

ROLLESTON ON DOVE PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 14th JULY 2014**

PRESENT

Cllr J Toon, Chairman
Cllr S Adams
Cllr A Evans
Cllr M Robson
Cllr S Sanderson
Cllr Simnett
Cllr B Toon
Cllr J Wyatt
Cllr C Warren
Cllr B Wooding
Mr A Bailey
Mrs H. Light, Clerk

Three members of the public and two Civil Enforcement Officers, ESBC were in attendance.

23. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME & PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

Mr Chinn read the following report on Brook Hollows:-

Our Parish Council is aware that despite their frequent requests to ESBC for maintenance, Brook Hollows is suffering from neglect, and that this area may well in the not too distant future cease to be available for the enjoyment of the Parish. This is particularly disappointing when the area (which was originally built in 1799 as a fish stock pond for Rolleston Hall) was restored from a swamp in the 1970s by voluntary village labour, and was maintained until a few years ago by our Civic Trust, who were "no longer required" by ESBC.

More than a few parishioners have commented on the fact that whilst there appears to be little money for Brook Hollows, spending on Stapenhill Gardens and St. Peter's Bridge in the town is not skimped, and £41,000 has been wasted on an ice rink. The most important issue is the lake, which urgently needs de silting, and has been neglected for many years, and there are other important issues needing attention, some of which are listed below:-

- Nettles over 5 feet high growing onto paths, also brambles which prohibit walkers wearing clothing which does not cover legs.
- Paths obscured and overgrown. The public footpath on the Eastern boundary is now completely blocked.
- Signs of vandalism, rubbish and fires having been lit in centre of spinney have been evident for over a year, and recently a "grotto" has been built among the trees — this consisted of twelve wooden crosses, lanterns, carpet and chair!
- Some trees are unstable, several have fallen this year, and are left where they fall, in one case blocking an established footpath.
- The lockable gate/barrier was removed last year and has not been replaced.
- Cygnets and ducklings have been lost, due to ESBC being unwilling to allow waterfall barriers to be erected.
- Chicken wire netting has been nailed to the bridges as an anti-slip device...it degrades and leaves sharp points which can cause injury to dogs.
- Rusty barbed wire on the boundary has been a hazard for more than a year.
- A regular walker has informed that over 25 different species of birds have been seen in the Hollows, this includes kingfishers and other relatively rare birds, and together with mammals and fish, the area is evidently important for the preservation of wildlife.

I have spoken to Peter Barnett, and he has advised that the Civic Trust would support an Action Group with the objective to persuade ESBC to thoroughly survey and improve Brook Hollows, and I ask whether the Parish Council will also give support?

It is intended that other organisations in the village will be asked to give support.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Chinn for his report and question and advised that Brook Hollows was on the agenda later on in the meeting for consideration.

The meeting was introduced to Mr Bennett from the Community & Civil Enforcement Team, ESBC. He advised that they were first responders for ESBC and dealt with items such as dog fouling, littering, abandoned vehicles, anti-social behaviour and noise pollution.

Cllr Sanderson advised that there were traffic concerns outside of the shops and during school pick up. He also advised that the planters along Burnside had been upturned on three occasions since April. Cllr Adams advised of anti-social behaviour on Elizabeth Avenue.

Mr Bennett advised that they aim to respond to issues within 48 hours and added that they were a relatively new team with twelve officers working across the Borough. He advised that they work until midnight and work closely with the PCSO's and police to deal with anti-social behaviour and that their aim was to engage, educate and enforce.

The Chairman thanked the officers for attending the meeting.

Mrs Wyers asked if the Parish Council had received a response from ESBC with regards to the concerns that she had raised that the proposed replacement trees to be planted by the Spread Eagle to replace the felled lime trees were poisonous to bees. The Clerk replied that no response had been received from ESBC.

24. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Barnfield.

25. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

26. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th JUNE 2014

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as true record.

27. REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Councillor Fraser did not attend the meeting.

28. REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Cllr Toon advised that she had been chasing ESBC with regards to the adoption of Shotwood Close Open Space and the completion was due within the next few days.

Cllr Toon advised that she had been pressing ESBC with regards to this item, but had not made any progress.

29. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Item 22:4: Cllr Sanderson advised that he had spoken with the project manager and passed on that members hoped that all the traffic would be kept to the trunk roads and avoided the villages.

