

# ROCKINGHAM PARISH MEETING

The annual assembly of Rockingham Parish Meeting took place in the Village Hall at 7.30pm, on Thursday, 20 August 2020.

Those in attendance were:

Mr I Norman (Chairman)  
Mr M Kingman

Mr T Burbidge (Clerk)  
Mr D Norman

Miss C Johnson

**Apologies** - These were received from Mr J Saunders Watson, Mr J Douglas (King West)

**Declarations of Interest** – The Chairman invited those present to make any declarations of interest: –

The Chairman and Clerk expressed interest in payments made.

## Covid-19 Pandemic

The meeting noted that following the global pandemic and the total lockdown from the end of March, it had not been possible to hold any meetings. While other bodies and councils had been able to hold video meetings, Parish Meetings were excluded from the new legislation and face to face meetings were also illegal. The relaxing of the guidelines meant that that it was possible to hold the annual meeting which is normally held in May each year.

## 1-1 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2020, having been circulated, were taken as read. Mr M Kingman proposed, Miss C Johnson seconded, and the meeting agreed that the Chairman sign them.

## 1-2 MATTERS ARISING

**2.1 Highways – Drainage** – It was noted water leaks from the verges by 17 Main Street, The Od Forge and North Lodge had been repaired.

Speed Indicator Sign – It was noted that Speed Indicator Sign was still not working and required a replacement battery. Despite being reported to the Borough Council this had not been replaced owing to the current pandemic.

Hill - It was noted that the potholes on both the north and south bound carriageways had been repaired.

Gretton Road – It was noted that this had now been resurfaced.

Footpath on Hill - It was noted that this was overgrown and needed cutting back. It was also noted that there was a problem with cyclists using the footpath which was a danger to pedestrians.

Footpath to Caldecott – It was noted that Leicestershire County Council had replied that they had insufficient money to provide a footpath.

Warning Signs on Hill – It was noted that various signs on the northbound carriageway were obstructed by overgrown bushes and trees. These had been reported to the County Council who stated it was a Borough Council responsibility and vice versa. Stalemate ensued.

**2.2 Criminal Activity – Drug Dealers** - The meeting noted that the litter left behind had been cleared up and the activity seemed to have ceased for now.

Criminal Activity - The meeting noted that replies had been received from the local MP and the Police indicating that the case was ongoing and that there was no danger to the community.

**2.3 Bus Services** – The meeting was advised that following a break because of the lockdown the Welland Wanderer was back up and running. The question as to why the Rutland Flyer no longer came through the village was raised again.

**2.4 Local Government Reform** – The meeting noted that owing to the pandemic, local elections did not take place. The shadow authority had instead been appointed. Vesting day for the new authority was 1 April 2021, with elections due in May 2021.

**2.5 West Village Access Road** – It was noted that the potholes had been filled in.

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- 2.6 Old Telephone Exchange** – The meeting noted that the tree overhanging the building had been pruned at a cost of £580 which had been paid by the occupier, Mr L Wood.

### 1-3 FINANCE

- 3.1 Payment of Accounts** – The meeting noted that payments had been made amounting to £2543.05, as listed in the attached schedule, required retrospective approval Miss C Johnson proposed, Mr M Kingman seconded, and the meeting agreed the payments.

It was also noted that payments amounting to £872.60, as listed in the attached schedule, required approval. Mr M Kingman proposed, Mr D Norman seconded, and the meeting agreed the payments.

After some discussion Mr D Norman proposed, Mr M Kingman seconded, and it was agreed that Mr L Wood should be reimbursed with half the cost of the tree surgery to tree on the verge by the Old Telephone Exchange being £290.00.

- 3.2 Internal Audit** – The meeting noted that the Internal Audit of the Parish Meeting's accounts had taken place at the beginning of August and that there were no matters to report.
- 3.3 Annual Governance Statement** – Mr D Norman proposed, Mr M Kingman seconded, and the meeting agreed that the Annual Governance Statement be approved.
- 3.4 Annual Statement of Accounts** – Mr M Kingman proposed, Miss C Johnson seconded, and the meeting agreed that the Annual Statement of Account be approved.
- 3.5 Risk Assessment Policy** – Mr D Norman proposed, Mr M Kingman seconded, and the meeting agreed that the Risk Assessment Policy be approved.
- 3.6 External Audit** – The meeting noted that as the Parish Meeting's gross income and expenditure did not exceed £25,000, a Certificate of Exemption from a limited assurance review under section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 had been completed.

### 1-4 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

- 4.1** Nominations were invited for the position of Chairman for the ensuing year. Mr M Kingman proposed, Miss C Johnson seconded, and the meeting agreed that Mr Ian Norman should continue as Chairman, which he agreed to do. A vote of thanks was expressed for all his hard work.

### 1-5 CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1 Phone Box** – A vote of thanks was expressed to Mr J Martin for arranging the repainting of the phone box. It was agreed to replace the "Telephone" signs with signs saying "Rockingham"

### 1-6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 6.1 Rear 4A and 4B** – The meeting was advised that residents had enquired about the gras being cut by the access road to the rear of 4A and 4B Main Street.

### 1-7 NEXT MEETING

The next parish meeting was arranged to take place on Thursday 26 November 2020 in the Village Hall.

Note – Owing to a subsequent lockdown this was rearranged for **7.30 pm on Thursday 10 December** via Zoom video conferencing which was now allowed.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for their attendance, and declared the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

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<b>SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS – 20 August 2020</b>			
<b>Payee</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Amount</b>
I J Norman - Telephone 2019/20	31/3/2020	On-Line	£75.00
T C Burbidge - Postage & Telephone 2019/20	31/3/2020	On-Line	£44.50
T C Burbidge - Stationery 2019/20	31/3/2020	On-Line	£9.99
Rockingham Village Hall - Hire 2019/20	31/3/2020	On-Line	£150.00
S Morphy - Grass Cutting 12/3/20 - Inv 84	31/5/2020	100728	£115.00
S Morphy - Grass Cutting 2/4/20 - Inv 08	31/5/2020	100728	£115.00
S Morphy - Grass Cutting 22/4/20 - Inv 27	31/5/2020	100728	£135.00
S Morphy - Grass Cutting 13/5/20 - Inv 51	31/5/2020	100728	£115.00
Northants CALC - Subscription 2020/21	31/5/2020	100729	£112.56
Northants ACRE - Subscription 2020/21	31/5/2020	100730	£35.00
CPRE - Subscription 2020/21	31/5/2020	100731	£36.00
Wilbarston PC - Welland Wanderer contribution	31/5/2020	100733	£100.00
Rockingham Village Hall - Grant	31/5/2020	On-Line	£750.00
Rockingham Church - Grant	31/5/2020	On-Line	£750.00
S Morphy - Grass Cutting 25/5/20 - Inv 61	20/8/2020	100734	£115.00
S Morphy - Grass Cutting 17/6/20 - Inv 39	20/8/2020	100734	£115.00
S Morphy - Grass Cutting 1/7/20 - Inv 51	20/8/2020	100734	£115.00
S Morphy - Grass Cutting 15/7/20 - Inv 68	20/8/2020	100734	£115.00
S Morphy - Grass Cutting 31/7/20 - Inv 2	20/8/2020	100734	£115.00
J Hindle - Audit of Accounts	20/8/2020	100735	£40.00
Zurich Insurance	20/8/2020	100736	£257.60
L Wood - tree surgery Gretton Road - 3/7/20	20/8/2020	On-line	£290.00