

**MINUTES OF ROWTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 12 JANUARY 2015**

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

In attendance: Cllr Stuart Parker (until 8.10 pm)

Clerk Christine Davies

Local residents Ian Cargill + Emma Craig - Observers
Mr & Mrs Shannon – Observers
Norman Goodwin

1. Apologies

Cllr Tony Smith (holiday) and Cllr Karen Newbury (work commitment)

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Minutes of Last Meeting held on 10 November 2014

Resolved: Minutes approved and signed as true record by Cllr Salmon, Vice-Chair.

4. Public Participation

Mr Norman Goodwin queried the decision making process to install white markers on the grass verge on the right at junction of long Rowton Lane with A41. He lives on the opposite side of the A41/Whitchurch Road and is unable to park in front of his property due to a sign saying "No motor vehicle parking on verge or highway". Also a white line and a "No Parking" sign has been painted on the pavement in front of his and the other properties. He believed that there should have been a consultation process as previously himself and other residents used to park on the grass verge. Cllr Parker, had received a letter of complaint from Mr Goodwin and he confirmed that Rowton Parish Council had asked Highways to look at the danger posed by vehicles parking on this grass verge to motorists exiting onto the A41. In response Highways had installed the marker posts. Cllr Salmon suggested that perhaps the residents could get together to rectify the parking situation by utilising the land at the rear of the 9 terraced houses. As the properties are in the Parish of Christleton it was agreed that the Clerk contact Christleton PC to advise of problem and take any action if appropriate.

5. Matters Arising from Minutes not covered elsewhere on Agenda

Christmas Carols - Very successful and excellent turnout – over 60 people including lots of children. In appreciation to Rachel Morrey (playing keyboard), Mr & Mrs Maudslay (providing electricity) and Susan Jones

(providing keyboard) Cllr Fitton has given them boxes of chocolates on behalf of the Parish Council.

6. Street Cleaning

A local resident had requested removal of leaves from the Village Green and roads to be swept of debris. However, the resident had contacted CWaC and the above request had been responded to.

Resolved: No further action and resident to be contacted and advised that it was deemed not necessary to contact CWaC.

7. Highways

Grit supply has not yet been delivered. Discussion took place regarding risk assessment supplied by Insurers, Came & Co.

Resolved: Parish Council will not be responsible for usage of grit.

8. Keeping our Village Tidy

A local resident's gardener in long Rowton Lane had fly-tipped hedge cuttings into hedge opposite. Resident admitted responsibility to Cllr Salmon and he acted on her request to remove the cuttings.

9. Dog Fouling – Moor Lane

Resident raised problem of dog fouling along grass verge in Moor Lane. However, it had been observed that the resident's own dog had fouled on the grass verge.

Resolved: Contact local Dog Warden to request "no fouling" signs to be displayed along Moor Lane. Contact resident to advise of action and also to refer to penalty charge for dog fouling.

10. Rural Housing Symposium 10.11.14

Report received from Cllr Tony Smith. The theme was centred on Neighbourhood Planning. Tattenhall PC gave a presentation of their Neighbourhood Plan. Their Plan, one of the first in the country, allows for the sustainable development of housing, including affordable, as well as looking at other issues such as schooling, shops workplace etc. Rowton is in greenbelt, as opposed to Tattenhall, and it was suggested that it would be advantageous to combine with neighbouring villages to produce a Neighbourhood Plan to limit the scope of the development of affordable housing. To be discussed further at next meeting.

11. Community Governance Review

Formal Notice of Decision received and posted to the two noticeboards. Confirmation that Parish of Rowton should not be abolished, boundary redrawn to transfer 29 Fox Lane to Waverton Parish. Name of parish not to be altered and continue to have a parish council. Number of seats on parish council to be reduced from seven to six.

12. Finance

The following expenditure was approved:-

Payments	Amount	Cheque No
HMRC	£145.00	000599
CM Davies reimbursement of printing charge re Newsletter	£ 62.40	000600
Harold Walker Nursery – Xmas tree	£112.24	000601
CM Davies Nov Sal + expenses	£161.66	000602
CM Davies Dec Sal + expenses	£133.74	000603
Cllr Pat Fitton – reimbursement re refreshments for Carols on the Green	£ 28.28	000604
Bank Balance as at 11.12.14	£5577.70	

New NLC/SLCC payscale and one off consolidated payment:
Resolved: To implement new payscale from 1 January 2015 and to pay the Pro rata one-off consolidated payment.

Parish Precept 2015/2016

Resolved: To keep the Parish Precept as at same level as last year i.e. 0% increase. £3038 less Council Tax Reduction Scheme of £61 = £2977 (this is based on 211 Band D properties x £14.11 Tax Base).

New Homes Bonus Payment 2013/14 - £1024. Not yet allocated and to be discussed aAst next meeting.

Clerk informed the Council that CWaC had notified of a New Homes Bonus Payment of £544 for 2014/15 for Rowton but up to date bank statement had not yet been received to confirm receipt.

Clerk informed the Council that the current expenditure up to end of December 2014 had matched the precept income. Extra hours had been incurred to ensure Council's legal commitments, superfast broadband issue and newsletter. Clerk suggested that she keep to the contracted 4 hrs/week (16hrs/month), however, the Council agreed that she maintain same level of service and to keep Council informed of expenditure at meetings.

13. Planning

To receive Planning Application decision:

14/04713/S73: Grange Farm, Rowton Lane: Variation on Condition 2 on 14/0162/FUL – conversion to 3 bedroom dwelling – permitted.

14. Superfast Broadband

Cllr Parker reiterated that he would keep pressure up on BT to carry out the necessary work to rectify the faulty cabling along the A41.

15. Asset Register

Bus Shelter which had previously been listed as an asset has been confirmed as being the responsibility of CWaC. Clerk had obtained up to date replacement quotations for the two noticeboards and circular wooden bench. However, as the insurance values were higher it was agreed to use those as the reinstatement insurance value.

Resolved: Insurance value to be used on Asset Register

16. Village Green

Cllr Fitton had met with two local builders who both confirmed that repair work to the sandstone wall could not be done unless the eroded abutting tarmac was filled in and levelled off at the same time.

Resolved: Contact Highways to investigate if they could recommend a company who would be able to repair the sandstone wall (utilising community budget from Cllrs Parker) together with the filling in and levelling of adjoining tarmac.

Action: Clerk to action this item

17. Future Parish Event

Clerk advised that David Cummings would be willing to give a talk on WW1 with regard to local connections later in the year.

Resolved: Event agreed. David Cummings to be contacted regarding suitable dates.

Action: Clerk to action this item

18. Correspondence

Cheshire & Wirral Partnership – Consultation re changes to Podiatry Service

Greenbarns – Noticeboard leaflet

Clerks & Councils Direct – Jan 2015

Glasdon Products Brochure

Cheshire Community Pride Competition 2015 - application

19. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 9 March 2015