**TREETON PARISH COUNCIL**

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE READING ROOM**

**ON MONDAY 25th July 2022**

**Present: Councillor: T.W. Adair (Chairman)**

**Councillors: A. Badger (from 7.40pm), O. Baum-Dixon, R.J. Croxton,**

**E. Levin W. Parker-Foers.**

**In attendance: J. James Clerk to the Council**

**2022/119 Apologies for Absence**

**Apologies were received from Cllrs V. Beckett & A Badger (delayed) and from Ward Councillor Miro.**

**2022/120 Public Question Time**

**1 member of the public attended.**

**2022/121 Declaration of Interests**

**There were no declarations of interest.**

**2022/122 Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 27th June 2022 were taken as read, copies having been circulated to all members of the Parish Council previously and with the agenda.**

**Resolved: That the minutes are approved and signed by the Chairman.**

**Proposed: Councillor Parker-Foers**

**Seconded: Councillor Croxton**

**2022/123 Matters Arising**

2022/63 R/o Wood Lane site The Clerk reported that the outcome of the Strategic Asset Management review by RMBC is awaited and should be due around September.

That she had responded to a complaint via RMBC over weeds and brambles to advise RMBC that there is a plan in place to address the remaining dilapidated garages alongside a program of regular grounds maintenance which includes periodic spraying of weeds. They were last sprayed on 14 June and that our groundsman had a conversation at that time with a resident who expressed gratitude and satisfaction at the state of the site and included photos of the site in a satisfactory condition as of 15.7.22.

2022/86 **Parking on Pavements – Well Lane/Front Street – The Clerk advised that as a result of further complaints this has been reported again to the Police along with photographic evidence requesting that they take enforcement action.**

**2022/99 Directional arrows at the roundabout on Wood Lane – The Clerk reported that RMBC have advised that they are in agreement and advised that they will add this as part of a minor highways scheme.**

**2022/124 Co-option to 2 vacancies on the Parish Council**

The Clerk reported that there had been no expressions of interest. Agreed Cllrs would promote through word of mouth and Cllrs Baum-Dixon & Levin through Facebook and the Clerk contact a potential interested party.

**2022/125 Clerk’s Report & Correspondence Received**

**The Clerk’s report previously circulated was noted. It detailed the following:**

1. **RMBC - Planning applications and decisions across the Borough.**
2. **RMBC - Weekly traffic reports across the Borough.**
3. **RMBC - Licensing applications across the Borough**
4. **RMBC - Events through July**
5. **RMBC - Town Centre news.**
6. **RMBC - Rotherham Roundup.**
7. **RMBC – Prevent & Counter terrorism advice for venue – noted & shared with the community centre management.**
8. **Alexander Stafford MP -** **message focussing on the heatwave - advice on staying well, the impact on local services, keeping pets well and staying safe around open water.**
9. **YLCA - White Rose Updates covering a range of topical items**
10. **YLCA - Training Programme**
11. **YLCA – Joint Annual meeting in July & September Conference**
12. **SYPTE –encouraging travel to the Women's Euros by public transport**
13. **SYPTE – Proposed changes to bus services impacting Treeton – representation made to SYPTE, S. Yorks Combined Mayoral Authority, MP & Ward Councillor. To note the SY Regional Mayoral Authority has advised that even with the opportunity to pick up the contract at a price they specify there has been no interest from bus companies. The Mayors’ office suggests this may be substantially due to existing operational challenges with shortages of drivers being an issue.**
14. **SYPTE - Opportunity to comment and give views on local travel to inform the S. Yorks Active Travel Implementation Plan**
15. **SYPTE – Planned industrial action and its impact on rail services.**
16. **Resident via Cllr Beckett raising concerns over proposed reduction in bus services to Treeton and asking that the PC make representations – actioned**
17. **Resident – weeds on ginnel between the Rother Crescent allotments – arrangements made to treat them. Fly tipping outside a garage by Rother Crescent – advised that land is privately owned and responsibility lies with the land owner.**

**LATES**

1. **Resident – concern over tree works at a property within the conservation area – referred to planning**

**2022/126 Borough Councillors Report**

Item not taken.

