

RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL- NOVEMBER MINUTES

A Parish Council meeting was held at The Victoria Room, Ruyton XI Towns at 7.30 pm on 10th November 2014.

Councillors in attendance: Mr C Case (Chairman); Mrs R Slowley (Vice Chair); Mrs A White; Mr A Johnston, Mr T Allison, Mr S Gittins and Mr M Lewis.

Also in attendance: Sue Hackett Clerk; SC Councillor Mr Nick Bardsley and 2 members of the public.

110.14 WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN & PUBLIC SESSION – The Chairman opened the public session:

Mr Griffiths requested confirmation of what the Draft Minutes of the October meeting stated in respect to planning application 14/04168/OUT Land adjacent to Darlee Cottage, Ruyton XI Towns. The Chairman read out the draft minutes pertaining to this application. Mr Griffiths also expressed his concerns that the Parish Council's website was not up to date as agendas and published minutes were not present for 2014-15. The Chairman explained the process and agreed to look into this being responsible for the maintenance of the website.

Mrs Drinan confirmed her interest in being co-opted as a parish councillor.

111.14 APOLOGIES - The Clerk reported that Councillors A Sanders Royle and D Spicer gave their apologies; due to personal and work commitments they had been unable to attend. These were accepted and approved by Council.

112.14 COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS – None were declared.

113.14 PLANNING MATTERS

- a. The Clerk reported that no new planning applications had been notified to the Council since the last meeting.
- b. The following planning decisions have been notified to the Parish Council:

Reference: 14/04007/OUT

Address: The Gables, Ruyton Xi Towns, Shrewsbury SY4 1HU

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of a detached dwelling to include means of access SC Decision: Refuse

Reference: 14/03733/FUL

Address: The Wheelhouse, Shotatton, Ruyton Xi Towns, Shrewsbury

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension to rear elevation and detached garden store; elevational alterations; formation of enlarged terrace area with dwarf walling SC Decision: Grant Permission

Reference: 14/02740/FUL Platts Mill Farm Proposed kennels.

The planning application is not to be considered by the SC Planning Committee and has been recommended by the Planning Officer to be granted permission. When asked for an explanation for this decision. SC Councillor Nick Bardsley explained that increasingly decisions are being taken by Planning Officers rather than Planning Committees on applications which are clearly contentious the reasons for this is at the moment unclear.

- c. Adoption/publication of planning guidance for the parish – The Chairman suggested that a summarised version of what a parish council takes into consideration when

commenting on a planning application should be produced by the Council and published via the parish group email system administered by Yoland Brown.

Councillors agreed that this would benefit those residents who felt unjustly treated by comments made by the Parish Council will regard to planning applications and assist the Parish Council in achieving transparency. **Agreed Action: Chairman to compile the planning guidance which he would submit to the Clerk, who would circulate to all council members for approval before publication.**

- 114.14 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL – Nick Bardsley reported that SC Planning Officers were minded to refuse planning application ref 14/0410/OUT Walnut House -4 holiday lets. He was yet unable to explain why. Noted by Council.
- 115.14 CONFIRMATION & ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: Draft minutes of the council meeting held on 13/10/2014 were amended as follows Min Ref 94.14 “un” amended to “in” bullet point 3 and “H12” amended to “HE12” bullet point 4. Council then resolved that the minutes were accurate and instructed the Chairman to sign them as such.
- 116.14 SAFEGUARDING - COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY– The follow up on the presentation was postponed until Cllr D Spicer is able to attend.
- 117.14 COMMUNITY ASSETS – The Chairman reported that in addition to registering the public house; the post office was to be considered as a community asset. It was agreed that the matter be postponed allowing members to further consider the implications of such actions.
- 118.14 HIGHWAYS & VILLAGE MAINTENANCE ISSUES
- a. VAS Project in partnership with SC – SC Bardsley agreed to provide an update at the next meeting.
 - b. Shotatton Crossroads – Following some discussion it was agreed that the Clerk write to MP Owen Paterson expressing the Council’s concerns that current capital works at Shrewsbury’s Mile end roundabout recognised as a pinch point by the Highways Agency; highlighted that funding was available and that the Shotatton cross roads and Queens Head junction at West Felton; recognised as unsafe should be given greater priority. An update on the timetable and works to be carried out to improve both junctions was therefore requested.
As an interim measure it was also agreed that SC Highways should be contacted and asked to improve visibility at Shotatton crossroads. The Clerk suggested that Cllr Bardsley should present the Parish Council’s concerns at the quarterly meeting held between HA and SC. **Action: Clerk to write to MP; copying SC Highways and Cllr Bardsley.**
 - c. Other village maintenance issues – The Chairman reported that the notice board at Doctors Meadow is in the course of being repaired by D Peate. It was further agreed that there was a need for D Peate to tidy The Grove Park hedge which is over grown and encroaching on the recreational space. **Action: Chairman to advise D Peate.**
 - d. Cllrs Slowley reported that trees on the Cliffe have been removed to improve the view from a seat. This was noted by Council
- 119.14 FINANCE
- a. Payments – Council approved the November salary payment to the Clerk by standing order of £491.61. The following payments were approved and authorised by the Council by resolution, (Proposed CC; Seconded RS.):
 - a. Chq 718 V & W St Lighting repairs £357.88;
 - Chq 716 Scottish Power £245.57 (30/6 – 30/9/14 St Light energy costs);
 - Chq 717 Clerk Reimbursement of admin & office costs £122.04 (Sept – Nov);
 - Chq 719 Ruyton XI Towns PCC – Room rental November £12.00.

