

RIBCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 15 April 2024

PRESENT:

Parish Councillors: Caunce, Cromie, Dickinson, Ellis, Mason, Yates

Residents: Five

Apologies: Borough Councillor Barnsley, Andy McLaughlin (Knowle Green) Darrin Robinson (B4RN)

95 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

96 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Darrin Robinson (B4RN project) confirmed that the grant application made to RVBC for £50,000 had been successful. The project managers were awaiting clarification and information on how to proceed. The project had also requested a further £12,000 to bring the ultrafast broadband to the Parish Centre, but this had been rejected. The supply would be coming as far as Stydd Gardens, but the final 300m would not be covered.

He further reported on the success of the B4RN project which is a community benefit company, which had raised over £80,000 to date. This success was noted and warmly welcomed by the Parish Council.

97 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the meeting of 18 March were confirmed and duly signed.

98 MATTERS ARISING:

MIN86: Following the announcement of the resignation of Cllr Royle, a Casual Vacancy on the Parish Council had been publicised, and the option to call for an Election was exercised by the requisite ten residents. The Election was linked to the existing date for the Police and Crime Commission Election date, which had already been set for 2 May. There were three candidates who had come forward for the PC election.

MIN88: The enquiry as to whether Greenside could be registered as a Village Green, which had previously been raised as an item of interest had been initially investigated; the result of that enquiry was that it was likely to be a complex process to be followed. Further research and an approach to the Borough Council (which owns the land) will be pursued, by a small sub-committee (Cllrs Caunce and Ellis + Clerk to support).

99 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Previous Applications - Updates

3/2023/1036 Scott House. Application for Stable Block (No decision to report)

3/2023/1036 Thorncroft, Greenmoor Lane. Application to remove agricultural occupancy conditions. (No decision to report)

3/2024/0059/ 2 Hospital Cottages. Ribchester Road. Application for single-storey extension to rear. (No decision to report)

Current Applications sent for consideration:

3/2024/0006 – Beck House

3/2024/0198 – Pinfold Farm

3/2024/0974 – Knowle Hey

3/2024/0195 – Ward Green Lane

Responses received forwarded to RVBC

100 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

The up-to-date Cash Book up to the year-end was presented for consideration; it appears to demonstrate that the spending was contained within the budget constraints. It was further noted that the accounts would be presented to the local Auditor for review. There was one particular issue to report to him, for advice, and that was how to properly record that the grant made to the Playing Field Trust was drawn from the 'working capital' head of the accounts.

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

SS Peter & Pauls Parish Centre Room Hire	£30
D S Groves – Clerk's Salary Mid-March to mid-April	£599 +Travel Exps - £42.40
HMRC (PAYE) – Month 12	£149.80
Grant Funding to Playing Field Trust	£3000

102 REPORTS FROM PRINCIPAL COMMITTEES

Cllr Barnsley reported on the 'In Bloom' project currently being proposed and recommended that an application be made for a 'Bloom Grant'.

103 VILLAGE MATTERS

103.1 – Millenium Garden Benches. Lady Openshaw is currently negotiating a delivery date for the new Benches, sponsored by the Church Street Fund. It is hoped that they will be available for installation next month.

103.2 – Memorial Benches (throughout the village). The Parish Council is aware that there is a lot of interest from residents in obtaining and placing a memorial bench to former residents. This identified that there are many benches along the wall of the school, facing the river, which have memorial plaques, but there is no current record of whether there are still residents of the village who have links to those benches. The suggestion was made that a spreadsheet record would be useful. It was noted that Whalley Council has a written policy, which had been accessed by Cllr Mason – this might provide a useful format for one to be developed in Ribchester.

103.3 – SPIDS. This is a continuing project, further consideration has been given to signage and also the installation of traffic calming methods.

103.4 – ANNUAL MEETING. This will be held on Monday 13 May; the main topics being those to do with the village environment.

103.5 - Flooding in the Millennium Garden. Photographs (provided by Fiona Finch) showed that standing water had been collecting on the paving in the Garden. It was agreed to make contact with Mr J Pye, who installed the original paving, to consult him about possible repairs needed. Mention was also made of the cracks appearing on the bases of the sculptures. It is believed that the original sculptor will be able to undertake some 'cosmetic' repairs.

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

Signed.....

Date.....20/05/24.....