



ROCKBEARE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr. Phil Franklin

Clerk: Carolyn Y. May
A209, Victoria Advent House,
Station Approach
Victoria, Roche,
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12th April 2023

ORDINARY MEETING OF ROCKBEARE PARISH COUNCIL

To all Members of Rockbeare Parish Council

You are hereby summoned to attend an Ordinary Meeting of Rockbeare Parish Council, to be held at **7.15 pm**, on **Tuesday 18th April 2023**, at Marsh Green Village Hall, for the purposes of transacting the following business:

Carolyn May

Clerk to Rockbeare Parish Council

AGENDA

To: Cllrs. Phil Franklin (Chairman), Mark Nequest, Rebecca Nequest and Adele Roberts

All Councillors are politely reminded of their obligation to declare interests under the Code of Conduct.

Please Note: This meeting will be recorded.

- 1.0 APOLOGIES:** To receive apologies for absence.
- 2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** To receive declarations of interest.
Members – please remember that you must declare any personal or prejudicial interest at the start of the meeting. Please ensure that you state the reason for your interest, as this must be included in the Minutes of the meeting. If your interest is a ‘Declarable Pecuniary Interest’ then you must leave the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.
- 3.0 TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – Strictly 15 minutes in total. Thereafter, members of the public may not enter discussions without the express permission of the Parish Council Chairman.**
- 4.0 MINUTES:** Minutes of the last Meeting of Rockbeare Parish Council, held on **Tuesday 21st March 2023** to be signed as a true correct record of that Meeting (Appendix A).
- 5.0 REPORTS**
 - 5.1 Chairman’s Report
 - 5.3 County/ District Councillors Report

5.4 Any other reports

6.0 PLANNING

6.1 To consider Planning Applications – None

6.2 To consider Planning Applications received since the date of this Agenda - None

6.3 To receive, and note, details of Planning Determinations - Appendix B

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Submission of Election Documents

7.2 Village Amenity at Marsh Green

8.0 BUSINESS AND FINANCE

8.1 Schedule of Payments – to follow.

9.0 WARM SPACES / PARISHIONER SUPPORT – Update

10.0 CAR PARKING AREA – Rockbeare - Update

11.0 LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT

12.0 PARISH NEWSLETTER

13.0 MILLENNIUM FIELD PROJECT – Update

14.0 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING



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**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF ROCKBEARE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON
TUESDAY 21st MARCH 2023
DRAFT MINUTES**

Present: Cllrs Franklin (Chairman), M. Nequest, R. Nequest, W. Down

Also: Cllr Richard Lawrence (EDDC), Cllr Sara Randall-Johnson (DCC) and three members of the public

Apologies: Cllrs A. Robert and H. Gent (DCC)

Clerk/ RFO: Carolyn Y. May

AGENDA

795.0 Declarations of Interest - Cllr. Down – Rockbeare Rockets Football Club

796.0 Questions from the Public - No matters raised.

797.0 Flood Resilience

The meeting received a presentation from by representatives of the Environment Agency, Flood Resilience Team.

It was emphasised that parishes and towns in the county should be 'flood ready'. Despite commonly held beliefs, flash floods tend to occur during July and August, rather than during the winter.

Historically, flooding has had a significant impact on homes, businesses, and communities across the UK. As climate change leads to more intense storms and sea level rise, these risks are continuing to grow. Increasing flood resilience at each individual property at risk is crucial to reduce the impact of flooding.

The website 'BeFloodReady' provides a local source of information and guidance on flood risk management, Property Flood Resilience (PFR) and how communities can BeFloodReady. The options for funding flood prevention measures were alluded to, and Members were advised that the website referred to above would assist with that query.

Cllr Lawrence (EDDC) agreed that there was a need to be ready for flooding incidents but questioned the granting of permission to build on flood plains and asked about the mitigation of risk in those instances. The EA representatives stated that there is now a tendency to rely on 'nature-based solutions' rather than built defences.

Cllr Mark Nequest raised the matter of the Millennium Field at Marsh Green, requesting to know if the creation of ponds at the site was an acceptable means of dealing with water

based issues. The EA representatives stated that they would be keen to view the area and advise the Parish Council in respect of the best way to deal with any such problem. It was agreed that a visit would be arranged.

The Chairman thanked the representatives for their attendance at the meeting.

798.0 Approval of Minutes

798.1 The Minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council, held on Tuesday 21st February 2023 were considered.

798.2 It was proposed by Cllr. M. Nequest seconded by Cllr R. Nequest and RESOLVED that the Minutes would be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Unanimous. Carried.
The Minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

799.0 Reports

799.1 Chairmans Report – The Chairman reported that he had recently met with the Head Teacher of Rockbeare Primary School and had been asked to address the next PTA meeting.

During discussions, the issue of the street light, which had been removed several years previously, was raised. The Head Teacher was not keen to place a light on school property. At that juncture, Cllr Randall-Johnson advised the extant meeting that she had pursued the issue of the light with the relevant County Council department. She had been advised that there was no record of a light ever having been located at the school.

The Clerk advised the meeting that a light had been removed for building work several years ago and, despite the matter being 'looked in to' by DCC, no further action was taken.

However, the provision of a light would represent a reinstatement, rather than the provision of a new amenity. Cllr Randall-Johnson undertook to investigate the matter further.