- b. Treasury Report – The Clerk reported a balance at the bank of £43,034.46 as at 31/10/2014; £3.82 had been earned in interest during the month.
- c. Sept Bank Reconciliation – The Chairman confirmed that the reconciliation carried out by the Clerk as at 30/9/2014 reflected the accounts and September bank balance. He also confirmed that salary payments to the Clerk had only debited the bank account once during the two monthly intervals inspected and evidenced his checks on records.
- 120.14 CLERK'S UPDATE REPORT & COMMUNICATION – Appendix A was noted and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact SC Officer Clive Dean observing that yet another autumn had passed where the felling of trees in the Spinney had failed to be agreed with the land owner and as such the Council assumed that this lack of urgency confirmed that the trees were not a safety hazard after all. **Action Clerk to email.**
- 121.14 LOCAL REPORTS – The Chairman summarised the outcomes of the LJC meeting:
- Next LJC meeting was planned for 24/11;
 - Additional parish council members were welcome to attend;
 - A SC CIL report had been requested for the meeting;
 - A SC Highway Maintenance Plan for 2015-16 had been requested.
- 122.14 ST LIGHTING
- a. The Chairman reported on the need for SC to adopt the street lights at Birch Grove & Close; currently maintained by the PC. **Action: Cllr Bardsley agreed to pursue this with the SC Street Lighting Team.**
- b. St Lighting Survey – The Clerk reported of her growing concerns about the state of the street lights and frequency in which repairs were required. She stated that a visual inspection of the PC's 61 street lights by Highline would cost £214.50 whilst the electrical testing of 20% of these lights would cost an additional £56.00. It was resolved that an annual visual check of all lights be carried out and a maintenance programme established following the reported outcome. (Proposed: AJ Seconded: RS; Supported by the majority.) **Action Clerk to place order with contractor.**
- c. Other maintenance issues – Cllr Lewis reported that damage to vehicles had arisen recently and thought to be due to a specific stone wall. **It was agreed that councillors were to physically inspect and agree on action required.**
- 123.14 ADOPTION OF NEW FINANCIAL REGULATIONS (Appendix B) – Council resolved unanimously to adopt the regulations (Proposed CC; Seconded SG.).
- 124.14 COMMUNITY ASSETS – See above.
- 125.14 SC PLACE PLAN – The Chairman reported that the Parish Plan Steering Committee had agreed to meet on 17/11; and would report back to the Council any necessary amendments at the December meeting.
- 126.14 SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA – The Clerk gave the monthly Police Report and stated that she had enquired whether the Community Speed Watch Scheme was still open for volunteers to join within the parish. Nation Gris Mid Wales Connection Project posters and news were distributed, next meeting to be held in West Felton in Jan 2015.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.17 p.m. **Council to meet next on 8th December 2014 at 7.30 p.m. at The Victoria Room; Ruyton XI Towns.**

Confirmed as accurateCOLIN CASE CHAIRMAN Date.....

Appendix A Clerk's Report & Communications Received Appendix B Financial Regulations