**2022/127 War Memorial – Proposals for restoration**

Cllr Parker- Foers reported on progress.

Resolved That Cllr Parker-Foers is mandated to contract the work on the memorial at the quote previously accepted.

Proposed: Councillor Parker-Foers

Seconded: Councillor Baum-Dixon

1. Decision to purchase land to the rear at nil capital cost from RMBC

Resolved To accept the transfer of the parcel of land to the rear and surrounding the war memorial at nil capital cost from RMBC and to authorise conveyancing fees. Further that Cllr Parker-Foers is mandated to action this decision.

Proposed: Councillor Parker-Foers

Seconded: Councillor Levin

ii. Decision to apply for planning consent to remove some trees and prune others

The advice of the arborist was discussed at length and agreed that to ensure health and safety and insurance risks are managed and to ensure the future health and well-being of trees in particular but also other shrubs and planting his advice to fell and prune specific trees should be followed

Resolved To submit a planning application for the removal of 3 Sycamore, pruning and shaping of a Poplar, 4 Common Lime, a Mountain Ash and Norway Maple trees alongside clearing out of undergrowth, ivy and self-seeded perimeter growth necessary to ensure the health of the remaining trees, shrubs and vegetation on the site.

Proposed: Councillor Parker-Foers

Seconded: Councillor Baum-Dixon

Resolved To ring fence £12k out of the CIL reserve to secure this project.

Proposed: Councillor Parker-Foers

Seconded: Councillor Baum-Dixon

It was noted that Ward Cllr Brookes has indicated that ward funding may be forthcoming to support this project which was acknowledge as being appreciated should this come to fruition.

**2022/128 Locations for Parish Council Notices**

Cllr Croxton identified several sites where he felt small notice boards advertising drop in and other Parish Council news could be located.

Agreed that Cllr Adair would seek agreement from the Playing Fields Memorial Committee to site a notice on the fence at the bottom of Washfield Lane, Cllr Croxton would continue to explore siting notices in local businesses and the Clerk siting a new notice board on the opposite side of the Reading Room frontage

**2022/129 Planning & Review of Progress on Projects through 2022**

**a) Plans for sport/recreation and other facilities that might be funded by CIL/Reserves**

1. Update on approach to RMBC re Well Lane

Cllr Adair advised there was nothing further to report.

1. Suggestion of addressing drainage on Cowfield

Cllr Adair advised that he was preparing a bid to the Banks Group.

The forward planner was reviewed and agreed to agenda an item on Santa’s Sleigh for Cllr Baum-Dixon to update against at the September meeting.

**2022/130 Standing Items**

1. **Reading Room**
   1. Housing & Parish Councillor surgeries:

10th August - Cllrs Croxton & Parker-Foers

24th August - Cllrs Adair, Croxton & Parker-Foers

7th September - Cllrs Adair & Parker-Foers

21st September - Cllrs Adair & Croxton

* 1. Proposals for refurbishment

Resolved: That the Chair should obtain 3 quotes to skim 3 walls and to delegate authority to Clerk and Chair to accept the best value quote and for work to commence promptly.

To accept the offer of painting from LifeSkills and that Cllr Parker-Foers should purchase on behalf of the PC grey paint for the walls, white for the woodwork and the necessary brushes, covers and other materials

Proposed: Councillor Croxton

Seconded: Councillor Baum-Dixon

*Cllr Badger joined the meeting.*

1. **Allotments/Garage sites**
2. Conditions’ site check.

Unturned plot off Rother Crescent

The Clerk reported that she had engaged a contractor and the rubbish had been removed at a cost of £330

Trees

The Clerk reported that the willow tree will be removed at the end of nesting season and that the arborist will advise on the large tree on a nearby plot at the same time.

