

MINUTES OF ROWTON PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING

MONDAY 10 May 2021 at 19.45hrs

Held via Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Present: Councillors Howard Hopwood (Chair)
Peter Thomas (Vice-Chair)
Paul Shannon
Glenys Harrison
Bob Knight

In attendance Clerk Christine Davies
Cllr Stuart Parker (left at 20.15hrs)

1 Apologies

Cllr Michael Smythe

2 Declaration of Interest

None

3 To consider approval of the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 08 March 2021

Minutes were approved and signed as a true and correct record by Cllr Howard Hopwood, Chair.

4 Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

None

5 Public Participation

Cllr Parker had little to report because CWaC has been in Purdah because of the Police and Crime Commissioner elections. The new Police & Crime Commissioner, John Dywer, takes up his new role from today. The Member's Budget scheme has been renewed and the Parish Council is welcome to apply to it. He advised that CWaC has appointed a new temporary head of Highways, Mark Avaril, who will be in charge for the next 6-9 months.

6 Highways

- i) A41 Pedestrian Crossing – Highways have confirmed that they intend to start work on installation of the Pedestrian Crossing from w/c 10 May and that work will take approximately 4 weeks.
- ii) ChALC Meeting re Speeding – Cllr Thomas reported that he was unable to gain access to the Zoom meeting. Clerk said she would contact ChALC for a written summary.

7 Pavements

The Parish Council agreed that the current priority is the installation of the Pedestrian Crossing and to return to this issue once the crossing has been completed.

8 Finance

The following retrospective expenditure for March and April was approved:-

Payments	Amount	Cheque No Online Payment	Statute Power
CM Davies March Sal £153.60+£16.59 Exp	£170.19	OP	LGA 1972 s112
HMRC Cumbernauld	£127.20	OP	LGA 1972 s112
Howard Hopwood re Litter Picking Equipment	£178.86	OP	LGA 1972 s111
ChALC – Annual Affiliation	£132.48	OP	LGA 1972 s111
CM Davies April Sal £216.00 + £22.24 Exp	£238.24	OP	LGA 1972 s112
Penny Lane Accountants - Payroll	£20.00	OP	LGA 1972 s111
Bank Balance as at 1 April 2021	£4576.35		

Clerk's Salary Increment: Resolved: Clerk's Salary to be increased from SP14 to SP15 and backdated from 01 April 2021.

9 Insurance

Renewal notice received from Came & Company - £358.20, an increase of £8.98 from last year and within budgeted figure of £370. The long term agreement with Came & Company ends May 2022.

Resolved: Renewal notice unanimously accepted and approved.

10 Annual Governance and accountability Return 2020/21 Part 2

i) To approve the Certificate of Exemption

Resolved: The Certificate of Exemption for 2020/21 was approved by all members present and signed by the Chair and the RFO

II) To approve Section 1 of Annual Governance Statement

All questions of the Annual Governance statement were read out and correctly answered and duly signed by the Chair and Clerk

Resolved: The Annual Governance Statement was approved by all members present.

iii) To approve Section 2 Accounting Statements 2020/21

The Accounting Statements were signed by the Chair and RFO

Resolved: The Accounting statements 2020/21 were approved by all members present

iv) Internal auditor

Resolved: To appoint Fil Prevc

v) The Responsible Officer set the dates for the display of the Exercise of Public Rights Notice from 14 June 2021 to 23 July 2021.

11 Litter Picking

The monies have been received from the Police Community Fund and Cllr Hopwood has ordered and received the litter picking equipment which he is kindly storing at his home. It was decided to defer organising a volunteer group until July meeting. Included in the monies received from the Police Community Fund was an amount to purchase a speed gun to be used jointly by neighbouring parishes. The speed gun is currently unavailable from Amazon and therefore other suppliers are being explored.

12 Planning

Planning Application 21/01225/FUL: Oakdene, Greenfield Lane – Amendment to proposed roof for existing approval reference 20/04664/FUL received. No Comment submitted 07/05/21.

Decisions received: 20/04264/FUL: 1 Claypits Lane – Conversion of disused barn to one dwelling with associated extensions and alterations and 20/04265/LBC (this relates to Listed Building Consent) – both approved 30/04/21

i) National Planning Forum Meeting: Cllrs Shannon and Hopwood attended the meeting hosted by CWaC. Unfortunately, nothing new to report particularly with regard to Neighbourhood Planning.

13 Christleton Village Plan

The Cycling, Walking and Traffic Plan proposed by Christleton Parish was supported unanimously by the Parish Council and the Chair requested the Clerk to convey this to Christleton Parish Council.

14 Neighbourhood Watch

A local resident who has been recently burgled asked if a Neighbourhood Watch scheme could be set up. It was felt that during the current conditions it would be difficult to organise due to the formal requirements of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. It is recognised that most people have access to social media outlets such as WhatsApp and Facebook to communicate instantly with each other. The existing Rowton Support WhatsApp Group would be able to extend its membership to fulfil the function of neighbours instantly sharing information and concerns about suspicious activities etc. The Group organiser Andrea Wright requests that anyone interested in joining the Group contact the Parish Clerk with their contact details for onward transmission to her.

Action: Notice to be displayed on noticeboards and website.

15 Hope House

The Council discussed the request for a donation but regrettably resolved it was unable to donate to a charity that was outside the parish boundary.

Action: Clerk to inform Hope House charity of decision

16 Christmas Tree

The Parish Council, after careful consideration, decided that it would be impractical for a rooted Christmas tree to be planted on the Village Green.

Apart from the cost, the location is unsuitable as it would be positioned near to the Oak tree which would be detrimental to both trees.

17 Issues for Discussion/Consideration

None

18 Date of Next Meeting – Monday 12 July 2021