



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

Parish Councillors in attendance: Chairman Max Harwood (MH), Adrian Collins (AC), Laura Craven (LC), Zoe Macle hose (ZM), Elena McCloskey (EM), Gerard McCloskey (GM), Mairi Rennie (MR) and Steve Williamson (SW).

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

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Clerk: Debbie Harknett

Meeting started at 7.30pm

**Chairman:** max.harwood@rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk  
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**Vice-chairman:** adrian.collins@rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk  
**Clerk:** (Debbie Harknett) clerk@rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Chairman opened the meeting by offering the Parish Council's condolences on the passing of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, Princip Phillip.

- 1) **It was noted the meeting would not be recorded.**
- 2) **Apologies for absence were received from Deirdre Walkling (DW); all other Members were in attendance.**
- 3) **There were no declarations of interest.**
- 4) **The minutes of the last meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were approved by the Council as a true record to be signed by the Chairman.**
- 5) **There were no members of the public present to make a representation.**
- 6) **County & District Councillor reports** – KOK's report had previously been circulated  
As County Councillor:
  - a) She has written to the Director of Public Health asking for WSCC to take complete control over local Covid contract tracing as they currently only get data after 8 hours.
  - b) She continues to help with vaccinating at Riverbank Medical Centre, Midhurst.
  - c) Home testing is available to everybody in England as part of Government drive to encourage people to get tested twice a week. Kits can be collected from local centres or ordered for home delivery from [www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests](http://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests) or by calling 119.
  - d) The Government test and trace support scheme has been extended to 30 June and remains under review. Information at [www.chichester.gov.uk/helpwithfinances](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/helpwithfinances).
  - e) The last Full Council meeting of this cycle on 19/3/2021 debated divestment of pensions fund; the Council voted against the motion to completely divest but agreed pension fund investments decisions should be informed by ethical, sustainability and governance issues.As District Councillor:
  - f) Since the budget walking and cycling schemes have seen £61k boost to funds from West Sussex business rates pool to be allocated to related projects in Chichester and Midhurst.
  - g) Coffee pod recycling kerbside collection to be started within CDC.
  - h) Chichester district had 109 new businesses started in February – 23 more than previous month and 40 more than February 2020.
  - i) CDC are launching Business Enabling Grant scheme on 12 April to help small business in the district access funding to help them grow and develop. Grants available for capital projects, website & social media projects and for start-up businesses.
  - j) Government 'Make Things Right' campaign to better inform residents how to raise complaints if they are unhappy with the social housing service [www.socialhousingcomplaints.campaign.gov.uk](http://www.socialhousingcomplaints.campaign.gov.uk).
  - k) The HeartSmart walks will restart on 12 April in line with government guidelines and the latest weight-loss course commences next week.
  - l) In response to SW's question she confirmed they are in purdah.

- 7) **Chairman's report** – MH's report had been circulated prior to the meeting
- a) Rogate Garden Club responded to our request to maintain the planters at either end of the village. He met with them earlier today; they plan to replant and make them more colourful; the PC will meet the cost of plants, compost etc.
  - b) White Horse footpath registration progress - we have around 30 completed and checked forms which we hope to submit to WSCC this week as the next stage of the application.
  - c) Our new Unity Trust bank account is now up and running which should make things simpler. Plans are in place to move funds from HSBC and close those accounts.
  - d) The repair work to Haben Bridge is now complete.
  - e) It appears the Water Board have sprayed blue paint on the finger post at the top of Fyning Lane when marking the road. He will take photos so contact can be made with them.
  - f) Clerk asked KOK if there is any further information about finger post ownership as it had been questioned in an email from Andrew Shaxson to WSCC. SW thought the PC owned them and we have carried out significant repairs in the last few years. KOK explained it was complicated – she will forward response emails from WSCC.
  - g) Litter pick – national 'Keep Britain Tidy' event runs from 28 May-13 June. After much discussion about the increased profile of having a specific day/weekend having a positive impact and concern about asking individuals to pick during current covid climate it was agreed to aim for Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May. CDC will loan equipment and collect full bags. LC, and MR to arrange and publicise; ZM will liaise with CDC. Noted worse areas are usually along A272/B2070/Rogate-Rake Road & laybys.
  - h) Chichester District Association of Local Councils is newly formed local body is meeting on 26 April which clashes with our Finance meeting. Any volunteers to attend? KOK noted as others from our local group are attending it may not be necessary; agreed to ask if they can report back to us.