30. CLERKS REPORT DATED 7TH JULY 2014

1. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr Adams proposed, Cllr Simnett seconded and it was moved that Mr Gooding be co-opted to serve as a member of the Parish Council.

Cllr Simnett proposed, Cllr Adams seconded and it was moved that Mrs Evans be co-opted to serve as a member of the Parish Council.

Cllr Sanderson proposed, Cllr Warren seconded and it was moved that Mr Robson be co-opted to serve as a member of the Parish Council.

2. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P/2014/00818 Outline application for residential development of up to 425 dwellings and associated infrastructure including access with all other matters reserved, Proposed Residential Development, Craythorne Road.

It was agreed to submit a formal objection to the planning application on a similar basis to the objections raised during the consultation undertaken by Gladman Developments.

Cllr Gooding suggested that the village should be seeking S106 agreement for some benefits for the village. Cllr Gooding was advised that the development was within Stretton Parish and therefore any S106 agreements would be payable to Stretton Parish Council.

3. PLANNING DECISIONS

Members noted the details of this item from the clerks report.

4. COLLEGE FIELDS (Clerks Report, Item 4)

The Clerk advised that due to a submission of correspondence received from the College's solicitors, the relevant parties have now been offered the opportunity to respond and a decision is not now due until 26th August.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (Clerks Report, Item 3)

It was suggested that the next meeting should be scheduled once the decision on the College Field had been determined and that the meeting should be for members of the NHD plan group only and not open to the Parish Council.

6. BROOK HOLLOWES (Clerks Report, Item 5)

The Clerk advised that a small fire had been discovered in Brook Hollowes on the afternoon of 14th July and that the fire brigade had attended. She added that there was a large amount of discarded bottles and cans within the vicinity and what was thought to be small plastic deal bags.

It was unanimously agreed and moved that the Parish Council supported the proposed Brook Hollowes action group as asked to do so during Public Questions by Mr Chinn.

7. ROLLESTON VILLAGE COUNTRY GALA 2014

Cllr Toon proposed, Cllr Wyatt seconded and it was unanimously agreed that permission should be given for use of the Croft for the Village Country Gala.

Cllr Toon proposed, Cllr Adams seconded and it was unanimously moved to make a donation of £50.00 towards the sponsorship of this year's Village Country gala.

8. FOOTPATH WALKS

It was noted that the following footpaths had been walked by members of the Parish Council on the 8th & 22nd June:-

Footpath 1: Church Road North East to Glebe Close

Footpath 2: Caravan site entrance at Marston Lane, North West to Shotwood Hill lane

Footpath 3: Church Road, North along Shotwood Hill lane to Shotwood Hill

Footpath 4: Footpath 3 at Shotwood Hill, North West to Parish Boundary, South East of Tutbury

Footpath 5: Marston Lane, 150 yards North East of caravan site entrance, North West to Parish Boundary, South East of Hoblands farm

Footpath 6: Marston Lane by Mosley Farm, North East to Marston Lane

Footpath 7: Marston Lane at termination of footpath 6 at ponds. South to Burns Yard, Brookside

Footpath 8: Church Road at Woodside Farm, South West along Fiddlers lane to Lodge Hill (A50)

Footpath 9; Junction of Anslow lane and Knowles Hill, South West to Brook Hollows

Footpath 14: Beacon Road by cottages at Tafflands, South East to Craythorne Lane

Footpath 15: Dovecliff Road near Jinny Trail to Craythorne Lane at Craythorne Farm

Footpath 17: Church Road, between church and inn, South to Burnside near commemoration hall.

Footpath 18: Craythorne Lane to junction with footpath 14 West to Walford Road

Footpath 19: A50 North East to Brook Hollows Spinney, joining footpath 9.

Cllr Wyatt asked for ideas around the table as to how the PC could better engage people to join the walks. It was suggested to contact East Staffs Ramblers and ask if they would like to join the walks, or for the walks to be finished off with a social event.

It was agreed that the water discharging from the pipe onto the Jinny Trail should be kept under surveillance.

9. TREE WORKS

Discussion took place around the removal of trees in urgent situations. It was suggested that it should be looked at on a case by case basis and discretion used as to if it needed to be removed by a tree surgeon or other contractor.

