

**MINUTES OF ROWTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2015**

Present: Councillors Morfudd Salmon  
Tony Smith  
Bob Knight  
Glenys Harrison

Clerk Christine Davies

Member of public Jan Nowland

**1. Apologies**

Cllr Pat Fitton (personal), Cllr Karen Newbury (work commitment) and Cllr Stuart Parker (Council business)

**2. Declaration of Interest**

None

**3. Minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting held on 18 May 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**

**Audit for y/e 31 March 2015** BDO LLP have completed audit of annual return which was presented to the Council duly approved and accepted. Conclusion of Audit notice to be displayed on noticeboards from 17 September for 14 days as required.

**5. Public Participation**

Jan Nowland of Plough Lane, Christleton representing her mother, Mrs Norma Nowland of Honey Pot, Moor Lane raised the issue of the significant increase in the volume and speed of traffic along Moor Lane. Of particular concern is the rise of HGV's using the lane for obvious reasons of safety to pedestrians and also the potential to damage the existing weakened drainage system. The Lane is becoming a short cut for traffic accessing the A51/A41. Jan Nowland had sent a detailed letter to the Parish Council dated 28/08/15 outlining her concerns and listing potential solutions. She suggested compiling a traffic questionnaire to gauge local resident's views. The Chair said she would bring agenda item no 12 Highways forward so that this could be discussed further.

**6. Highways**

**Moor Lane**

– PCSO Deb Netherton's email of 03/09/15 had not satisfactorily addressed the issue of speeding.

Resolved: Request the PCSO to give observational assessment as to why she was not able to carry out a hand-held "speed gun" test.

Action: Clerk to action this item.

- Letter from Jan Nowland re traffic issues.

In general the Parish Council were in agreement with the proposals outlined in letter. The Parish Council were also in agreement with Ms Nowland's suggestion to produce a traffic questionnaire to gauge local resident's views. Ms Nowland confirmed she would produce a draft for consideration prior to distribution.

**A41** – cutting down of overhanging branches by Mr R Sowerby of Rowton Grange East, Whitchurch Road

Resolved: Letter of thanks to be sent.

Action: Clerk to action this item

## 7. Superfast Broadband

Clerk read latest response from Cllr Brian Clarke (who is cabinet member for Economic Development & Infrastructure including Connecting Cheshire) who had forwarded email from Kevin Rutterford of BT which stated that in order for work to be done to the faulty cable Openreach need permission from the Highways Authority for the necessary roadworks. Until the Authority agrees a date for the road works to take place nothing can be done.

Resolved: Email Kevin Rutterford of BT to ascertain who to contact at Highways to progress this matter further.

It was also resolved that a notice be displayed on the two noticeboards advising residents of current situation and listing Kevin Rutterford and Cllr Brian Clarke's email addresses to encourage lobbying to assist in resolving situation.

Action: Clerk to action both items

## 8. Implementation of Transparency Code

As two councillors were not present it was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

## 9. Parish Event – WW1 Talk

Flyers for the event were distributed w/c 31 August 2015. Refreshments organised with Rowton Hall. So far it has been noted that there have been fewer acceptances than for the previous history talk by David Cummings.

## 10. Financial Regulations & Risk Assessment

Clerk had previously circulated NALC's model Draft Financial Regulations together with copies of Risk Assessments by Huntington Parish Council and NALC. It was agreed that the Clerk would go through the model Financial Regulations and amend accordingly (i.e. delete items in [square brackets] which are not relevant) and forward to Councillors for their input. Clerk would also recirculate the NALC Risk Assessment – she pointed out that one of the potential risks flagged up was loss of electronic records – clerk does not have a separate back-up drive.

## 11. Finance

The following expenditure was approved

Payments	Amount	Cheque No
C M Davies June Salary 174.31+ 123.20 tax refund + expenses 22.09	£319.60	000619

C M Davies July Salary 242.55 + expenses 30.72	£274.27	000620
C M Davies Aug Sal 152.82 + expenses 15.04	£167.86	000621
Society of Local Clerks – Annual Subscription	£77.00	000622
BDO LLP re annual return	£42.00	000623
Bank Balance as at 11/08/15	£5812.51	

## 12. Planning

To receive the following Planning Application decision:-

15/02447/FUL: The Spinney, Rowton Lane – Full painted render to full height of all elevations. Approved.

To receive Planning Application 15/0328/OUT: Land adjacent to the Drift, Moor Lane – Erection of one dwelling. Comment submitted on 05/09/15 as follows: RPC have concerns regarding creating a new access onto Moor Lane on a blind corner of the carriageway. It has been noted that traffic from the A41 tends not to decelerate upon entering Moor Lane and therefore this new access on the blind corner could lead to potential road traffic accidents.

Following Planning Application received after production of agenda:-  
15/03664/FUL: Byeways, Rowton Lane – Erection of conservatory.

To consider request to support objection to Planning Application 15/03109/FUL: To erect and install solar farm at Malpas. The Council agreed not to support the objection.

## 13. Councillor Vacancy

Cllr Tony Smith tendered his resignation as he is moving away from the village. The Parish Council expressed their sadness at his departure but gratitude for Tony's help and support during his tenure.

Action: Clerk to display 'Casual Vacancy' notice on the two noticeboards forthwith.

## 14. Carols on the Green

Resolved: Date decided - Wednesday 16 December 2015 at 6.30pm.

Action: Clerk to notify Council by email and also to contact Rachel Morrey who plays the keyboard.

## 15. Health & Safety

It has been noted that within the car park of Rowton Court Hotel a canal boat of at least 60 feet in length is being constructed. In effect part of the car park is a construction site and of particular concern is the use of welding equipment which gives off sparking and as there is no screening this could pose a potential risk to the public.

Resolved: Contact Health and Safety to ascertain if there is a potential risk to the public.

Action: Clerk to action this item.

## 16. Noticeboards

Croft Close – Keys held by Clerk, Andrew Stockton and Bob Knight  
Rowton Hall – Keys held by Clerk.

Cllr Salmon to check with Beryl Williams if she has set of keys for Rowton Hall Noticeboard.

**17. Information Only**

Letter of thanks from Revd Innal of St James' re donation towards flagpole.  
Village Green – Confirmation from Insurers Came & Co that existing policy covers liability.

Rowton Methodist Church Celebration Lunch – Sunday 18 October 2015 at Waverton Village Hall at 12.45pm. (Services at 10.30 am and 6.30pm)

**18. Issues for Discussion/Consideration**

Xmas Tree Lights - tested 2 months ago and a section about 5 foot long (approx. 30 lights) were not working. The lights were donated by Mr Mrs Quellyn Roberts about 4 years ago.

**19. Correspondence**

Letter from Cheshire Community Action requesting membership

Clerk & Councils Direct Sept 2015

Broxap Autumn 2015 leaflet

Letter from Nat West Bank advising that FCS deposit reduced from £85,000 to £75,000

**20. Date of Next Meeting – Monday 9 November 2015**