**Matters to consider:**

8) **White Horse – to consider parish council support**

- a) MH thanked councilors for attending the progress update meeting last week; it looks like they will be ready to start offering shares in order to try raising funds for the purchase soon. During the meeting we were asked if the PC supported moving to the next stage but MH explained it was a decision for the full council.
- b) There was much discussion about the scheme/proposals. Members were impressed with work done by the group, numbers produced and with knowledge of the business plan though the detail hadn't been seen. Viability concerns around the size of the pub, floor space limitations, low headroom upstairs, being a listed building, no garden area, parking problems and no room to accommodate B&B. It was noted a community pub could bring together the hall and pub by provision of parking and garden space while sporting participants could use the pub; a pub is vital for Rogate as a community.
- c) SW's proposal of **resolution 'the Parish Council supports the initiative to re-open the White Horse'** was seconded by MR and unanimously approved. The council look forward to further analysis and progress.

9) **Future meetings**

- a) The schedule of meeting dates was noted – continuing on second Monday of each month.
- b) The Clerk had circulated information regarding current Covid legislation permitting remote meetings expires on 7 May when it is unclear what will happen as restrictions will not permit full council face-to-face meetings at that date. Under social distancing rules the pavilion will only accommodate 6 people so any meeting would need to be held in the main hall.
- c) After much discussion, it was agreed to hold the next two meetings (May and June) via zoom video conferencing and then trial moving back to the main hall for July and August when members feel more comfortable. Clerk to book hall.

10) **Finance report and matters**

- a) GM noted last year's accounts are complete and show a turnover of £101,000 with a deficit of £12,862 which has been taken from reserves. Some deficit was expected with the agreed purchase of the outdoor gym and the second SID which were not in the budget. The Clerks hours have increased in excess of the budget (due to planning, covid community, change of chair/membership) and are likely to continue at an increased rate if her support continues at the current level; this should be taken onboard when considering next year's precept.

b) Non-cheque signatory to check reconciliation – EM had checked the file.

**Receipts and payments approved:**

<b>Receipts noted:</b>		
HSBC	Bank interest	£0.77
<b>Payments approved:</b>		
Clerk/RFO	Salary/PAYE/Pension	Undisclosed
Debbie Harknett	Zoom video conferencing monthly cost	£14.39
Marcus Batty	Repayment defibrillator batteries	£52.45

**Committee reports:**

**11) Planning Committee**

- a) ZM noted the recent training session was helpful and the committee have been very busy with a lot of applications and several site visits.
- b) The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were received.

**12) Open Spaces**

- a) The minutes of Open Spaces Committee meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> January were received.
- b) The Open Spaces Committee meeting on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021 was noted.
- c) MH noted the top panel of the climbing wall at the village recreation ground has come away; we are awaiting a quote.
- d) AC produced a flyer of ideas for Fyning Recreation Ground which has been put on our website and displayed onsite. To date, we have received comments from three people; all do not wish any changes to the area.
- e) MH noted we were offered a kissing gate by the Friends of the South Downs but the locations suggested by Open Spaces have proved not needed or unsuitable. In the absence of any further suggestions we will not pursue the offer.

**13) Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee meeting on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021 was noted.

