

TREETON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE READING ROOM

ON MONDAY 26th FEBRUARY 2024

Present: Councillor: W. Parker-Foers (Chairperson)

Councillors T Adair, J Chadburn B Croxton R. Rowbottom. G. Scott,
O. Baum-Dixon (from 6.40)

In attendance: J. James Clerk to the Council

2024/26 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Beckett and Hickey.

2024/27 Public Question Time

3 members of the public attended. There were no questions raised.

2024/28 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

2024/29 Minutes of Previous Meetings

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 29th January 2024 were taken as read copies having been circulated to all members of the Parish Council previously and with the agenda.

Resolved: That the minutes of 29th January are approved and signed by the Chairperson.

Proposed: Councillor Adair

Seconded: Councillor Rowbottom

Minutes of the HR Committee 25th January 2024 were received and confirmed & draft minutes of 30th January 2024 noted.

2024/30 Matters Arising

2023/176 Flooding - prevention, responses by EA & RMBC, input to review & lessons learnt. Report back from the meeting with RMBC.

The Clerk reported that she has contacted the Environment Agency and RMBC, the latter have advised the gates are scheduled to be operational from the spring.

A response is awaited from EA to confirm the work is on schedule and for details on what the expected impact will be on reducing the flood risk for Treeton.

2023/178e Improvements in the Public Realm

The Clerk reported that the street cleaning work planned by RMBC across the village has been complete and that residents had noticed weed free and cleaner pavement edges.

2024/7 xxxii Damage to Bole Hill by buses

The Clerk advised that First South Yorkshire buses have been unable to identify which bus and driver caused the damage and with other road users accessing the turn around do not accept any responsibility.

As a result of pressing that buses mounting the kerb onto the grassed area is a common occurrence First's Driving School team arranged an assessment of the turning circle and say it is passable safely unless there is a vehicle parked in the turning circle. As a precaution, they will post a message to drivers not to take short cuts if the turning circle is blocked, instead seek assistance to turn around and report to control.

Agreed that the PC will carry out repairs to the landscaping.

Cllr Baum-Dixon joined the meeting

2024/31 Clerk's Report & Correspondence Received

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

- i. RMBC - Details of planning applications, decision and appeals.
- ii. RMBC - Roadworks reports
- iii. RMBC - Rotherham Town Centre News
- iv. RMBC - Rotherham Roundup
- v. RMBC - Rother Vale News from your Neighbourhood
- vi. RMBC - What's on across Rotherham through February
- vii. YLCA - White Rose bulletin
- viii. YLCA - Training and Discussion Group Opportunities
- ix. YLCA - Law & Governance Bulletin
- x. YLCA - NALC's briefing on .gov email addresses
- xi. NALC - Chief Executive's Bulletin
- xii. SYCMA - consultation on planned changes bus services
- xiii. Alexander Stafford - My week in Rother Valley
- xiv. Alexander Stafford - Bus services in Rother Valley
- xv. Cllr Croxton - Concerns over fencing and potential quad/off roading access to Hail Mary Woods - copied to Fishing & Boat clubs. Cllr Croxton advised plans include 'squeeze gates' to restrict access and that he will monitor to ensure they are fitted.
- xvi. Cllr Rowbottom - Parking on zigzag lines, close to junctions & across private drives on Rother Crescent at school start/finish times – contacted the school and Police. School have advised they will include an item in their next newsletter and the Police that they will undertake patrols.
- xvii. Resident - Information re Shorland/Windle flood prevention – connected with officers at RMBC

- xviii. Cllr Hickey fly tipping on a track off Well Lane to rear of Treetown Crescent - link provided to report online to RMBC
- xix. Resident - parking on pavements on Treetown Crescent – advice on limits of powers to act & contacted the Police and provide resident with contact details

LATES

- xx. Resident – HGV damaging the verges bottom of Mill Lane – reported to RMBC and given resident information to self-report.
- xxi. RMBC Network Meeting - Fri 15th March 3pm-5pm Sunnyside Community Centre Flanderwell Lane S66 9RL

2024/32 Borough Councillors Report

Item not taken.

2024/33 Project to remedy drainage on Cowfield – Update on progress

Cllr Adair reported that core soil samples will be taken during March which will then allow this project to progress.

2024/34 Review of Emergency Plan

The Emergency Plan was reviewed and accepted without any amendments.
Action Clerk to share with RMBC.

2024/35 Proposal for a beacon and/or flag pole

Item deferred

Action Cllr Beckett to share details of temporary flag pole

2024/36 Communicating Planning applications in the village via Facebook

Following a detailed discussion

Resolved: That in the interests of improving communication and engagement with residents on planning applications that may impact Treeton as a village to share details of applications that involve commercial or industrial developments or are for the creation of new dwellings alongside all applications within the Conservation area, on listed buildings and on trees protected by TPO.

This will not include alterations or extensions to domestic properties unless the application is to convert them to business premises.

The message will be via the PC's Facebook page as the best available immediate ready method of reaching a wide audience.

It will be a 'public service' communication and not an indication of any decision by the Parish Council to endorse, object or otherwise any application.

Clear guidance will be given by the Clerk on applications that should be shared to ensure complete impartiality and transparency.

Proposed: Councillor Baum-Dixon

Seconded: Councillor Rowbottom

2024/37 Walls around St Helens Church and the closed burial ground

There was a detailed discussion and some concern expressed over the state of various retaining walls around the church and burial ground, the Clerk advised that RMBC have a plan for improvements in this area and work was started but halted and has not had a response on the details of the plan or timeline for work to resume.

Action Clerk to contact RMBC further emphasising health and safety concerns over the retaining walls: closed burial ground/Washfield Crescent and Church Lane/Old Rectory both of which are bowed.

2024/38 Traffic management Treeton Lane/Aughton Junction

Concerns over traffic flow and recent serious accidents at this junction were discussed.

Resolved: To share the link to the online petition via Facebook and to make representations to RMBC raising concerns about the number of road accidents at the Treeton Lane/Aughton junction which have included some of a serious nature and request that they undertake a survey and develop proposals to improve road safety and the flow of traffic for consultation.

Proposed: Councillor Baum-Dixon

Seconded: Councillor Croxton

2024/39 Addressing Fly-tipping

The Clerk reported that Cllr Hickey has made a request to RMBC for data to determine the effectiveness of covert cameras on Long Lane, a response is awaited.

Agreed that PCllrs would proactively report fly-tipping and encourage residents to do so to RMBC.

Action Clerk to agenda for May meeting.

2024/40 Planning & Review of Progress on Projects through 2024

Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of D Day – taken under item 2024/42

Agreed that the Annual Parish Assembly will take place on 13th May immediately before the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

The forward planner was reviewed and noted:

2024/41 Standing Items

a) Reading Room

i. Parish Cllr, Housing & PCSO Surgeries

Wed 6th March - Cllrs Adair & Croxton

ii. Progress on refurbishment/storage

The Clerk reported that the side elevations have now been pointed and that the blinds to the side windows have now been fitted

iii. Risk Assessment (Fire)

Resolved: To note the updated Fire Risk Assessment

Proposed: Councillor Rowbottom

Seconded: Councillor Baum-Dixon

b) Allotments/Garage sites

The clerk updated on allotment matters

c) Burial Ground

- i. Registering the Land – The Clerk reported that the Land Registry will register the land but are suggesting possessory title and not absolute.

Agreed to discuss further when advice from the solicitors has been received.

- ii. Paving – Cllrs Parker-Foers & Scott reported that they have met with the contractor and that he has advised the pavers are tumbled giving a 'roughened edge' appearance and that notwithstanding this has agreed to replace some of them, in particular where corners have been badly knocked off by the tumbling process.

He has advised to wait until the weather is drier to look at the staining.

- iii. Notice Board – Cllr Croxton reported that he is carrying out repairs to the notice board.

Resolved: To agree a budget of up to £150 for materials, concrete posts and fittings.

Proposed: Councillor Baum-Dixon

Councillor Councillor Rowbottom

d) Recreation Ground and Play areas

Nothing to report

e) Environment

The Chairperson thanked Cllr Croxton for his efforts litter picking, clearing mud and creating drainage channels by the lay-by at Catcliffe Flash.

Flatts Lane Public Right of Way – The Clerk reported that the footbridge has been repaired by RMBC and re-opened.

f) Planning Applications

The weekly lists of planning applications and planning decisions in the Borough were circulated by email to all Parish Councillors. In Treeton there have been:

New applications – 46 Rother Crescent - two storey side extension - no comment.

Decisions: None

Other matters: Mill House - The Clerk reported that RMBC Planning Enforcement are investigating any potential unauthorised use.

g) Newsletter

Cllr Baum-Dixon reminded colleagues of the copy deadline of 1st March.

h) Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Rowbottom reported that the NW meeting held on 5th February was attended by residents from across Treeton and resulted in another volunteer co-ordinator and further households joining the watch scheme.

