



Meeting held via 'Zoom' video conferencing due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Parish Councillors in attendance: Vice-Chairman Adrian Collins (AC), Laura Craven (LC), Elena McCloskey (EM), Gerard McCloskey (GM), Mairi Rennie (MR) and Steve Williamson (SW).

County/District Councillor Kate O'Kelly (KOK).

Clerk: Debbie Harknett

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Meeting started at 7.30pm

<b>Chairman:</b> Max Harwood <a href="mailto:maxjharwood@googlemail.com">maxjharwood@googlemail.com</a>	<b>Vice-chairman:</b> Adrian Collins <a href="mailto:adrian.collins@rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk">adrian.collins@rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk</a> <a href="http://www.rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk">www.rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk</a>	<b>Clerk:</b> Debbie Harknett <a href="mailto:clerk@rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk">clerk@rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk</a>
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In the absence the Chairman AC took the chair.

- 1) **Recording of the meeting** – none.
- 2) **Apologies for absence were received/accepted from:** Max Harwood (MH) and Zoe MacLehose (ZM).
- 3) **Declarations of interest** – none.
- 4) **Minutes of last meeting** held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020 were accepted by the Council as a true record to be signed by the Chairman.
- 5) **Representations from the Public** – none.
- 6) **County & District Councillor reports** – KOK's report had previously been circulated:  
As County Councillor:
  - a) Covid - lockdown 2 significantly reduced local cases but they are rising again – 669 new cases in WS in 7 days to 8 December; 82 in Chichester district = 67.7/100,000. This is going in the wrong direction.
  - b) WSCC is now supporting the 'test and trace' service by attempting to trace local people who are linked to someone with coronavirus if they can't be located by the national team within 48 hours.
  - c) WSCC's budget has identified £20.2m efficiencies and savings but they need to find another £23.4m with options to consider include charging for DIY waste at Household Waste Recycling Sites (HWRS); review of the HWRS network and possible closure of 2 of the 11 sites; stopping funding disabled passengers and their carers bus travel during peak times; reduction in support for rural subsidised buses; ending community highway schemes and reallocating the capital budget to highways maintenance; closing child and family centres; closing day centres. No decision has been made yet; suggestions will be published in January and decisions confirmed at meeting in February 2021.
  - d) Children's service improvement pathway announced; WSCC been told they can continue to run services for another year rather than separate them to be run by an independent Trust.As District Councillor:
  - e) Current policy decisions involving councillors relate to CDC Local Plan so are irrelevant in SDNP.
  - f) Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRGS) and Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) are providing financial support to business affected by the national lockdown from 5 November-2 December.
  - g) CD has 98 new business started in October 2020 – 4 more than September and 1 more than October. They have launched Christmas campaign to encourage people to shop locally.
  - h) CDC have completed a transfer to Homemove system for social housing applicants to apply and bid for social housing.
  - i) Government's support package available for those on low incomes who have been instructed to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace - applications from those eligible are made to CDC.In response to questions:
  - j) In regards to the budget KOK explained government are still issuing various support funds and WSCC are hoping the anticipated budget deficit will be reduced. They are required to balance the revenue budget but are still able to spend funds from the capital budget.
  - k) SW questioned the items for consideration to balance the budget and that they are all public facing service items rather than back office/administration options.

- l) AC expressed concern around the Community Highways Scheme as the Rake scheme is due to be implemented next year; if it were cancelled there would be massive local disappointment.
- m) After discussion, it was agreed we would write to WSCC Chief Executive in addition to the email already drafted about the possible closure of HWRS.

**7) Chairman's report –** MH's report had been circulated prior to the meeting

- a) He presented a Jasmine 'Fiona Sunrise' to Fiona as thanks for her years on the council; we have since received a thank-you letter.
- b) Rachel West, the school caretaker, has generously volunteered to carry out the weekly playground and gym inspections. Clerk added she has received the first reports from Rachel.
- c) He and the Clerk joined a zoom call with neighbouring parishes to discuss co-operation with aim to considering sharing resources around consultation and concerns over items like planning and enforcement.
- d) CDC boundary committee will consider our request to reduce our required number of councillors nine at its meeting in February; AC added this is still one more than the current number appointed.
- e) He is chasing the solicitor in regards to the land registration.
- f) The White Horse path registration process is continuing with support from the church and school.