Cllr Adams advised of the fallen tree on Knowles Hill and the clerk advised that she had contacted SCC and suggested that they look at the row of the trees adjacent to the highway, as they were all on County Farms land.

10. AERIAL IMAGES OF THE VILLAGE

It was concluded not to progress this item at this stage.

11. METHODIST CHAPEL (Clerks Report, Item 8)

Cllr Simnett advised that she had attended the meeting along with some other members of the Parish Council, Rolleston Civic Trust, Rolleston Choral Society and a neighbouring resident. She advised that they had been advised that they were intending to put the Methodist Chapel to Auction in September or October but that

Superintendent Redshaw has a modern vision of trying to maintain a monthly service, e.g. Goth service, tea shop service, arts based church. Cllr Simnett advised that there would need to be a management group to maintain and cover the costs of the upkeep of the building, circa £6,500 per annum. She added that the building would still belong to the Church so restricted in terms of what you could use it for e.g. no gambling, no alcohol and added that some maintenance would need to be undertaken at cost, e.g. removing pew's, kitchen modernisation, new heating. Cllr Simnett advised that because of the interest shown in the building being retained for village use, it was understood that they would delay the auction but that any interested parties needed to come up with a sustainable business plan. Cllr Simnett advised that she would email the groups that attended the meeting but that she would not be in a position to take on the project due to personal commitments.

12. VILLAGE ARCHIVE

Mr Barnett advised members of the following:-

“Several people in village have documents and memorabilia and there is concern over what will happen to the documents in the future and that they will get lost. The Civic Trust has been asked if they would consider provision of Village Archive as a project. He advised that the committee had discussed it and as it falls within scope of CT Constitution it had been decided to put it to Membership. At a Public Meeting Members agreed that this would be a suitable project for the Civic Trust and asked for interested members to form a sub-committee to consider options. The subcommittee had now been formed as follows:-

P Barnett Chair, Sue Fraser secretary, Ann Cook, Sylvia Martin, Tom Martin and Mike Jobson. It was noted that they had held their first meeting to set out the aims of the committee, decide its structure, and plan future action with the aims "To locate a suitable site, finance and construct a safe and publically accessible storage facility for the retention and inspection of village historical documentation and artefacts."

It was noted that a plan of action was discussed and before a Business Plan for the project can be commenced it was agreed that relevant bodies within the Village should first be contacted, the aims of the committee made known to those bodies and those bodied canvassed for their broad level of support for those aims. The Parish Council were asked for their support for such a project, which would require a lot of time and effort into compiling a full business plan to cover all areas of fund raising, construction and the legal requirements of such a project. It was added that the project would require much further detailed discussion and debate with the PC if and when the support of the village was obtained.

It was unanimously agreed to support the Civic Trust with regards to the proposed project.

13. COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- **Station Road/School Lane hedge:** It was noted that the overgrown hedge was causing a lot of problems to pedestrians.
- **Anslow Lane:** It was noted that the overgrown hedge was causing problems to road users.
- **For Sale Signs:** It was noted that these were still be erected on Burnside railings and street furniture.
- **Planters:** It was noted that the planters had been upturned on the 3rd occasion since April. It was noted that both Mr Lord and Mr Irwin had suggested some possible solutions to stop them from swivelling and agreed that Cllr J Toon would speak to Mr Irwin. It was agreed to put something in the Rollestonian asking people to be vigilant to anti-social behaviour and reiterating the need to report it to the police. Cllr Warren asked for thanks to be conveyed to Mrs Sanderson for the time that she had committed to the planters.

