

RIBCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26 September 2022

PRESENT:

Acting Chairman: Cllr Law-Riding

Councillors: Brown, Dickinson, Law-Riding, Mason, Royle

Also Present: Two local residents

31 **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Rollinson

32 **TRIBUTE & MINUTE'S SILENCE** †

During August the village and its residents had been shocked by the news of the death of the Council's Chairman, Cllr Carol Milne; whilst on holiday in Greece. The Vice-Chairman paid tribute to her and her unfailing dedication to the Council and the village. He referred to the great sadness and shock within the village at this time, and explained that the circumstances of the misadventure of her passing were not yet known.

It was acknowledged that she had been a first-class Chair of the Council; a good listener and a good speaker. She had been a wonderful ambassador for Ribchester and would leave a huge void in the village – especially at the Church, the School and in the Council.

A minute's silence was kept in honour of a much-admired resident.

33 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Mrs Fiona Finch attended the meeting to raise her concern about the current condition of the wooden benches in the Millennium Garden. She had noticed that they were showing the effects of weathering and, as winter was fast approaching, she requested the Council to take action soon to mitigate the current condition and to prevent further deterioration. She acknowledged that it would come with a cost, but asked that some funding be found from the Council's accounts to cover the repairs – given that the area is a village facility. Various approaches were debated but in conclusion it was decided to leave the matter with Councillor Royle who agreed to look into arranging the repairs (via a third party). It was **RESOLVED** that the expenditure for repair and re-varnishing would be met from Council funds.

34 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:** The Minutes of the meeting on 18 July 2022 were confirmed as a true record and duly signed.

35 **MATTERS ARISING:**

MIN 24 – Re the Stone Trough outside the public toilets. The work has been begun, but the Lengthsman has reported difficulties in being able to dispose of the concrete rubble he has broken up to clear the Trough. It was noted that the area has now become an eyesore in the village. This was particularly distressing

given that Cllr Milne had really wanted to make this area a pleasant feature of the village.

MIN25 – Update on Local Strategy Consultation exercise. Following the joint meeting of the four adjoining Councils (Ribchester, Hothersall, Dutton, and Hurst Green) a request had been made for an update from RVBC. No plans were currently in development to report back on the consultation exercise.

MIN 29.4 – Continuing problem of dogs on the Recreation Ground. The minuted request to refer this matter to the local Police Community Support Officer had come to naught as she had given notice that she was leaving the role. However, the Playing Field Trust Committee had organised and installed more signs on the field to alert owners that dogs were not allowed on the Rec.

36

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

The following decisions were reported:

3/2022/0534 *Woodacre Cottage, Fleet Street Lane.* The application for a detached dwelling at the rear had been **REFUSED**

3/2022/0617 *16 Sarmation Fold.* The erection of a single storey extension – it was noted that Planning Permission had not been required

3/2022/0530 *Land at Preston Road. (The Snail Farm)* This latest application for this project had been **APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS.**

The following new application was noted:

3/2022/0220 *Moor Hey House, Stoneygate.* Proposed two-storey rear and side flat-roof extension...in addition to a proposed detached sunken double garage.

An update was given on the proposed development at **Higher College Farm** which, although within Hothersall Parish, had been referred to Ribchester (and Longridge) by the Borough Council to give the opportunity for comment on increased traffic volume. A letter had been sent in response (in the late Chairman's name). It was noted that Hothersall Councillors were greatly exercised by the proposals and had requested a site visit by LCC Highways. This had not been arranged to date. A request to invite Cllr Swarbrick to the next meeting in the hope that he might be able to comment on the proposal

37

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

37.1 Cash Book Figures. The monthly Cash Book figures were tabled and it was noted that all spending was within budget to date.

38.2 It was **RESOLVED** that the following payments be made:

SS Peter & Pauls Parish Centre for Room Hire	£25
Clerk's Salary for mid July to mid-September	£428.40
HMRC for PAYE (month 6)	£107.20

REPORTS FROM PRINCIPAL COMMITTEES:

The following were noted:

The Parish Councils' Liaison Committee scheduled for 15 September had been Cancelled - items for consideration moved to the next meeting in November.

The Ribble Valley Platinum Jubilee Trail had been launched by the Mayor and various sponsored walks were taking place with the one from Slaidburn to Chipping on 17 December being a particular success.

There are currently 85 Ukrainian guests resident in Ribble Valley with good attendance at drop-in sessions in Clitheroe. Each person has been given a pool and gym pass for Edisford. Housing advice is being provided but many hosts are extending their support to 12 months.

Affordable Housing Provision: the aim is for Ribble Valley to provide at least 75 units per year. 2021-22 was our highest yet (over 50 of these were in Longridge)

The Punchbowl (demolition of). The trial date had been set for 30 November to 3 December. The defendant is still pursuing an appeal against the planning decision and that is due to be heard on 16 November in the Council Chamber from 10.00am

It was noted that RVBC vacancies are being filled - particularly in Planning, which is nearly fully staffed.

VILLAGE MATTERS:

39.1 It was reported that the Ukraine Donations and delivery to International Aid had been temporarily suspended (given the former Chairman's close involvement with this project). Its reinstatement will be reviewed after her funeral.

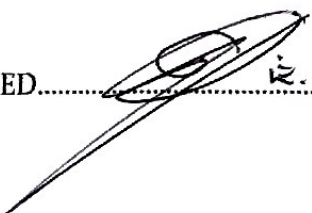
39.2 It was noted that another funeral was taking place during the week - that of Mabel Armitage, a stalwart of St Wilfrid's church choir for many years (although a resident of Hothersall).

39.3 It was reported that at present no-one had come forward in response to the Casual Vacancy notice. The notice period for any request for an election expires on 4 October.

39.4 It was noted that from this year there is an electric socket on the external wall of the house at the side of the Millennium Garden. Clerk to approach the owner to check that the Christmas Tree lights be allowed to be run from that point.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.26pm

SIGNED.....



W. Law-Ridings

DATE.....

17/10/22