**Working groups:**

**14) RATA – AC’s report had been circulated prior to the meeting**

- a) WSCC have notified us of changes to the CHS following road safety design review (notice and design on our website).
  - The 40mph buffer zone on the southbound approach to Rake (as amended in their previous version of their plan) has been removed.
  - The 30mph/HFS (High Friction Surface) at both entry approaches to the village have been amended.
  - Bollards added to crossing points at various locations in the scheme.We await further notification of a commencement date for scheme implementation.
- b) The second SID was delivered last month; it has been deployed in Rogate and Hillbrow and is being managed by volunteers to alternate fortnightly between these 2 locations.
- c) The original SID is currently deployed for first time on the 50mph zone between Rake and Hillbrow and is having a positive effect.
- d) Latest analysis of data from the B2070 opposite Rake Garden Centre provides solid evidence of the effect of SID deployment at this location – a 20% reduction in speeding traffic means c350 fewer vehicles travelling in excess of the 40mph speed limit every day.
- e) Sussex Police Road ‘online’ road safety presentation on 16<sup>th</sup> March used an agency to manage participation/invitations and ‘Microsoft teams’ as the medium to conduct the meeting. Unfortunately, system issues prevented many people (including AC) from watching/participating in the presentation. Sussex Police subsequently made a recording of the presentation available via a ‘non-searchable’ Youtube video (<https://youtu.be/RvbjJIXgOVE>)
- f) The main points highlighted in the presentation were:
  - Road safety remains a Sussex Police priority and ‘reducing ‘anti-social motorcycling/driving’ is one of their 3 main objectives.
  - 4 activities to achieve this: enforcement; education, engagement and engineering/technology.
  - They rely on Community Speedwatch to support the education and engagement activities.

- Some additional resources dedicated to road safety/enforcement.
  - Investment in noise calibration machines for use by specially trained officers but there are significant legal challenges in the enforcement of 'noisy' motorcycles. (AC recommended viewing the informative explanation of this issue at the 42minute point in the presentation).
  - A summary of their enforcement activity during the weekend 27/28 Feb at a variety of locations in E/W Sussex included Tillington but illustrated the A272 is not the only road of concern.
- g) SW added a noticeable variation in the CHS is the pedestrian crossing which could be relevant to the planning application for houses on land adjacent to the Flying Bull. There could be a conflict between the application and the proposals; planning committee to ensure planners are aware of scheme though WSCC should be consulted and be aware of the CHS.

#### **15) Neighbourhood plan**

SW noted SDNP took the inspectors report to their planning committee for approval at the end of March. The referendum is the next move but can't be arranged until after the May elections.

#### **16) Drainage issues/operation watershed –**

- a) SW noted Sandhill works are now completed and Landbuild appear to have made a good job through there hasn't been any significant rain for weeks.

SW left the meeting.

- b) MH noted we have received correspondence from a neighbour who is concerned about tractors damaging the installation. He couldn't see any damage but will continue to monitor.
- c) MR asked about the dipwell in Fyning Lane; will discuss with MH.
- d) Plans are to look at scheme for area outside the village hall.
- e) The farmer has created a bank above Slade Lane which should stop sand washing onto the land and associated flooding.

#### **Village organisation reports:**

**17) Projects and grants** EM reminded the meeting to look at potential projects – she welcomes ideas.

**18) Rogate and Rake Schools** – MH noted the proposed federation extension to include Compton and Up Marden has been approved. The Downland Village Schools Federation (DVSF) of Rake, Rogate and Compton & Up Marden schools should help secure the future viability of all the schools.

#### **19) START (Community Land Trust)**

MR noted they would like to become involved in the affordable housing at the proposed development at the Flying Bull, Rake.

#### **20) Rogate Village Hall –**

MR noted the hall is starting to emerge from Covid restrictions but rules are confusing. They have managed to obtain enough grants to keep financially secure.

#### **21) Correspondence -**

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

**22) Information for the Council** (for noting or inclusion on a future Agenda) – none

#### **23) Date of next meeting –**

The next Full Council Meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021** at 7.30pm via Zoom video conferencing.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Chairman:

Max Harwood