

**MINUTES OF ROWTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 9 MARCH 2015**

Present: Councillors Tony Smith
Morfudd Salmon (Vice-Chair)
Pat Fitton
Bob Knight
Glenys Harrison

In attendance: Cllr Stuart Parker (until 8.10 pm)

Clerk Christine Davies

1. Apologies

Cllr Karen Newbury (work commitment)

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Minutes of Last Meeting held on 12 January 2015

Resolved: Minutes approved and signed as true record by Cllr Tony Smith, Chair

4. Public Participation

No members of the public attended the meeting

5. Matters arising from Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

None

6. Superfast Broadband

Clerk read out response from Kevin Rutterford – BT North West confirming that work had been carried out to repair cable joint on 19 January 2015. However, local residents such as Andrew Stockton, Simon Maudsley and Bill Sannwald whose provider is BT Infinity have reported that their broadband speed is the same or worse than before. However, Cllr Tony Smith has changed provider from BT to EE and was formerly receiving 6mb is now obtaining 36mb. Cllr Parker accepted that this situation was not satisfactory and agreed to contact Openreach to find a solution to this ongoing problem. It was also agreed that local residents be informed of the current situation.

Resolved: Notice to be displayed explaining current situation and requesting residents experiencing problems to contact clerk.

Action: Clerk to action this item.

7. Dog Fouling – Moor Lane

Clerk reported that Dog Fouling signage had been put on the school crossing sign between sThe Hollies and the Laurels on Moor Lane. Discussion took place regarding requesting a multi-purpose bin which also takes bagged dog waste. It was felt the best position for this would be near to the noticeboard in Croft Close. However, the Parish Council wish to gauge the opinion of the residents of Croft Close.

Resolved: Distribute flyer to residents asking for their views.
Action: Clerk to action this item.

8. Highways

A local resident had complained about vans parking on the grassed verge to the right upon entering Croft Close. Clerk had directed the resident to CWaC's interactive mapping regarding the complaint. The vans are no longer parking on the grass verge.

No further action required.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

At the last meeting Cllr Tony Smith had produced a written report detailing feedback from his attendance at the Rural Housing Symposium in November 2014. Changes to Planning law has resulted in builders and developers trying to build where they can. In response to this Tattenhall is in the process of producing its own Neighbourhood Plan to protect their community by allowing sustainable development including affordable housing. Rowton is in greenbelt as opposed to Tattenhall but it could be advantageous to link up with neighbouring villages to produce a Neighbourhood Plan to limit the scope of affordable housing.

Christleton Parish Council had previously requested Rowton to discuss this matter but at the time it had not been deemed appropriate.

Resolved: Contact Christleton Parish Council to arrange meeting between the respective Chairs to discuss matter further.

Action: Clerk to action this item.

10. Finance

The following expenditure was approved:-

Payments	Amount	Cheque No
Ladywell Accountancy Services	£ 40.00	000605
CM Davies – Jan Sal + expenses	£196.65	000606
HMRC	£103.00	000607
CM Davies – Feb Sal + expenses	£132.20	000608
Bank Balance as at 11.02.15	£5506.66	

New Homes Bonus Payment Form 2013/14 - £1024.00:

Resolved: Form to be returned advising CWaC that NHB payment to be put towards cost of repairing sandstone wall.

Action: Cllr Tony Smith to action this item

Clerk's Salary Increment:

Resolved: Increment be increased to SP19 from 01/04/15.

Discussion took place regarding new legislation concerning employer's pension provision and risk assessment guide for future use.

It was agreed that Clerk contact Jackie Weaver at NALC for information and guidance.

Clerk presented income/expenditure summary for £2014/15 for information purposes showing a net credit balance of £58.99

11. Planning Applications

Following applications received for comment:

15/00385/FUL: Wayside, Moor Lane: 2 Storey extension to side & rear, single storey extension to rear and porch to front: No comment

15/00587/FUL: The Spinney, Rowton Lane: Proposed porch and rear single storey extension, two-storey side extension: No Comment

The following application was too late to be listed on the Agenda

15/00795/FUL: 20 Croft Close, Rowton : Single storey extensions to front and rear: Comments by: 24 March 2015

12. Policy for dealing with minor issues raised by parishioners

Resolved: Any issue which involves contacting CWaC i.e. signage, dog fouling, pot-holes, street litter etc the Parish Council will contact the Council or direct the resident to the appropriate department.

13. Village Green

Cllrs Smith and Fitton had met with Andrew Coward – Engineer from CWAC. At the meeting he said that subject to our appointed contractor possessing the necessary public liability insurance and the Parish Council completing the S50 Street Works Licence Application pack then the Council would 'book' the road space and prevent anyone else working there. There would be no fee charged by the Council. We are to notify the Council when we anticipate the work to be carried out by the Contractor to reset the stones and the Council will make arrangements to lay a strip of new tarmac at the road edge up to the reset stones.

Cllr Fitton had obtained 3 quotations – White Peak Landscapes, Edmund Building Services and CBS Construction.

Resolved: The Parish Council agreed to appoint CBS Construction, who are available to carry out the work immediately at a cost of £1745.00. CBS hold the necessary public liability insurance.

Action: Cllrs Fitton and Smith to complete S50 form, notifying CBS Construction, and return the form to Eng Chester.

Cllr Parker confirmed that the Parish Council could apply to his and Cllr Margaret Parker's Community Budget Fund at the end of May 2015.

Ownership of the Green - In his email of 6 March 2015 Andrew Coward states that "it looks like the Green is in the ownership of the Parish Council" and also included was a screen shot from the Council's digital mapping system which says that the Green was registered in Rowton Parish Council's ownership on 11 February 1975. However, the Parish Council have never received formal notification of ownership.

Resolved: Contact Andrew Coward/Kieran Collins to query ownership of Village Green.

Action: Clerk to action this item.

Electricity for Christmas Tree Lights – Mr Simon Maudslay, provides electricity via

a cable from his property to power the Christmas Tree lights on the Village Green. He is concerned that the required machinery to put the tree and cable in place leaves heavy tyre tracks in the grass. This is unfortunate but there is no other alternative to erecting the tree and lights.

Resolved: The Parish Council will endeavour to flatten any tyre marks and return the Green to its former state.

Action: Clerk to email Simon Maudslay re the above.

Overgrown shrubs by Memorial on Green

Resolved: Shrubs to be cut back

Action: Cllr Tony Smith to action this item

14. World War One Talk Parish event

Cllr Tony Smith has booked Rowton Hall for Wednesday 7 October 2015. Room Hire is £100 and refreshments will be provided at £3.50 per person.

Action: Clerk to contact David Cummings advising of chosen date and to confirm start time and to request photos for insertion on flyer.

15. Issues for Future Discussion/Consideration

Intermittent street lighting – Rowton Lane. Cllr Tony Smith to audit street lights and report back to next meeting.

16. Correspondence

Clerk & Councils Direct March 2015

Letter of introduction from local branch of Beating Bowel Cancer

Email from Cheshire West and Chester regarding Local Service Centre

Consultation re Local Plan (Part Two) – Rowton not suitable for inclusion as scores zero in relation to number of services and facilities.

17. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 18 May 2015