

DRAFT

RIDLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Village Hall
on Weds 9th November 2016

Present: Councillors Gilkes, Harvey, Johnson, Richards, Roome, Waterhouse and Townsend together with the Clerk
Councillor Johnson was in the Chair
Members of the public present were Mr C Veall

- 1 **Apologies:** None
- 2 **Declarations of interest:** Councillor Roome in regard to an item he wished to raise under AOB
- 3 **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Weds 7th Sept 2016:** Accepted as read. Proposed by Councillor Townsend, seconded by Councillor Roome and unanimously approved
- 4 **Matters arising not already listed on this agenda:**
 - Parish Council Risk Assessment Report: the reviewed and updated report was presented to the Parish Council and unanimously adopted. It was agreed to carry forward to the Sept 2017 meeting for review again at that time.
 - Undergrowth on Whiteø corner: No further action required until growth occurs next Spring. Agreed that Councillor Townsend would seek support from the landowner, Chris White, to cut and spray at that time. **Action: Councillor Townsend**
 - Website update: Councillor Johnson advised that the website was now operational and our contract with the designer allowed for uploads of documents from up to five meetings per year. Anything additional to that would cause extra payments to be made
 - The Clerk advised that he had been informed by LRALC that our application for further funding for our new website had been received, but LRALC had missed the deadline for October approvals and payments. This has now gone forward for approval and if successful, payment will be received on or about 28th November. The amount of funding applied for is £815 but we are uncertain at this point what, if any, amount will be received.
 - Planning within a Conservation and Article 4 village: Councillor Harvey had circulated to Parish Councillors a pamphlet on this topic that Ashwell village had recently produced and circulated in their village. It was agreed to seek

Councillors views on the pamphlet and these to be fed back to Councillor Harvey. RCC's advice would also be sought before the final pamphlet is produced for Ridlington

- Wicket Gate at Old Noel Arms: It would appear RCC Highways Dept are responsible for the Wicket Gate on the footpath at the side of the Old Noel Arms. Agreed to seek the views of RCC before any further action is recommended together with advice on car parking and signage at the same location. **Action: Councillor Townsend**
- Damage to the Bus Shelter: The Clerk advised that on inspection, the minor damage to the bus shelter was of a negligible impact and no further action warranted

5 Correspondence:

- Letter received from RCC setting out the contract details for the public grass cutting during 2017. After discussion, it was agreed Ridlington would carry on with the RCC contract for another year
- Letter from CAB Rutland advising that their updated report on rural poverty is now available on their website: www.rutlandcab.org.uk
- Latest newsletter from RCC on the Rutland Local Plan. Details with the Clerk which can also be accessed at www.rutland.gov.uk/local_plan/local_plan_review/call_for_sites.aspx
- Letter from RCC Electoral Services advising that RCC will be publishing their Register of Electors for 2017 on 1st December. A copy for Ridlington Parish has been requested

6 Finance:

- Current bank balance as at 9th November 2016 stands at £2359.38. This is a reduction from the last Parish Council Meeting of £937.37 due to budgeted payments made for the development and launch of the Council's new website. As a result our Community Account now stands at £1139.03 whilst our Business Saver Account remains unchanged at £1220.35. It should be noted that a sizeable portion of the outlay for the new website is expected to be received by way of a grant from government funding initiatives. The amount will become known and paid into the Parish Council's bank towards the end of November
- Retrospective approval was sought for the payment of an outstanding invoice to RCC for street lighting costs. This was for £130 and had been budgeted for. The cheque had already been posted. Unanimous approval was given
- There was only one grant application for consideration. This was from Ridlington PCC seeking to renew the £200 grant towards the upkeep costs of the churchyard. Renewal was proposed by Councillor Roome and seconded by Councillor Townsend. After much discussion the motion failed with three

votes against and two in favour with two abstentions. As a result, an alternative proposal was made by Councillor Waterhouse for the grant to be £100 for the coming year. This was seconded by Councillor Richards and was approved by five votes in favour with two abstentions

- **Budget for 2017/18:** The Clerk advised that RCC would no longer be providing a council tax support grant for the coming year as had also been widely reported on in the local press. The budget for the coming year was agreed as:

Insurance	£300.00
Street lighting	£ 80.00
Audit	£120.00
Clerk's expenses	£180.00
LRALC membership	£120.00
Grant to Ridlington PCC	£100.00

Total £900.00

This represents a reduction of £635.00 on the present year's budget of £1535.00.

The proposed budget for the 2017/18 year was unanimously approved

- 7 **Planning:** The following applications have been received since the Sept Parish Council meeting:

- Ref 2016/0954/FUL: Variation of Condition 5 affecting the Barns at the Old Noel Arms
- Ref 2016/0883?CAT: Tree pruning at 4 Main Street
- Ref 2016/1027/CAT: Tree work at 9 Main Street
- Ref 2016/1028/CAT: Tree work at 2 West Lane

All of the above applications were unanimously approved but in regard to 2016/0954/FUL above, permission was granted on the proviso that the footpath running adjacent to the Barns was not allowed to be congested by parked cars

- 8 **Update on Clerk vacancy:** Councillor Johnson advised that there had been no interest expressed by anyone to fill the clerk vacancy that would occur at the end of Feb 2017. We might look to share a clerk with another local Parish although this could heavily impact finances. Ultimately it might mean the Parish Council reducing to a Parish Meeting

- 9 **Any Other Business:** Councillor Roome referred to the recently published report following the survey results on the village hall. In particular he stated reference was made in the report to a lease from the Parish Council to the Hall trustees effective from 1990 for thirty years. This meant this lease had less than four years to run before its expiry. Councillor Roome also stated he did not have a copy of this lease and asked if

the Parish Council could provide a copy. The clerk stated he had not seen the lease but that he would make a search through historic papers to see if a copy could be uncovered and provided to the village hall trustees. **Action: The Clerk**
There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm

10 **Date of the next Parish Council Meeting:** Weds 15th February 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

C J Lees
Clerk
Ridlington Parish Council
17th November 2016

Approvedí í í í í í í í í í í Dateí í í í í í í í í í ..
Chairman