

**MINUTES OF ROWTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 11 JANUARY 2016**

Present: Councillors Morfudd Salmon
Pat Fitton
Bob Knight
Karen Newbury
Glenys Harrison

In attendance:
Clerk Christine Davies
Cllr Stuart Parker

Member of public Jan Nowland

Alex Piggott (Parish Website Presentation)

1. Apologies

No apologies

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting held on 16 November 2015

Resolved: Minutes approved and signed as a true record by Cllr Morfudd Salmon, Chair

4. Matters Arising from Minutes not covered elsewhere on Agenda

Carols on the Green The event was considered to be successful with up to 50 people in attendance. Cllr Fitton confirmed that she had purchased new lights for the xmas tree costing £39.99 with a two-year guarantee. Cllr Parker advised that for future reference the Council could apply to his Member's Budget for funding towards xmas lighting, xmas tree – all of which are for the benefit of the community.

5. Public Participation

Jan Nowland in attendance re Highways item.

6. Highways – Moor Lane

Cllr Parker stated that at a recent CWaC cabinet meeting it had been agreed to introduce a 20mph speed limit in school areas across Chester and the wider borough. He did not know how large the periphery in and around schools would be.

Speed Data Survey The results of the speed survey which took place between 4-12 November 2015 showed that the average speed northbound was 37.4 mph and 35.1 mph southbound. Police Traffic Officer Chris Burnham who instigated the survey on behalf of the Parish Council enquired if volunteers would be prepared to operate a portable speed indicator device in Moor Lane to deter speeding. After discussion it was agreed that as this operation could only take place during daylight hours the Parish Council did not have sufficient volunteers

to carry this out.

Resolved: Contact Police Traffic Officer Chris Burnham to advise of decision

Action: Clerk to action this item

Traffic Questionnaire Clerk confirmed that Kieran Collins, Head of Highways, had acknowledged receipt of Parish Council's request to consider the 3 measures to effectively deal with volume and speed of traffic, namely:

* Signage – unsuitable for HGV's

* Installation of speed warning device

* Reduction of speed limit to 20 mph

Mr Collins referred the matter to Eng Chester to which the Clerk had received an acknowledgement on 04/01/16.

It was agreed that now the Parish Council were in possession of evidence-based speed data this would lend greater credibility to the above requests.

Resolved: Forward speed data survey to Kieran Collins in support of above requested measures.

Action: Clerk to action this item.

7. Parish Website

Alex Piggott, a Foundation Degree Student of West Cheshire College, gave a presentation of the proposed new Rowton Parish Council Website, which also included the admin side for editing. The website was well received and a request was made for site usage to be monitored to which Alex agreed to include.

Discussion took place regarding the domain name and it was decided on rowtonparishcouncil.org.uk. at a cost of £34.90 + VAT for 10 years with 123reg.co.uk. Hosting of the website on an unmanaged and managed basis was discussed – on balance it was decided that a managed site with dedicated support was the best option. ACC Business Solutions of Deeside were proposed at a cost of £12/month incl VAT.

Resolved: Domain name and hosting packages to be purchased.

Action: Clerk to action this item.

Alex left the meeting after this item. The Parish Council in recognition of Alex's work in creating and producing the website agreed to purchase an Amazon voucher to the value £25.

8. Transparency Code Funding Application

Clerk had received guidelines from Chalc for submitting funding applications and the maximum amount for Website annual maintenance was £300.

Resolved: Application to be completed to cover set up and immediate running costs.

Action: Clerk to action this item by submission date of 14 January 2016

9. Superfast Broadband

Confirmation received on 24/12/15 that Openreach have completed the cabling work and residents should notice an improved service. (Andrew Stockton, former parish councillor, confirmed his download speed had doubled, albeit to 12 Mb, but still an improvement). Cllr Stuart Parker said remedial work was still being carried out as there had been some flooding affecting the cabling.

10. Finance

The following expenditure was approved:-

Payments	Amount	Cheque No
Walkers Oakfield Nurseries – Xmas Tree	£132.00	000629
Ladywell Accountancy Services	£40.00	000630
CM Davies Nov Sal 210.21 + Expenses 39.09	£249.30	009631
CM Davies Dec Sal 162.37 + Expenses 17.54	179.91	000631
Bank Balance as at 11/12/15	£4851.32	

Parish Precept 2016/17

Resolved: To keep the Parish Precept as at same level as last year i.e. 0% increase. £3031 less Council Tax Reduction Scheme of £54 = £2977 (this is based on 213 Band D properties x £13.98 (£14.11 – 0.13) Tax Base).

11. Planning

To receive Planning Application No 15/01571/FUL(received after publication of Agenda) - Havenlea, Rowton Lane: First floor extension, new chimney and single-storey extension to rear. Comments by 24/01/16.

To receive Planning Application decision – 15/04010/FUL: Promised Land Farm, Promised Lane, Rowton – Conversion of barn to form single dwelling: Approved'

12. Council Vacancy

Advert in January edition of A41 so far had not produced any enquiries. The Chair, had been contacted by Paul Shannon, a resident of Rowton Lane, who had expressed an interest in attending the March meeting with a view to putting himself forward as a potential councillor. Clerk to contact Mr Shannon and forward the next Agenda to him.

13. Newsletter

The following items to be included and short descriptions to be presented at next meeting by following councillors/clerk:

Village Green: Refurbishment of Claypits Lane wall.

Thank you to Rosemary Boothroyd for looking after the plants and flowers round the memorial and Angela Oliver for planting of the daffodil bulbs. Also thank you to Mr & Mrs Maudsey for providing the electricity for Carols on the Green (Cllr Pat Fitton)

Speeding – Moor Lane (Cllr Bob Knight)

WW1 Talk (Cllr Morfudd Salmon)

Council Vacancy (Cllr Morfudd Salmon)

Superfast Broadband update (Cllr Glenys Harrison)

Mobile Library (Cllr Morfudd Salmon)

Rainbows (Cllr Morfudd Salmon)

New Website (Clerk)

14. Information Only

WW1 Talk Receipt of parish copy of “Christleton Great War Voices Stories” by David Cummings

Parish Boundary Map Received from CWaC

15. Issues for Discussion Issues can be discussed but no decision made
Schedule of Meetings Agree dates of meetings for next 12 months from July 2016.

16. Correspondence

Letter of Introduction from CB Homes – Nov 2015
Clerks & Councils Direct Jan 2016
The Clerk – Jan 2016

17. Date of Next Meeting – 14 March 2016