



Clerk: Mrs Catharine Toms, 1 High Street, Barkway, Royston, Hertfordshire SG8 8EA
Tel: 07763 167116 Email: clerk@reedparishcouncil.co.uk

Councillors Email:

Cllr. Ken Langley (Chair) - langley@reedparishcouncil.co.uk
Cllr. Caroline d'Ayala (Vice-Chair) - dayala@reedparishcouncil.co.uk
Cllr. Edwin Kilby - kilby@reedparishcouncil.co.uk
Cllr. Barbara Blower - blower@reedparishcouncil.co.uk
Cllr. Nick Payne - payne@reedparishcouncil.co.uk

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th July 2023 at 7.30pm held at Reed Village Hall.

Present Cllrs: K Langley (Chair), D d'Ayala (Vice Chair) and B Blower.

In attendance the Clerk Catharine Toms, County Cllr. F Hill and Dist. Cllr. G Morris plus two members of the public.

This meeting would be recorded for the purpose of the minutes.

- 1.7.23 **Attendance.** As listed above.
- 2.7.23 **To receive apologies for absence.** Cllr. Kilby and Cllr. Payne (on holiday) – apologies accepted.
- 3.7.23 **To receive Members Declarations of Interest and to note dispensation granted.** No declarations of interest. Cllr. Kilby, for his period of office, a dispensation allowing him full participation at meetings in issues arising concerning The Cabinet public house including, but not limited to, planning matters.
- 4.7.23 **To approve the Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council held on 17th May 2023 and 21st June 2023 and to authorise the Chairman to sign them as a true record.** It was proposed, seconded and all voted in favour to approve. Resolved. Approved minutes to be posted on the website. **Action: Clerk/Webmaster**
Standing Orders were suspended.
- 5.7.23 **To invite Members of the Public to address the meeting.** A member of the public wished to inform the Parish Council that on Reed Footpath 020, where the footpath took an unofficial route, it was not being cut and the vegetation was now very overgrown. (also see item 21.7.23)
Standing Orders were resumed.
- 6.7.23 **To receive Chairman's Report** – (See Appendix A)
- 7.7.23 **To receive report from District Councillor** – Dist. Cllr. Morris reported that Newsells Park Stud had put in a planning application for a Winery and that there would be a Councillor's Surgery being held in Royston on that coming Saturday.

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www.reedparishcouncil.co.uk

8.7.23 **To receive report from County Councillor** – County Cllr. Hill reported that she had placed an objection to the development proposal in Nicholl's Yard. Crow Lane had been surface-dressed. She would send a link to publicise the Royston and Villages Healthcare Consultation and asked if this could be publicised via the website/WhatsApp and the noticeboards. **Action: Clerk/EK/CD.**

The plans to introduce a congestion charge in Cambridge had gone back to the drawing board as there were concerns as to how it could possibly work with the current transport facilities available.

Cllrs. Morris and Hill were thanked for their reports.

Standing Orders were resumed.

9.7.23 **To review action points from the meeting on 17th May 2023** – reviewed.

Action Points from this meeting (see Appendix B).

It was noted that the Probation Officers were keen to help other organisations in Reed and would be prepared to consider any other projects. Cllr. d'Ayala to make enquiries with other village organisations. **Action: CD**

10.7.23 **To receive report from the Clerk on current financial position**

A list of monies received and payments to be authorised had been previously circulated to all Cllrs. Accounts showed a bank balance of £26,235.18 of which, £10,133.35 was Push Energy Community Contribution (ring-fenced for special projects), £4,610.00 was Bonfire Night reserves, £690.75 was P3 grant balance, S106 Sustainable Transport Reserve was £651.87, Play Park Reserve was £2,000.00, leaving general reserves at £8,149.21.

11.7.23 **To agree accounts for payment, including insurance renewal.**

Payments to be authorised at the meeting were Clerk's salary and PAYE. £35.96 Cllr. Blower's expenses to cover cost of providing the refreshments at the Annual Parish Meeting in May. Proposed, seconded and approved by all.

12.7.23 **To consider and make comment on planning application:**

Full Permission Householder : Variation of 22/02565/FPH to form pitched roof over side extension and installation of 2 x rooflights (as amended by plans received on 21st June 2023).

Mill Corner Farm, Jacksons Lane, Reed, Hertfordshire, SG8 8AB.

