



Meeting held at Rogate Village Hall starting at 5.00pm.

Parish Councillors in attendance: Chairman Max Harwood (MH), Adrian Collins (AC), Laura Craven (LC), Elena McCloskey (EM), and Angie Simonds (AS).

There was two members of the public in attendance.

Minute Taker: Trish Walker

District Councillor: Tim O'Kelly (TOK)

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- 1) **It was noted the meeting would not be recorded.**
- 2) **Apologies for absence** were received and accepted from Mike Galley (MG) and Zoe Macle hose (ZM) and noted from the Clerk and County Councillor, Kate O'Kelly (KOK).
- 3) **There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.**
- 4) **The minutes of the last meeting held on 14th August 2023** were approved by the Council as a true record and were signed by Chairman.
- 5) **Representations from the Public:** John Valler from Rogate Youth Club handed a cheque for £5,653.56 to the Parish Council to ring fence and hold on behalf of the youth of the village as previously agreed. He then left with thanks.
- 6) **Report from County Councillor** – KOK's report had been circulated prior to the meeting:
 - a) The call for the scrutiny of the cessation of the support to vulnerable adults with learning disabilities through advocacy had been refused by the Health and Social Committee in September. The advocacy groups are taking a petition to County Hall to coincide with the September Cabinet meeting.
 - b) RAAC (Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete) - One Academy in Horsham has found to have some RAAC but to date the searches for RAAC in West Sussex have been desktop.
 - c) Applications are now open for grants from the Department of Health and Social Care's £1million Community Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) fund. The fund aims to help save lives by increasing the number of these defibrillators in community spaces, where they are most needed. These include rural areas, places with high footfall and areas where there are vulnerable people.
 - d) The next Drop in will be at The White Hart in South Harting on Thursday 5th October with Tim O'Kelly (CDC) and Kate O'Kelly (WSCC) at Midday until 1pm.
- 7) **Report from District Councillor** – TOK's report had been circulated prior to the meeting:
 - a) CDC has continued to support businesses in Midhurst and has been working with the local business groups on their recovery plans. The £200,000 grant fund to assist Midhurst Town Centre businesses is still open and eligible businesses are able to apply for up to £1,800.
 - b) CDC have funded a series of special events in the town to support businesses in Midhurst:
 - 9th September - in Market Square, an outdoor cinema showing the films Elvis and Sing 2 plus entertainment, kids' karaoke, and a professional Elvis tribute act.
 - 16th September - live music from around the world with acts performing at restaurants and pubs from 7pm and throughout the evening. Earlier the same day, the town will host a Fold Our Town origami event at the Old Library from 11am to 3.30pm — people of all ages will be able to make a large paper model inspired by Midhurst as part of the Culture Spark programme.
 - 23rd September - Get Active Day at The Grange Leisure Centre from 11am to 4pm, where Everyone Active will be organising activities such as BMX bike displays, table tennis, slacklining and rollerblading.
 - 30th September - 5k run for anyone over 12 years old or a 2k run for anyone over 4 years old, starting at the Wharf at 10am.
 - c) The 2023 review of parliamentary constituencies in England has now been laid before Parliament. This moves Rogate parish to the Arundel and South Downs Constituency with electoral matters being transferred to Horsham District Council.
 - d) CDC received a licence application for the White Horse pub on 5th September 2023.
 - e) The next Drop in will be at The White Hart in South Harting on Thursday 5th October with Tim O'Kelly (CDC) and Kate O'Kelly (WSCC) at Midday until 1pm.

- 8) **Chairman's report** – MH's report had been circulated prior to the meeting:
- Operation Watershed works will commence in North Street on 2nd October 2023 and will last for 7 weeks.
 - Speed limit applications and Community Highways Scheme – see Minute 12 for further information.
 - The school's access to Garbett's Wood had been cleared, a funding request was considered later in the meeting.
 - The need for planning permission to extract the timber from Terwick wood was still no further forward.
 - The White Horse pub would be re-opening again soon.
 - Ahead of the meeting John Valler, on behalf of Rogate Youth Club, handed a cheque for £5,000 to the locum Clerk. This related to a matter discussed at the Council meeting on 14th August 2023. MH acknowledged the receipt of the cheque and there was some discussion about the possible ways in which the funds might be used. It was noted no decision could be taken at the meeting and an item would be included in the October Council agenda.

