is clear and readily available.

Community Enhancement gang

The Community Enhancement gang will be in the village on July 28th from 8a.m. Jobs include the siding out of the footpath from kisingbury Road to New Cottages, siding out of footpath on corner of Banbury Lane/Church Street and cutting back the branches behind the bus stop on Banbury Lane.

MBFU Street Lights

E.ON have written to say the manufacture of mercury lamps(bulbs) was banned in April 2015 and stocks of these lamps are very low and if a mercury lamp failed the only option would be to replace the lantern. E.ON suggested that any 80W MBFU lanterns should be considered for replacement. It was agreed to check the street lamps to see which, if any, are affected.

10. Planning

There were no planning matters to discuss.

11. FinanceExpenditure

Allseasons – Gardening – 31.5.17	£420.00 (VAT £70.00)	Chq.No.001024
Neighbourhood Watch – subs	£20.00	“ “ 001025
Mrs S Murphy – Salary	£477.24	“ “ 001026
Barbara Osborne – Payroll	£52.50	“ “ 001027
E.ON Energy – street lighting	£145.66 (VAT £24.28)	“ “ 001028
Rothersthorpe Village Hall – Room Hire	£36.00	“ “ 001029

Balance up to 3.7.2017

NSB: £15,299.05
Current Account: £13,023.87

12. Highways/FootpathsFootpath at the back of the Chequers.

An effort has been made to clear this.

13. Representative Reports

Neighbourhood Watch: Mrs Nolan reported that it was quiet at present. Any news would now be put on the village facebook page as well as the website.

VHMC: Nothing to report.

School Governors: Mr Major has been appointed a parent governor at the school.

14. Date of the next Meeting

Wednesday August 16th at 2017 at 7.30p.m.

Meeting closed at 8.40p.m.

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

