



**ROCKBEARE
PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman: Jeremy Wollen

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MINUTES OF ROCKBEARE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 20TH APRIL 2022

PRESENT: Cllr Jeremy Wollen (Chairman) and Cllrs: Forrest, Susan Wollen, Franklin and Ratcliffe

Also: Cllr Henry Gent (DCC)

Parish Clerk: Carolyn Y. May

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Colin Please, Cllr. Simon Brodie

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION: None

AGENDA

667.0 MINUTES

- 667.1 The Minutes of the meeting of Rockbeare Parish Council, held on Wednesday 16th March 2022 were considered.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Franklin, **seconded** by Cllr Forrest, and **RESOLVED** that the minutes for the meeting of Wednesday 16th March 2022 would be approved and signed as a correct record of that meeting. Unanimous. **Carried.**

668.0 REPORTS

- 668.1 **Chairman's Report** – no report

- 669.2 **County Councillor Report**

Cllr. Gent introduced himself to the Meeting, apologising for not having attended before.

Cllr Gent stated that the majority of issues of which he was aware, relating to Rockbeare, involved planning matters. He advised the Meeting that Planning was an EDDC function and, therefore, he would be unable to address the same – unless they related to Devon Highways – which is a County Council function.

It was **agreed** that the Highways matters would be brought forward to this part of the meeting, due to the fact that Cllr. Gent was required to leave early.

Cllr Franklin raised the matter of HGV vehicles using **Silver Lane** to access Rockbeare Farm, from the area of the airport. He added that Silver Lane is a very narrow road with sharp bends. The problem arises when HGV drivers start to come down the lane, then meet another vehicle. There is no way of reversing, in order to allow other vehicles to pass. There is a distance of approximately ½ mile where there are no passing places. Unfortunately, Satnavs tend to lead these vehicles along Silver Lane.

Cllr Franklin stated that there needs to be clear signage placed at the entrance to Silver Lane, highlighting that the lane is not suitable for lorries. A similar problem exists with lorries travelling through Westcott.

Cllr Forrest stated that he fully supported Cllr Franklin in relation to the matter. He added that there was a cost to everybody, as a result of the practice, with vehicles hedgerows and verges being damaged regularly. There is also a time cost, as others are often required to wait for 30 minutes or more, for the area to be cleared.

The Chairman advised the meeting that no vehicle over 7.5 Tons should be directed down these narrow lanes. He added that articulated lorries are not permitted to travel through Cranbrook, yet they are directed along Silver Lane.

It was **agreed** that Cllr Franklin would email a map to Cllr Gent, detailing where the sign should be placed, and that Cllr Gent would pursue the matter with the relevant highways Officer.

Cllr Ratcliffe raised the matter of the proposed transportation/ construction traffic route, from the airport to Marsh Green, for the Ford Solar Farm. She suggested that Cllr Gent might like to address the Marsh Green Solar Farm Proposal Group. It was **agreed** that Cllr Gent and Cllr Ratcliffe would liaise and arrange a meeting with the group.

670.0 PLANNING

PA22/0654/TRE

It was **proposed** by Cllr Susan Wollen, **seconded** by Cllr Forrest, and RESOLVED that Parish Council would support this application. Unanimous. **Carried.**

PA22/0741/FUL

It was **proposed** by Cllr Susan Wollen, **seconded** by Cllr Forrest, and RESOLVED that Parish Council would support this application. Unanimous. **Carried.**

Planning Decisions – Noted

671.0 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk alluded to an email from the Clerk at Whimple Parish Council.

Whimple Parish Council would like to join with Rockbeare to put in place a moveable traffic calming system. This would require posts being put in place and then the light systems themselves can be moved between the two villages. A rota can be drawn up for how long they stay in each spot within each village so that there is an equal share.

Members discussed the request, highlighting that this had been considered previously by the Parish Council. Members had been advised by a senior Devon Highways Officer that these measures do not impact on traffic speed.

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Franklin, **seconded** by Cllr Forrest, and **RESOLVED** that Parish Council would not participate in the proposed scheme. Unanimous. **Carried**.

672.0 BUSINESS AND FINANCE

672.1 Members considered the Schedule of Payments and Bank Reconciliation.

It was proposed by Cllr Susan Wollen, seconded by Cllr Forrest, and **RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments would be accepted, and the liabilities discharged. Unanimous. Carried.

672.2 The Bank Reconciliation was accepted.

673.0 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

673.1 It was proposed by Cllr Susan Wollen, seconded by Cllr Franklin, and **RESOLVED** that J.P. Auditing would be appointed to carry out the annual internal audit. Unanimous. Carried.

674.0 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

674.1 Cllr. Franklin provided an update.

675.0 PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE AN APPROPRIATE SOUND/ RECORDING/ VOTING SYSTEM – deferred.

676.0 DEVON WILDLIFE TRUST/ MILLENNIUM FIELD UPDATE – deferred

677.0 WITHYBED LANE PROPOSAL - deferred

678.0 GRANT APPLICATION FROM ROCKBEARE PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION GROUP

678.1 Members considered a funding application, submitted by the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations Group (Rockbeare). Having studied the document Members believed the request for funding of food was not appropriate. It had been articulated previously to a Member that Parishioners attending the event were to bring their own food.

678.2 It was agreed that the idea of a community celebration was a positive action, and that the Parish Council would fund some of the entertainment charges and that a sum of £650 would be ringfenced, within the Parish Council bank account, for each village (Rockbeare and Marsh Green). All invoices arising from bookings etc., would be submitted to the Parish Council by suppliers. Such invoices would be made out to the Parish Council, which would arrange for their discharge. Although the two village groups would be able to determine what the funding was used to provide for the events, no food or alcohol would be funded.

678.3 A request for 200 commemorative mugs/ medals, to be distributed at the event, was discussed. Members felt that 200 amounted to an overestimation. It was, therefore, **agreed** that the Parish Council would undertake to distribute the items. Cllr Ratcliffe is to ascertain the number of children living in Marsh Green, who do not attend Rockbeare School, and a commensurate number of mugs will be provided to her for that group.

It was proposed by Cllr Susan Wollen, seconded by Cllr Ratcliffe, and **RESOLVED** that £650 would be ringfenced within the Parish Council bank account for each of the villages (total £1,300), to be used for the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. It was **agreed** that the conditions set out at Para 678.2 would be appended to the offers of funding. It was also agreed that the Clerk would source appropriate commemorative mugs for distribution to the children. Unanimous. **Carried.**

6.55 pm/- The meeting closed