Case Ref No: 23/01027/FPH – After consideration of the application it was proposed, seconded and agreed by all that there was no objection to the application. The Clerk to respond to North Herts Council (NHC). **Action: Clerk**

It was noted that a planning application had been received for consideration regarding Crabtree Cottage – a proposed single storey rear extension – this had arrived too late to be considered at this Parish Council meeting but initial thoughts were that clarification was needed from the Planning Officer at NHC on two points:

- 1) The proposed extension was an addition to an already extensively extended building, was that permissible, as the total proposed area of the building would be vastly bigger than the original footprint of the cottage?
- 2) Was such an extension to an already flat roofed extension, appropriate in a Grade 2 listed building?

The Clerk to contact the Planning Officer at NHC – **Action: Clerk**

13.7.23 **To receive update from Turney Trust about the RD1 site** – A report had been presented at the Annual Parish Meeting in May. Various surveys and investigations to support the planning application had been undertaken. It was intended to submit two planning application enquiries, one

to NHC and one to Herts County Council (HCC) Highways. There was the intention to consult with Reed Parish Council as part of the planning process. It was hoped to submit a full planning application in late 2023 or early 2024. The application would incorporate 8 no. Turney Trust homes, 8 no. affordable homes and 6-8 no. market value homes. Cllr. Langley to contact Trustee Mr Chambers to request an update regarding access to the site and if the site had already been acquired by a developer. **Action: KL**

14.7.23 **To receive update from Save The Cabinet Action Group (SCAG)** – nothing to report apart from that there had been a recent good fund raising evening held.

15.7.23 **To receive update on Highways Matters** – The exact requirements for the mowing of the verges still needed to be clarified and agreed with HCC Highways. **Action: CD**

Under the Highways Locality Scheme – Cllr. Hill agreed to flag, that within the next 18 months, Brickyard Lane would need to be resurfaced.

Cllr. Hill to report that the Church Lane road sign needed attention.

16.7.23 **To receive update on project to preserve ponds and agree any action required** – a response was still awaited from Countryside Management Services (CMS) but currently, until the Autumn, it was the wrong time of year to progress matters.

17.7.23 **To receive bi-monthly Parish Council play area inspection report and agree any action required** – An inspection had been carried on 1st July, there was nothing reported that needed any immediate action.

18.7.23 **To receive update from Play Area Working Party and agree any action required** – A meeting of the Working party was planned for the 11th July and a contact was being made with the Community/Partnership Officer at NHC (Becca Edwards) to explore potential fund raising opportunities. **Action: KL**

19.7.23 **To receive update on arrangements with Probation Officer for the maintenance of the ditches around the Green** – (see Appendix B)

20.7.23 **To agree terms of fund-raising through bucket collection at Bonfire Night on 04.11.23** – After discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed that any funds raised at Bonfire Night this year would be allocated towards the cost of the play area refurbishment. Resolved.

21.7.23 **To receive update regarding purchase and installation of a kissing gate on Reed 020** – Although Reed Parish Council was prepared to spend money to install a kissing gate, after discussion it was agreed reluctantly, that it would not be prudent to spend money when there was now a pending Modified Order Application to amend the Definitive Map of Rights of Way to upgrade the footpath to a Restricted Byway. The Clerk to contact Rights of Way Officer at HCC to update him regarding the kissing gate. **Action: Clerk**
Cllr. d’Ayala to contact the HCC Definitive Maps Officer to find out what the timescales were for determining these applications and, in addition, to request that mowing was carried out along the path that was actually walked (which avoided a ditch where there was no bridge in place). (see item 5.7.23)

It was agreed that Councillors would meet to physically walk and inspect the path. **Action: CD**

22.7.23 **To receive update on maintenance of kissing gates Reed 005/011 & 013** – The Clerk had written to Dukes (landowners) to ask if these could be repaired and had informed the HCC Rights of Way Officer that this had been done.

23.7.23 **To receive update and agree any action on Push Energy Project – Community Noticeboard** – This work was ongoing.

24.7.23 **To agree any expenditure necessary for the Reed Parish Council website** – Cllr. Kilby had forwarded information on costs, £14.99 to renew the domain for one year and the website hosting cost would be £140.95 for the year. It was proposed, seconded and agreed. Resolved. Cllr. Kilby to proceed with this proposal. **Action: EK**

25.7.23 **To receive matters for report or referral to next agenda. (Information only)** Bonfire Night, Ponds Protection Project, Footpath Kissing Gates and Modified Application Orders.

26.7.23 **To note correspondence received. (Information only)** – Nothing not covered elsewhere in the meeting.

28.7.23 **To agree date of next meetings.** Weds 6th September 2023. Agreed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.18pm.