**Matters to consider:**

**8) White Horse sale –** The pub is registered as an 'asset of community value' so we have been notified by CDC that it has gone on sale - any community purchase interest has to be made by 4 January 2021.

- a) MR reported there is a meeting tomorrow (headed by START) with a limited number of people offering to help; the deadline for the village to declare an interest is 4<sup>th</sup> January. The meeting will look at the village in general, including the hall (so much has changed in recent years) to see if there is a team to take the pub purchase forward.
- b) AC added it would be a community led project, not a PC led. In response to SW's questions AC had spoken to MH who confirmed that he will be in receive mode at the meeting and will report back to the council without making a commitment on our behalf.
- c) Clerk explained we have received a grant request from START to cover the £240 cost of Plunkett Foundation membership which will enable them to get a large discount on the fee for their (highly regarded) consultant to do a viability study. They have received donations from the Diane Steinberg Trust for the viability study fee and R&T to pay for distribution of paper versions of a residents' study.
- d) EM asked if it were possible to access information prepared for the previous consultation; MR explained as it was for a different village group whose membership has lapsed they can't access it.
- e) After discussion, MR's proposal of **resolution 'Parish Council to award a grant of £240 to START to cover the cost of Plunkett Foundation membership for a year'** was seconded by AC; with support from GM and with LC, EM & SW abstaining the resolution was carried.

**9) Finance –**

- a) GM noted nothing exceptional from the finance file with most items within expected budget, no big expenditure planned and file in good order. All donations for the outdoor gym have been received except from Waitrose.
- b) Non-cheque signatory to check reconciliation – difficult during the current Covid situation.
- c) SW noted the budget of £30,925, as approved by the finance committee, for 2021-22 had previously been circulated. Reserves are currently about £35,000, slightly more than the annual budget, so there is some capability to finance unexpected items. As there were no questions SW's proposal of **resolution 'to accept budget as circulated and to submit a precept request to Chichester District Council of £30,925 for 2021-22'** was seconded by AC and unanimously approved.

To consider Finance Committee recommendations:

- d) SW reported on proposals for the refurbishment of the finger post at Bull Hill/Canhouse Lane junction. The three other village finger posts have been refurbished – this is the last one; as it is a bespoke piece of work it is likely to cost about £2,000-2,200. AC added they are historic and keep the character of the place rather than modern signs. After discussion, SW's proposal of **resolution 'to appoint Ralph Restorations to refurbish the Bull Hill/Canhouse Lane finger post at a maximum cost of £2,200'** was seconded by MR; EM abstained, all other councillors were in favour so the resolution was carried.

- e) As the SID had already been discussed AC's proposal of **resolution 'to increase the number of SIDs in operation in the parish and procure a second Speed Indicator Device from Elan City at a cost of £1,883.80'** was seconded by SW and unanimously approved.

**Receipts and payments approved:**

<b>Receipts noted:</b>		
HSBC	Bank interest	£0.05
Morgan's Butchers	Outdoor gym donation	£50.00
<b>Payments approved:</b>		
Clerk/RFO	Salary/PAYE/Pension	Undisclosed
Debbie Harknett	Zoom video conferencing monthly cost	£14.39
Mesh Computers	Laptop purchase	£624.00
R.J. Playground Services	Replacement swing seat	£132.00
Society Local Council Clerks	Accessibility webinar	£36.00
Rogate Village Hall	Annual Playground lease	£25.00
Rogate Village Hall	Playground grounds maintenance	£157.50
Society Local Council Clerks	Membership	£166.00
Petersfield Citizens Advice	Donation	£300.00
Debbie Harknett	Clerks expenses – Sept, Oct, Nov	£183.67
Defibshop	Defib pads	£174.00
START	Grant for Plunkett membership	£240.00

**Committee reports:**

**10) Planning Committee -**

- The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings of 9<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 were received.
- EM noted Forestry England have submitted a pre-application for the B1KE off-road cycling track, welfare cabin and parking at Coombe Hill. The Clerk is going to try to arrange a site visit.

**11) Open Spaces**

- The minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020 were received.
- Update from meeting 7<sup>th</sup> December – nothing not covered elsewhere in the meeting.
- The Open Spaces Committee meeting on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 was noted.

**12) Finance Committee**

- The minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were received.
- Update from meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> November – nothing not covered elsewhere in the meeting.
- As the budget has been approved it was agreed the Finance Committee meeting scheduled for Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 would be postponed.

**13) RATA – AC report had been circulated prior to the meeting**

- As already mentioned, WSCC news release on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020 announcing proposals for bridging a £43.4m funding gap in their 2021/22 budget included proposals to 'end small local (community) highway schemes and reallocate the capital budget to highways maintenance'. He is seeking clarification through KOK to determine if this proposal affects Rake CHS due for delivery in the next financial year.
- The Chair of Liss PC requested a meeting to discuss Rake CHS design and funding for the project. AC explained this at a site meeting by the Jolly Drover on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December when it was revealed that Liss PC are planning to install a village gateway at the top of the Hillbrow Rd where the 30mph speed limit commences and in view of traffic travelling along the London Rd (B2070). AC registered our view that a gateway may well exacerbate the problem of speeding through the 40mph zone in Hillbrow affecting residents of both Liss and Rogate Parishes and asked him to consider this in their proposal; they agreed to liaise in the future on traffic matters on the London Road.
- AC noted the new posts are due to be installed on 16<sup>th</sup> December by Balfour Beatty after which the SID will be moved to Rogate.

KOK left with thanks.

#### 14) Neighbourhood plan

- a) SW reported the consultation period closes today with all comments sent to SDNPA to pass to the Inspector.
- b) SDNPA Planning Committee met last Thursday and considered its response to R&RNDP. The 9-page report submitted by Amy Tyler-Jones detailed their (approximate 20) comments which will also go to the Inspector. Even though SDNPA had our documents well in advance of the 19 October consultation period start he did not see or hear their views until the committee papers were recently published; many of the comments could have been dealt with in a revised version of the NP.
- c) Their comments are not 'deal-breakers' and the most significant stem from the NP being slightly out of step with the SDNPA Local Plan which was adopted on 2 July 2020. As a result of this timing the authority has realised that our NP will take precedence as it will be the more recent planning policy document for our area.
- d) The Planning Committee approved the comments and congratulated the Parish Council for its perseverance in getting to these final stages after such a long development period.
- e) It is likely to go to the Inspector after Christmas when it will take about 6-8 weeks.
- f) Members expressed their thanks to SW for his work on the NP.

#### 15) Drainage issues/operation watershed – SW noted he was asked to provide some additional information for the Sandhill application and asked KOK to chase.

SW left with thanks.

#### 16) Policies to approve:

As there were no questions, MR's proposal of **resolution 'to adopt Sickness and absence policy; Equality and diversity policy; Grievance policy and Expenses policy as circulated'** was seconded by AC and unanimously approved.

SW left with thanks.

#### Village organisation reports -

##### 17) Rogate and Rake Schools - none.

##### 18) START (Community Land Trust) –

- a) MR noted they are still interested in affordable housing if land can be found.
- b) GM added he has tried to find out about the empty care homes along the top road but they are unlikely to offer much promise. Clayton Court could have some potential but they do not know who has purchased the site.
- c) In answer to EM's question MR explained there is a difference between the 'affordable housing' for anybody as required by Government within housing developments and that proposed by START which is 'low rent housing exclusively for local people'.

##### 19) Village Hall – none.

#### 20) Correspondence

- Emails as previously circulated.
- Bank statements received – filed in finance file.

#### 21) Information for the Council (for noting or inclusion on a future Agenda) – EM asked for an update on the soft sand review.

#### 22) Date of next meeting – The next Full Council Meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021** at 7.30pm via Zoom video conferencing.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.02.

Chairman:

Max Harwood