1. Review of Allotment and Garage Plot Rents

Resolved: That garage plot rents will increase from £35 to £40 pa and allotment plot rents from £8 to £10 pa with effect from Sept 2022 to reflect the increased costs of managing the plots, addressing unturned allotments and badly maintained garages and that the Clerk is instructed to write to all tenants to remind them of the conditions of their tenancy and that regular checks are undertaken to ensure compliance.

Proposed: Councillor Levin

Seconded: Councillor Croxton

1. **Burial Ground**
2. Extension to the burial ground

The Clerk advised that the solicitors are preparing documentation to submit to the Land Registry.

1. Proposals for Burial Ground Guidelines

Cllr Parker-Foers updated on her research, it was agreed that she should draft rules and guidelines aimed at tidying up grave plots.

1. Progress on programme of repairs and maintenance

Cllr Parker-Foers updated on her work to seek quotes for improvements.

Resolved: To accept the quote from Grange Fabrications to install a compound

To accept the offer of painting from Community Payback to paint both burial ground gates and that Cllr Parker-Foers should purchase paint and the necessary brushes, covers and other materials on behalf of the PC

Proposed: Councillor Parker-Foers

Seconded: Councillor Baum-Dixon

**2022/131 Suspension of Standing Orders**

Resolved: That Standing Orders limiting the length of a Parish Council meeting to 2 hours be suspended to allow business to be completed.

Proposed: Councillor Parker-Foers

Seconded: Councillor Badger

1. **Recreation Ground and Play areas**

Cllr Adair reported that Community Payback resources have been secured to help with some repair and refurbishment work in the play park off Washfield Lane to address work highlighted by a recent safety check.

1. **Environment**

Nothing to report

1. **Planning Applications**

The weekly lists of planning applications and planning decisions in the Borough were circulated by email to all Parish Councillors.

The application for change of use to veterinary/ therapy consulting room at Old Flatts Farm Flatts Lane has been granted.

In Treeton there are applications for:

The erection of a detached building to provide stables, feed barn & hay barn at Old Flatts Farm Flatts Lane.

No objections were raised.

Application to vary condition 2 of the consent to develop the site of the Old Enterprise Centre relating to the type of building materials to be used substituting render for stone cladding.

Agreed that the Clerk submit observations that the application is confusing in that it refers to the Old School House rather than the Enterprise Centre and lacks sufficient clarity over the exact proposals for each elevation and elements of the roof making comments challenging.

That the PC hold to its original comments that were addressed by the condition of planning consent that the development is sympathetic in design and materials to the conservation area in which is holds a central and significant position. That it is disappointing that the application states that Planning Officers have indicated support for these changes and that the PC would wish to see the conditions of stone cladding and wooden windows retained and enforced.

That the explanation for the reason for the change from stone cladding to render that the stone is weathered and cannot be matched is similarly confusing as the elevations are of Rotherham Red Sandstone which is widely available from local reclamation companies and potentially still quarried.

Erection of 1 dwelling on the site of the MUGA Old Enterprise Centre

The Clerk reported she had contacted RMBC to repeat the Parish Council’s objections and to applaud the interest of South Yorkshire Archaeological Society and echo their comments about the historical importance of the site and that any potential evidence of medieval life and artefacts must be preserved

She had reminded RMBC that the PC had raised concerns some weeks ago about excavation works on the site of the MUGA which in the PC’s view was in breach of a condition of planning consent to retain the MUGA & that frustratingly concerns were dismissed and hoped an opportunity to better understand the medieval historical importance of the site wasn’t missed looking for RMBC to halt any further groundworks on the site of the MUGA.

Orientation of mine wheel Wood Lane

Cllr Badger reported on his discussion with Jones Homes and it was agreed that the PC’s objections were to the orientation of the wheel rather than its precise location within the site. That subject to seeing plans they would not raise objections to an application to rotate the wheel by 90degrees to face as a welcome into the village at its current location.