The approximate date of the removal of the light was raised. The Clerk suggested that the ex-Chairman, would remember the same. Cllr Franklin undertook to discuss the matter with Jerry Wollen.

Note: It was ascertained, from Mr Wollen, that the light, which had been removed, was not sited at the school, and that reinstatement of the same would provide no benefit to those accessing the site.

799.2 County Councillor Report - Cllr Randall Johnson advised the meeting that the sum of £ 9.3 million had been allocated for pothole repairs throughout Devon. However, it was not clear whether the costs of repairs for Torbay and Plymouth were to be met from the sum, or whether the sum is intended for the Devon County Council area only.

799.3 EDDC Councillor Report – Cllr Lawrence advised Members that the planned Whimble Flood Relief Scheme had been cancelled by the Environment Agency.

PA22/2824/OUT - Cllr Lawrence advised the meeting that the Planning Application for the proposed development at the Littlefield Land, Rockbeare, is scheduled to be considered at the next Planning Committee meeting.

Cllr Lawrence advised the meeting that the Planning Application for the Wimborne Solar Farm at Horton, was scheduled to be considered by Dorset Council next week. Should the application be successful, this may set a precedent for other areas.

Local Elections are scheduled to be held in May. He asked if a letter from him could be included in the Rockbeare Parish Magazine, Members agreed to this request.

800.0 Planning – there were no Planning Applications for discussion. Decisions were noted.

801.0 Correspondence

EDDC – The transfer of the area at Birchend has become problematic. Whilst EDDC had confirmed to the Clerk that it was acceptable to be used for a seating/ play area, an early covenant has been discovered which restricts the use of the land. EDDC have asked if the Parish Council wishes to continue with the transfer.

The Clerk advised the Members that she had written to EDDC, requesting copies of the original transfer to that body. She added that it is possible to have a covenant removed from land under certain circumstances.

Members felt that the Parish Council should proceed with the transfer, and that a solicitor should be instructed to deal with the removal of the covenant.

It was proposed by Cllr Mark Nequest, seconded by Cllr Rebecca Nequest and RESOLVED that the transfer of the land at Birchend, Rockbeare should proceed and that a solicitor should be appointed to address the matter of the covenant. Unanimous. Carried.

Parish Meeting / Steering Group – The Clerk advised the meeting that there is funding available for the development of open spaces in the parish. Such funding can be used for both the Millennium Field and Birchend. To access the funds, a Steering Group must be set up, and a public consultation held.

The proposed Steering Group may not consist solely of Parish Councillors. It was agreed that Sharon Thorne would be asked, along with the Head teacher of the primary school. Other representatives of the community will also be sought.

It was felt that the Parish Council should set up a community engagement event, in order to determine what projects the Parish Council should undertake.

802.0 Business and Finance

802.1 Payments - Members considered the schedule of payments for the current month. It was proposed by Cllr. Franklin, seconded by Cllr M. Nequest, and RESOLVED that the Schedule of expenses would be discharged. Unanimous. Carried.

802.2 Bank Account – Members and the Clerk continue to experience a great deal of frustration with the current bank account. It was agreed that a different bank should be selected to hold the Parish Council's funds. It was also felt that the Parish Council should move to a BACS payment system.

It was proposed by Cllr. Mark Nequest, seconded by Cllr. Franklin, and RESOLVED that Cllr Nequest would identify an appropriate bank with which to open an account for the Parish Council, thereafter the body's funds should be transferred to the same. Unanimous. Carried

803.0 Warm Rooms

803.1 Sharon Thorne gave an update on the Warm Spaces Project. Number are increasing and the project has been embraced by residents of all ages.

803.2 Sharon advised the meeting that there was a desire to provide the community with a Coronation Event, and asked if the Parish Council would be willing to provide a donation towards the same.

803.3 Members discussed the request and highlighted the fact that the Parish Council had made no provision for this in the budget. A great deal of money had been spent on the Jubilee in 2022, and there were a number of projects which Members hoped to undertake in 2023/24, which would require substantial funding.

803.4 Sharon assured Members that funding was not being sought for food, or alcohol, and that the event would be open to all parishioners.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Nequest seconded by Cllr R. Nequest and RESOLVED that the Parish Council would meet the cost of a bouncy castle for the event (as this has been provided previously for the school event). The provider to give proof of adequate insurance. Unanimous. Carried.

804.0 Parking Area within Rockbeare Village

The Clerk confirmed that a tarmacing contractor had been to view the site. We are currently awaiting a quotation for upgrading and line marking.

805.0 Millennium Field Update

805.1 Cllr Nequest gave a brief update in relation to the project.

805.2 Phase 1 of the project is almost complete, with hedges and pathways addressed. The foundations for the storage container are to be laid.

805.3 The play/ exercise equipment to be installed at the site will be discussed with parishioners during the proposed consultation exercise.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 18th March 2023

PLANNING DECISIONS

Reference	22/2824/OUT
Alternative Reference	PP-11765333
Application Validated	Tue 10 Jan 2023
Address	The Littlefield Land South Of Hazel Grove Rockbeare
Proposal	Outline application for the construction of up to four dwellings (all matters reserved except for access)
Status	Approved
Decision	Approval with conditions
Decision Issued Date	Thu 30 Mar 2023