- **Elizabeth Avenue:** It was noted that there was evidence of fires on Elizabeth Avenue which had been reported to the PCSO. It was also reported that the school caretaker had to regularly ask people to move from the area by the school gate as it was alleged that they were smoking drugs and the smoke could be smelt in the school grounds.
- **Spread Eagle Island:** The meeting was advised that the Rose bushes at the far end of the Island have been removed and will be replanted at the Church end in the Autumn. Cllr Warren proposed, Cllr Toon seconded and it was moved that the Parish Council support half of the costs with the Civic Trust. The Parish Council were asked to consider purchasing a slim line water butt for the Spread Eagle Island. Cllr Sanderson proposed, Cllr Wyatt seconded and it was moved that a slim line water butt should be purchased.
- **Staffordshire hoard talk:** It was noted that the Civic Trust conveyed thanks to those who had attended the talk and that around £1,300 had been raised.
- **Footpath 14:** It was noted that the footpath from Beacon Road to Tafflands was very overgrown. The clerk replied that she had reported this to SCC
- **Tractor & Trailer:** It was reported that one of the wheels had been pulled off the tractor & trailer and that some large nails were sticking out. The clerk advised that she had spoken to Mr Deacon on 14th July and had asked him to make it safe.
- **Knowles Hill:** It was reported that there was still a perceived speeding issue on Knowles Hill with Youths racing up and down the road.
- **Craythorne Road:** It was noted that speeding cars were being witnessed on Craythorne Road, which were causing problems to pedestrians and cyclists.
- **Nettles on Bank:** It was agreed to ask Mr Deacon to cut the nettles on the bank adjacent to the planters.
- **Knowles Hill:** It was noted that the grass bank had been cut right back and agreed that thanks should be conveyed to Mr Deacon.

14. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

It was resolved that the accounts below should be paid:-

Mrs. H Light (Salary)	2748	£788.34
HM Revenue & Customs (Tax & NI)	2749	£61.06
Mrs. H Light (Telephone & Internet)	2750	£44.23
Mr. P Gould (Mowing Contract)	2751	£888.15
Mr. J Deacon (Environmental Contract)	2752	£419.84

Mr. J Deacon (Play Areas Contract)	2753	£225.00
Rainbow Waste (Bin emptying)	2754	£255.48
Midshire Business Systems (Photocopying)	2755	£35.90
Barnett Tree Services (Felling of Birch Tree, Jinny Nature Trail)	2756	£250.00
Mr R Bush (Web Fees)	2757	£40.00
Burton Conservation Volunteers (Marston Lane gate post)	2758	£50.34
Mr J Deacon (Removal of fallen tree from Road, Knowles Hill)	2759	£48.00
Mr J Deacon (Remove old sign, re weld frame to fit new sign and paint, The Croft)	2760	£90.00
JRB Enterprise (Dog waste bags)	2761	£132.90

Cllr Wyatt and Cllr Sanderson signed the corresponding cheques and invoices.

15. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Members noted the details of this item from the clerks report.

16. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Planters (Clerks Report, Item 6)

17. UNRESOLVED MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Members noted the details of this item from the clerks report.

The Chairman moved that due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted that the Public and press should be excluded for the remainder of the meeting.

18. THE CROFT – PROPOSED TREE WORKS (Clerks Report, Item 16)

It was agreed that a second opinion along with a further quotation should be sought on the extent of the proposed height reduction of the lime trees.

19. NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIORITIES – STATION ROAD BUS SHELTER (Clerks Report, Item 17)

It was noted that the Corporate Policies had recently changed and it would therefore be necessary for a revised application to be submitted and that a 3rd quotation for the construction of the bus shelter would need to be obtained.

20. VILLAGE NOTICEBOARDS (Clerks Report, Item 18)

It was noted that in order to submit a grant application through Councillor Toon, three quotations would be required.

21. GRASS CUTTING

It was noted that the area in question had never been added to the Village Grass Cutting agreement as the residents had always cut the grass themselves. The clerk advised that SCC had advised that the area should have always formed the area to be cut by the Parish Council and therefore no additional payment would be made for the area. It was noted that Mr Gould had been asked to include the area in question within his existing grass cutting schedule and it was agreed that this area would need to be added to the grass cutting contract when it is next reviewed.

22. CRAYTHORNE PLAYING FIELD GOAL POSTS

Cllr Wyatt proposed, Cllr Simnett seconded and it was moved that the offer of 2 pairs of goal posts, comprising of one full size set and one junior set should be purchased from Belvedere Park Junior Football Club at a cost of £650.00

Cllr Simnett offered to investigate some grant options for the purchase of further sets of goal posts and it was noted that at least three further full size sets would be required to replace those currently in place.

23. ANNUAL LEAVE

Members noted the details of this item from the clerks report.

24. COLLEGE FIELD

It was agreed to ascertain if a response to the College's solicitors required a response from Kings Chambers. Cllr Sanderson proposed, Cllr Adams seconded and it was moved that a maximum of £500.00 be allocated to securing a response from a qualified body should it be necessary to do so.

CHAIRMAN