**RIBCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 18 March 2024

**PRESENT**:

**Parish Councillors**: Cromie, Ellis, Yates (Quorum confirmed)

**Borough Councillor**: Barnsley

**Residents**: Eight

**Apologies:** Cllrs Caunce, Dickinson, Mason

**86**  **RESIGNATION:** The resignation of Cllr Royle was announced. The Casual Vacancy so caused will be announced immediately. (published in the PC Notice Board and on-line)

**87 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**: None.

**88 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**:

A formal request was received for the Parish Council to inform RVBC that it would not be proceeding with the proposed Licence Agreement in respect of Greenside. (*Post Minute Note:* - this was actioned immediately following the meeting).

A formal **PROPOSAL** was made by a resident for Greenside to be registered as a Village Green and community space. It was agreed that this would be investigated to obtain further information; it was noted that RVBC might not be supportive of this proposal (given that the land belongs to the Borough Council). It was confirmed that the community would be kept informed and its involvement was welcomed.

**89 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**: The Minutes of the meeting of 19 February 2024 were confirmed and duly signed.

**90 MATTERS ARISING:**

***MIN 76 – EV charging points on Pope Croft.*** This is a continuing matter of Council business. No report was yet available, but further information had been received on a proposed EV scheme called the LEVI pilot which involved on-street charging. The relevant document was **TABLED** for consideration. The matter will continue to be investigated and revisited.

***MIN 84.***1 – The previously announced circulation of a RVBC ‘Settlement Study’ had not yet been received. No further information available.

***MIN 85.***1 – Annual Meeting (May 2024). Various interesting and innovative ideas had been received as to the arrangements and topics for the Annual Meeting (which must be held before the end of May). Unfortunately, several of these – though creative – would be difficult to arrange as they were outwith the legal requirements of the meeting.

One suggestion would usefully come within the requirements of broad Agenda for the Parish meeting and that was the issue of anti-social behaviour, and a **PROPOSAL** to invite local police officer to the meeting.

**MIN 85.4** – Allotments on Stoneygate Lane. Following the exchange of information between the Parish Council and the managing agents of the land (recently discovered to be Ingham and Yorke**)** it had become clear that there were issues to do with the ownership of the land, and a suggestion of the Parish Council taking on the ‘local management’ of it on behalf of the managing agents and the owners – Woodford Estates. Again, this is a matter for further investigation and future report.

**91 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

Five current planning applications were reported:

3/2023/1036 – Thorncroft, Greenmoor Lane

3/2023/0720 – Scott House, Greenmoor Lane

3/2024/oo59 – 2 Hospital Cottages, Ribchester Road

3/2023/0498 – Buckley Hall Farm – Appeal Lodged

3/2023/0477 – The Vines, Preston Road. (Retrospective Application) Approved with Conditions

**Note:** Complaints had been received from residents about the warehouse construction on the site and also the addition of high-powered lighting which remains on late into the evening. These had been forwarded to the Borough Council Planning Department.

**92 FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

**92.1** The up-to-date Cash Book summary was presented for consideration; it continues to be ‘on track’. It was noted that for the forthcoming Audit following year end, the £3000 grant awarded last month to the RPFT to be shown as drawn from the ‘Working Capital’ head in the accounts.

**92.2** It was **RESOLVED** to make the following payments:

SS Peter & Pauls Parish Centre Room Hire £30

D S Groves – Clerk’s Salary Mid-January to mid-February £599

+ Expenses £79.14

HMRC (PAYE) – Month 11 £149.80

**93 REPORTS FROM PRINCIPAL COMMITTIES**

Borough Cllr Barnsley reported that earlier in the month he had attended a full Council Budget meeting, where consideration was given to the expenditure of £1.5m. A decision had been taken to grant £500,000 to Clitheroe Castle. Other submissions were made, eg, the increase the hours of work of the Partnership Officer (Sarah Wells). There was also a request for the employment of more Enforcement Officers in the Planning Department, but this was turned down. Requests were also made for a Carbon Reduction and Biodiversity Officer appointment, and also for retention of the Salvation Army Building in Clitheroe, and for empty premises to be brought back into use. The proposal for the provision of electric bicycles for Rural Police was submitted. All decisions to be made at a later date.

Cllr Barnsley was asked about the Borough’s record on Waste and Recycling and whether the poor record of the Borough was being investigated. The response was that Recycling is a County Council matter, however, it was reported that a strategic review would be taking place shortly, and this will give an opportunity to look closely at the issue.

**94 VILLAGE MATTERS**

The following matters of interest/concern to the Village residents continued to be pursued by the Parish Council, viz:

* Replacement of Benches at various sites in the village
* Installation of SPIDS
* Flood Defences
* Parish Meeting in May

There being no other business, the meeting finished at 9.05pm

Signed………………………………………………………………………

Date……………………………………………………………………