2024/42 Events Working Group: Report on recent events and future plans including the consideration of risk assessments, agreement to any financial implications & Parish Council sign off

Cllr Baum-Dixon outlined the schedule of events proposed by the Events Working group over the coming year:

- Monday 1st April 2024 – Easter Party at Miners Welfare to include Easter bonnet and cup cake decoration competitions and egg distribution by the Easter Bunny. It was confirmed that the current risk assessments cover these activities and that no funding will be requested.
- Saturday 8th June 2024 – D-Day Memorial Garden Party at War Memorial Gardens. **Action** Clerk to seek further clarity on consumption of alcohol in public places
- Sunday 21st July 2024 – Picnic on the Pitch at Treeton CC (Provisional date) and to include scarecrow competition
- Friday 11th October 2024 – Hidden Heroes at Reading Rooms
- Sunday 27th October 2024 – Halloween/Pumpkin Carving at War Memorial Gardens. Agreed The War Memorial site & railings will not be decorated.
- Sunday 15th December 2024 – Santas Grotto & Christmas Party at Miners Welfare
- December 2024 – Sponsored Christmas Tree Festival
- Tbc December 2024 - Carol Singing War Memorial Gardens with the church

2024/43 Report from Representatives on External Bodies

a) RMBC/Parish Council's Network Meeting

Nothing to report

b) YLCA Branch Representatives

Nothing to report

c) Banks Group – Penny Hill Wind Farm

Nothing to report

d) Treeton Youth Club - Contract, fees & general update

Cllr Adair reported that the Youth Club remains well attended and offers a range of activities for all ages.

e) Community Centre & Playing Fields Memorial Committee

Cllr Baum-Dixon advised that the next meeting is 4th March.

2024/44 Community Centre

Cllr Adair reported that the community centre remains busy offering a range of activities

2024/44 Finance and General Purposes

a. Financial Monitoring

The financial monitoring reports for month 10 was noted

b. Approval of accounts for payment

The following accounts were approved for payment

Receipts

Reading Room letting	BACS	80.00
Foers Burial Fee	BACS	2,200.00
LATES		
Foers Grave Purchase	BACS	1,000.00
Mindful Memorials – memorial fee	BACS	30.00

Payments

Staff Salaries, Pension, Exp, Q3 HMRC Feb 2024	BACS/DDebit	2,031.27
Opus Energy -Electricity Feb 2024	Direct Debit	57.06
EDF – Gas – Jan 24	Direct Debit	196.27
A Flinders – Burial Ground Maintenance Jan 24	BACS	389.03
Sarah's Home Cleaning Services Ltd – Clean RR Feb	BACS	39.00
Dignity – Burial fees	BACS	1,081.00
Sky: 14.2.24 – 13.3.24 - broadband	D/Debit	28.74
Rachel Rowbottom – mobile phone, sim & contract	BACS	211.00
Just Blinds – 50% deposit RRoom 2 blinds (EMR)	BACS	108.00
RMBC – advert Clerk vacancy	D/Debit	145.80
YLCA – advert Clerk vacancy	BACS	15.00
RRowbottom (ASDA) Kitchen equipment (EMR)	BACS	115.45
Amazon Baby Change (EMR)	D/Debit	57.95
Nisbetts – teapot (EMR)	D/Debit	74.38

Safelincs (Amazon) Carbon Monoxide detector	D/Debit	17.90
Amazon – Stationery – sticky dots	D/Debit	3.63
Cartridge People – Printer Ink	D/Debit	79.92
S A Construction – pointing RRoom (EMR)	BACS	3,480.00
Fowler Sandford Ground Rent land at Treeton	BACS	60.00
Fowler Sandford Ground Rents Right of Way Front St	BACS	1.20
Petty Cash – refreshments, keys	BACS	75.84
LATES		
Just Blinds – 50% balance RRoom 2 blinds (EMR)	BACS	108.00

Proposed: Councillor Adair
Seconded: Councillor Croxton

Bank & Cash Book Reconciliation 31st January 2024

	£
Balances at bank: Current account	13,222.90
Deposit account	20,531.49
Cambridge Building Society	80,000.44
Nationwide Building Society	35,640.45

Total £149,395.28

2024/46 Items for information/Future Business

Cllr Scott raised concerns on behalf of a resident about parking around the chemist on the end of Arundel Street. Action Clerk to report to RMBC/Police

2024/47 Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting of the full Parish Council will be Mon 25th March 2024 at 6.30pm at the Reading Room.

2024/48 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 Baum-Dixon
Seconded: Councillor Chadburn

2024/49 Property - Decision on leases

The Clerk updated on several property matters

2024/50 Staffing Matters

The Chairperson updated on staffing matters and changes to the contract of employment for the current Clerk.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm

Chairperson:

Date:

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