Matters for discussion:

- 9) **Footpath closures** – An email had been received from Trotton Parish Council asking the Council to support them in an approach to WSCC to stress the importance of keeping Rights of Way open and asking them to reconsider their decision to close any paths they cannot clear. It was recognised that it is the landowner's legal duty to keep paths clear, but this does not always happen. The members agreed keeping Rights of Way open was very important and whilst there were no known issues like this in the Rogate parish, support should be given. LC's proposal of **resolution 'the Council agreed to support Trotton Parish Council on the principle that maintaining access to all paths is important and look to WSCC to find a solution that does not include closure'** was agreed by all members.

- 10) **Garbett's Wood steps** – at its meeting on 14 August 2023 the Council had discussed a request for funds to clear and repair the steps at Garbett's wood to allow the school children to access the area for forest school, further information was requested.

- Since that meeting Rev. Edward Doyle has confirmed the parents want to restart using the forest school. He has been working with parents and a contractor and the steps have now been repaired. The cost of concrete and contractor will be met from grants and a request had been made asking the Council to cover the cost of some materials used to carry out the repairs - a total of £302.40 for 18 sleepers and a post.
- AC noted there was sufficient in the grants budget to meet this request. All the members were in favour and the sum of £302.40 was agreed.

- 11) **Rake Recreation Ground** – A request had been received from Steve Williamson, a Rake resident, asking the Council to consider funding the cost of wildflower planting at Rake recreation ground at a cost of £305.58. This would cover the cost of the plants with the planting **and ongoing care** being carried out by local volunteers.

- It was noted this would be on land owned by the Parish Council and the local residents had indicated support for the planting.
- After some discussion the members agreed to support the initiative by agreeing to purchase the wildflower plants at a cost of £305.58.

12) Speed limit application updates

- Fyning 20mph TRO – AC confirmed that, although the TRO had passed the first assessment, it had failed the second seemingly based on an objection by one person. The Clerk is requesting further information about the other elements of the assessment to inform a decision on making a further application for a 30mph.,
- Hillbrow 30mph TRO – This application had passed the first and second assessments and would now proceed to the next stage.
- Rogate village CHS – There was no update as the application would not be considered by WSCC until later in the year.

13) Finance matters

- Monthly finance report to the Council – AC noted that at nearly the halfway point in the year the budget was showing a fair underspend, however this was particularly in the area of grants and it was anticipated there would be further grant applications during the year.
- Non-cheque signatory to check reconciliation – EM.
- Bank payments authorisation – AS and MH.

Receipts noted:		
CDC	Coronation grant	£449.17
Rogate Youth Club	Funds to be ring-fence for future Youth use	£5,653.56
Payments approved:		
Clerk/RFO	Salary/PAYE/Pension	Undisclosed
Debbie Harknett	Zoom video conferencing monthly cost	£15.59
Rogate Village Hall	Hall hire	£23.00
Debbie Harknett	Clerks' expenses (3 months)	£82.05
Laura Craven	Repayment of coronation plaques	£82.05
RD & ER Northway	Sleepers for Garbett's steps	£302.40
S A Kilby	Materials for playground repairs	£182.10

Committee/Working group reports:

14) Finance Committee

The Finance Committee meeting on Monday 25th September 2023 was noted.

15) Planning

- a) The comments from the Planning Working Group discussion of 17th July 2023 were received.
- b) The Planning Working Group discussion being held via zoom as necessary was noted.

16) Open Spaces Committee

- a) The Open Spaces Committee meeting on 25th September 2023 was noted.

Update from Open Spaces Committee:

- b) The play area repairs are underway.
- c) The bulb delivery is still awaited.
- d) The Dell working party on Sunday 20th September had been a great success.
- e) A response is still awaited for planning and highways requirements for the temporary access to remove the timber from Terwick wood.

17) Projects and grants – There was nothing to report

18) Drainage issues/operation watershed – It was noted the operation watershed work was due to start on 2nd October 2023 and would last for 7 weeks, North Lane would be completely closed during some of this time with traffic lights for the remainder..

Village organisation reports:

19) Rogate and Rake Schools – There was nothing to update.

20) Rogate and Rake Village Halls – There was nothing to update.

21) Correspondence -

- a) Bank statements received – filed in finance file.
- b) Other information/emails – circulated as received.

22) Information for the Council (for noting or inclusion on a future Agenda) – Following the receipt of the cheque from Rogate Youth Club it was agreed consideration should be given to the future use of the funds.

23) Date of next meeting – the next **Full Parish Council Meeting** will be on **Monday 9th October 2023 at 5.00pm at Rogate Village Hall.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.30pm.

Chairman:

Date: