

ROLLESTON ON DOVE PARISH COUNCIL
CLERK'S REPORT FEBRUARY 2017

PART 1

1. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Considered outside of the meeting via email:

P/2016/01792 – Erection or rear and side extension, 2 Croft Close.
Councillors had no objection to this application.

P/2016/01194 – Amended scheme for La Campina Anslow Lane.
Councillors objection still stands that it is a bungalow, between two other bungalows, converting into a house.

P/2017/00037 - Replacement of 6 windows to front, rear and end elevations, 14 Shotwood Close.
Councillors note precedent set but objected on the use of plastic windows.

P/2017/00059 – Removal of one pine tree, High Bank Church Road.
Councillors understood the reasons behind the application, therefore had not objection to the application.

P/2017/00075 – Felling of Cherry Tree and reduce pencil conifer tree to 2-3m in height, 42 Church Road
Councillors had no objection to this application.

To be considered in meeting:

P/2017/00110 – Erection of side and rear extension, 32 The Lawns
(Note the conflict of interest for the Clerk as this is Clerks own property)

P/2017/00062 – Listed building application for the re pointing of front, rear and side elevations, 6 Bladons Yard

P/2017/00068 - Removal of one Oak Tree (TPO1), Jubilee Lodge, Fiddlers Lane

P/2017/00119 – Crown Reduction of one beech, 21 Station Road

P/2017/00121 – External brick cladding, 49 Beacon Drive

2. PLANNING DECISIONS

The following applications have been permitted:

P/2016/01682 – Erection of single storey rear extension, 27 Shotwood Close

P/2016/01755 - Felling of one Plum tree, one Larch tree and crown reduction of one Oak tree, 1 Oak Tree Close

P/2016/01722 - Erection of a two storey side extension, erection of a single storey rear extension, erection of a front porch, installation of two front dormer windows, erection of a new chimney, installation of new doors and windows on all elevations and the erection of a detached building to form garage (Amended Scheme), 51 Beacon Road

P/2016/01677 – Replacement of existing timber windows to UPVC to the front and rear, 15 Shotwood Close

P/2016/01696 – Erection of a single storey rear extension, alterations to the window on the east elevation, installation of two new roof lights, to the north elevation, one new roof light to the south elevation, and the replacement of existing roof lights, Orchard Barn School Lane

P/2016/01738 - Erection of single storey rear extension, 14 Elizabeth Avenue

P/2016/01729 - Installation of a rear dormer extension and installation of three roof lights to the front elevation to facilitate a loft conversion, 51 The Lawns.

Other Planning Matters

Concerns raised by a resident over Craythorne Road. It appears that machinery and some works has commenced despite the required planning approval. This was reported to Planning Enforcement however the planning permission for 3 detached properties was still live. Concerns also raised by the same resident over Tree Works at Apple Acres – this was checked and permitted under P/2016/01755.

3. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

A public meeting has been arranged at the Church on Tuesday 14th March at 7pm. Agenda to be agreed. Draft circulated to Councillors for comment.

PART 2

4. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

BACS

Jane Bucknall (Salary)	£466.88
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HMRC (Tax)	£116.80
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Jane Bucknall	£45.45
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(Phone and Broadband)

Jane Bucknall (Mileage)	£28.95
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Mr J Deacon (Environmental contract)	£769.17
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Mr P Gould (Mowing contract)	£1101.99
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Mr Martin (Christmas tree)	£50 (cheque to be signed)
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Petty Cash	£100 (cheque to be signed)
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Income

£3 allotment rent.

£690.52 VAT Reclaim.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

Bowing cables across Brook at Burnside - Western Power Distribution visited Burnside to see the cables spanning the Brook at the cottages. They have agreed to replace the supply to numbers 14-16 with the homeowner's assistance and agreement.

Invite received for new Councillors to attend **Councillor training** – distributed to all Councillors, but intended specifically for Councillors Brown, S McManus and E McManus who will attend the training 21.2.17.

Midlands Rural Housing Report received, along with a statement that the site in question is no longer going to be looked into further by CT Planning. However as Mr Ridout did not interview Mr Griffiths MP, the final report will be delayed.

Reply received from **Midland Classic** regarding the idea of a trial bus service. Through their calculations they believe the route would lose approximately £300 per day and would look at a trial if the PC supplemented the income. I believe we have taken this idea as far as we can.

Best Kept Village Competition 2017 paperwork has been received. An interesting point to note is that they are looking for volunteers to assist with judging – if someone would be interested in volunteering it would give us a really good idea of how Rolleston would get on.

Cllr Brown reported that **Fixed Penalty Charges** were issued to cars on School Lane/Chapel Lane on Tuesday 17th January which seems as it was a pre-planned operation.

Mr Edwards sent a link with a possible solution to tidying Brook Hollows (Community Asset Fund). I informed Mr Edwards of the successful initial bid to the Lottery Fund.

Community Asset Fund

From 30 January, sports clubs and community organisations are invited to bid for Sport England's new Community Asset Fund, to enhance spaces in local communities to give people the opportunity to be active. It reflects changing activity patterns whereby people are active far beyond their traditional local sport facilities and spaces, e.g., canal towpaths, woodlands and open spaces provide opportunities for sport and physical activity.

Example projects that could be funded by the Community Asset fund are: taking over underused facilities or those under threat of closure, expanding or improving existing sporting offers, responding to an emergency that is preventing people from being active or just a great idea for a project.



Rev Whitehead has had a company to quote for a similar **acoustics** specification previously discussed by the Clerk. Quote has come out at £3750 which the Church cannot fund.

Email received from Highways with regards **Grass Cutting funding arrangements for 2018-19**. They remain unchanged for 2017-18 but may change for the following year. I expect funding to be removed, which I believe will be discussed at the workshop being held in Stafford on 23rd February detailed below.

All Clerks have been informed that SLCC now have a live **webchat facility**.

We have been informed by SLCC that **external audit arrangements** will be moving to Mazaars LLP from 1st April 2017.

New LGiU/National Trust highlights lack of local democracy in **planning system**

Published 11th January 2017

From August to October 2016 Local Government Information Unit (LGiU) surveyed all principal councillors across England to find out their views about how well planning works in their local area.

In general councillors who responded to the survey felt that the planning system is controlled too much from the top and that too much power is in hands of central government and developers. Local people and their representatives are relatively disempowered.

Full report has been emailed to Councillors for information.

Email received from SCC:

Joint SPCA / Staffordshire County Council Workshop 'Developing a Community Based Approach' Thursday 23rd February 11.30am to 3.30pm

Reservations for places at a joint Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association / Staffordshire County Council workshop, at which the County Council will outline proposals involving the prospect of parish and town councils working in partnership with SCC and/or taking sole responsibility for certain functions, are now being accepted.

The free workshop, which is open to councils currently unaffiliated to SPCA, will be held in the Oak Room, County Buildings, Martin Street, Stafford on Thursday, 23rd February, commencing at 11.30am. Lunch will be provided.

***National Association of Local Councils' CEO Jonathan Owen** will present the 'key-note' opening address at the workshop, highlighting the opportunities for parish and town councils to take more responsibility locally for key service provision. Delegates will also hear from the **Deputy Leader of Staffordshire County Council, Cllr Ian Parry**, who will provide an overview of the challenges and opportunities currently facing Staffordshire. Other speakers from the county council will include **Cllr Mark Deaville**, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, and senior highways officers.*

This meeting will be an opportunity to discuss the current thinking of how local councils and the county council may better work together in the future with a particular focus upon Highways and Environmental Maintenance.

A copy of the draft agenda for the session is attached.

It is intended that representatives of parish councils already working in partnership with the county council to deliver services and/or those who have successfully taken on particular responsibilities will participate in this discussion.

Clerk will attend; other Councillors have also shown an interest.

Email received from Clive Baker regarding a proposed **new sign for the Station** explaining the project and a before and after photograph. Proposed sign attached for your information.

Email received from Tom Martin proposing we fly the **Staffordshire County Flag** on Staffordshire Day – 1st May.



Highways have emailed informing me that no work will be carried on the speed signs on Church Road as they are fully visible.

The pot hole along Chapel Lane by the school will be repaired 'urgently', which is within 7 days.

'The Great British Spring Clean' is to be held on Friday 3rd March which is a nationwide campaign of litter picking. ESBC will be taking part.

Other items

Meeting attended by Clerk and Cllr Toon regarding **Brook Hollows** on 23rd January. The entire Central Rivers Initiative bid which runs from the border with Tamworth to the Dove is worth £3m. The Brook Hollows section of the bid is worth £150k. This will pay for de-silting, stopping the silt in future and developing the woodland and paths, plus information boards for education purposes. However, we are not at that stage yet. We are currently going through the 'development phase' which has given ESBC funds to properly cost up all options with the assistance of Consultants. Once this report goes to the Lottery Fund, if accepted means the funding will be secured for the 'delivery stage'. We are 18 months away from this at present. As

we are part of a larger bid, and are further along the develop stage, we are waiting for the rest of the project to catch up.

The next meeting will be attended by Andy Mason with the rest of the project leads to discuss commissioning, communications and partnership agreements. Andy will be attending the PC meeting in March to talk this all through with us.

This information has gone onto noticeboards and Facebook, with excellent feedback.

On Monday 22nd January Clerk attended the launch of the **Neighbourhood Fund**. There are new arrangements in place for a rolling programme – details copied to Councillors. The most interesting note is that matched funding can be made up with donated goods and volunteer time. For example, if we had 30 volunteers for Clean-Up Day in May at £10 per hour for 3 hours is matched funding of £900. Therefore we could apply for £900 from ESBC – perhaps for materials to repair Tafflands equipment?

On Friday 27th January Clerk attended regular networking with other Clerks in the area. This was another productive hour with discussions around gullies, accident reporting, funding opportunities through the High Sheriff, S106 being moved over to 'Community Infrastructure Levy', annual costs of changing rooms, and public rights of way.

The Transfer document for the Public Open Space at **Shotwood Close** has been signed and returned to ESBC.