**2022/132 Report from Representatives on External Bodies**

1. **RMBC/Parish Council’s Liaison Committee**

Nothing to report

1. **YLCA Branch Representatives**

Nothing to report

1. **Banks Group – Penny Hill Wind Farm**

The Chairman confirmed that Banks Group had submitted an application to extend the life of the site and reported that they had funded activity at Ulley.

1. **Treeton Youth Club**

The Chairman reported that numbers have returned to their usual level and that the ‘end of term’ disco would take place this Thursday 28th July.

1. **Community Centre & Playing Fields Memorial Committee**

Cllr Adair repeated that Community Payback resources have been secured to help with some repair and refurbishment work in the play park to address work highlighted by a recent safety check.

**2022/133 Community Centre**

The Chairman reported that activities in the centre continue to be well attended

**2022/134 Chairman’s Review**

The Chairman expressed his concern over the antisocial behaviour that had taken place at Treeton Dyke and that the amount of rubbish and debris left was both irresponsible and disrespectful to other users, the village and damaged the environment around the dyke.

**2022/135 Finance and General Purposes**

1. **Internal Control, Reconciliation & Accountability**

The Chairman and Cllr Parker-Foers signed off the verification that transactions and bank balances reported in minutes, reconcile to those on bank statements and match those recorded in the Rialtas accounting software and that they balance.

1. **Financial Monitoring**

The month 3 financial monitoring report was presented.

1. **Approval of accounts for payment**

The following accounts were approved for payment.

Receipts £

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Foers – Burial Fees | BACS | 2576.00 |

Payments

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Staff Salaries, Pension & Expenses July 2022 | BACS/DDebit | 1,555.57 |
| Opus Energy - Gas July 2022 | Direct Debit | 23.23 |
| Opus Energy – Electricity July 2022 | Direct Debit | 53.19 |
| Jane Haddrell – Youth Club & R. Room Clean July | BACS | 71.28 |
| A Flinders – Burial Ground Maintenance June | BACS | 266.66 |
| SR Waste Removals – Well Lane | BACS | 850.00 |
| SR Waste Removals – Rother Crescent | BACS | 330.00 |
| SJD Sports Youth Club provision June & July 2022 | BACS | 1,406.16 |
| Dignity – Grave Digging Fees | BACS | 1,081.00 |
| Cartridge People – Printer ink | BACS | 92.97 |
| Arco - PPE | BACS | 205.62 |
| Petty Cash –refreshments, fuel, weedkiller hand tools | BACS | 78.45 |
| Bliss Internet – in lieu of advert in newsletter | - | 0.00 |

Proposed: **Councillor Parker-Foers**

Seconded: **Councillor Levin**

**Bank & Cash Book Reconciliation 30th June 2022**

£

Balances at bank: Current account 15,584.48

Instant account 48,158.93

Cambridge Building Society 80,000.00

Nationwide Building Society 35,055.46

**Total £178,798.87**

**2022/136 Any Other Urgent Business**

There were no items of other business.

**2022/137 Date of the Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be Mon 26th September 2022 at 6.30pm.

**2022/138 Exclusion of the Press & Public**

Resolved: To exclude the Press & Public on the grounds that the consideration of

the following items may involve the likely disclosure of confidential information (s1 (2) Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960).

Proposed: Councillor Levin

Seconded: Councillor Baum-Dixon

**2022/139 Allotment Condition Issues**

Resolved: That the tenant of the plots whilst being given time to address both condition and knotweed be given notice to ensure he is held accountable accordance with the terms of his tenancy.

Proposed: Councillor Parker-Foers

Seconded: Councillor Baum Dixon

**2022/140 Staffing Resources – Review of Capacity**

Staffing capacity was discussed and agreed that there should be no changes at the present time

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm

Chairman: Date:

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