

TREETON PARISH COUNCIL

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE READING ROOM ON MONDAY 24th JUNE 2024

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

Councillors: O. Baum-Dixon, K. Hickey, R. Rowbottom, R Croxton, V. Beckett (7.10pm)

In attendance: D Middleton Clerk to the Council

At the start of the meeting, the Chairperson paid tribute to John Swift who sadly passed away on 3rd June 2024 and extended the Parish Council's condolences to John's family.

John served as a Parish Councillor for 42 years from 1979 to 2021 and was one of the first Borough Councillors to represent the newly created Rother Vale Ward from 2004 to 2015. He worked tirelessly for the village he loved and his contribution was quite remarkable.

The Parish Council wished to place on record its gratitude for his work and dedication over the many years.

2024/136 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Chadburn & Adair.

2024/137 Public Question Time

2 members of the public attended.

Representations were raised regarding overhanging vegetation in specific locations and overgrown footpaths.

Action: Clerk to report to RMBC.

Representations were made regarding the monitoring of the CCTV cameras. It was advised that the cameras record 24/7 and that the police have access.

2024/138 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

2024/139 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minute 2024/107 - Rotherham MBC/Parish Council Network Meeting - The minute be amended to read 'That whilst any Parish Councillor may attend, that Councillor Adair represent the Parish Council at the meeting;

Minute 2024/111 - Community Centre Management Committee - The minute be amended to read: - 'Councillor Baum-Dixon was nominated and seconded by Councillors Rowbottom and Beckett respectively to represent the Parish Council on this committee after which Councillor Adair also expressed an interest. The Clerk agreed to check the lease between the PC and the Community Centre to determine

the number of allowed representatives and to confirm the position at the next meeting.

Resolved: Subject to the above amendments, the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held 13th May 2024 be taken as read, copies having been circulated to all members of the Parish Council previously and with the agenda, are approved and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Councillor Baum-Dixon

Seconded: Councillor Rowbottom

2024/140 Matters Arising

2024/37 Walls around St Helen's Church & the closed burial ground

RMBC has confirmed that remedial work to the boundary wall between Church Lane and The Old Rectory is required and steps are currently being taken to confirm ownership of the wall after which action will be taken

2024/55 CCTV

It was noted that the four CCTV cameras were installed on 6th June 2024.

The Clerk previously circulated an email received from a freelance journalist asking the PC to comment on the impact of the cameras.

Action: Councillor Baum-Dixon to draft a response to the journalist and the Clerk to update same.

2024/86xxvii Correspondence - Sewage leak

The Clerk advised that the Local Land & Water Team of the Environment Agency had investigated and advised that they were unable to substantiate the source of the leak and they are following up with Jones Homes and YWA. Investigations are on-going; however, the EA has assessed the impact on the environment as minor.

2024/92 Land off Station Road

The Clerk reported that Fowler Sandford had requested a meeting with the Clerk and Chair to discuss the lease.

Action: the Clerk to contact Fowler Sandford to arrange meeting.

2024/111 Community Centre Management Committee

The Clerk advised that following the last meeting, it had been ascertained that the Parish Council's relationship with the Community Centre is that of landlord and lessee which provides for one representative of the PC to be involved in the day to day running of the Community Centre, to date this has been Councillor Adair.

Questions were raised by Councillors regarding future PC involvement in the day to day running of the Community Centre. It was agreed that further discussion should be deferred to the July meeting to allow Councillor Adair to be present.

Action: The Clerk to obtain documents relating to the Terms of Reference in respect of the Community Centre and or its constitution.

2024/115 Windle Court/Shorland Drive

It was noted that a new scheme has been designed to connect RMBC infrastructure and this has delayed work which is now expected to now start on 1st July. Residents will be advised of this and any potential issues impacting their access.

Councillor Baum-Dixon questioned whether the works had been carried out by RMBC at the corner of Windle Court, where trenching was to be put in place on the field above requiring the permission of the local farmer.

Action: The Clerk to contact RMBC to establish whether this work is complete

2024/124 Fly Tipping – Use of Covert CCTV

Councillors Parker-Foers and Hickey - nothing further to report.

It was suggested that Councillor Adair in his capacity of Ward Councillor may be able to assist the PC in obtaining the use of covert CCTV to help address the increasing incidence of fly tipping in the village

Action: The Clerk to approach Councillor Adair as Ward Councillor

High Hazel Road – Jones Homes (Hedges)

The Clerk reported she had emailed Jones Homes regarding the state of hedges along High Hazels Road. A reply had been received stating that their contractors would attend to the work.

Action: The Clerk to contact Jones Homes for confirmation that this work has been completed.

Councillor Beckett joined the meeting

2024/141 Clerk's Report & Correspondence Received

The Clerk's report previously circulated was noted, it detailed the following:

- a. RMBC - Details of planning applications, decision and appeals.
- b. RMBC - Roadworks reports.
- c. RMBC - Rother Vale News from your Neighbourhood.
- d. RMBC - Rotherham Town Centre News.
- e. RMBC - Rotherham Roundup.
- f. RMBC - What's on across Rotherham in June.
- g. RMBC – Complaint of fly tipping behind the terrace houses on Wood Lane – the site was checked but nothing found.
- h. YLCA - White Rose bulletin.
- i. YLCA - Training and discussion group opportunities.
- j. NALC - Chief Executive's Bulletin covering a range of items of national interest.
- k. Neighbourhood Alert- Data Breach information/Volunteer nominations.
- l. Public Sector Network – The Editor.
- m. SYPTE - Tram replacement works.
- n. Parish on-line newsletter.

- o. YLCA – Branch meeting invite.
- p. ICO – Newsletter.
- q. National Power Grid Open data workshop webinar invite.
- r. Residents – Enquiries about co-option to the vacancy on the Parish Council
- s. Rural SYP – Motorcycle Rural Crime Team Newsletter.
- t. RMBC – Legal advice information for Parish Councils.
- u. Brinsworth Substation – National Grid proposes a sub-station at Brinsworth and has offered to attend a PC meeting. **Agreed** that Councillors Croxton and Beckett would attend one of the public meetings and report back to the PC on whether a meeting would be beneficial.
- v. Freelance reporter request – article on CCTV cameras.
- w. RMBC – Latest update on Mill Lane.

LATES

- x. YLCA Joint Annual meeting notification
- y. YLCA Law & Governance bulletin.
- z. National Grid – update on briefing events.

2024/142 Borough Councillors Report

It was noted that Councillor Adair, although not present, had prior to the meeting provided an up-date report to the Clerk.

2024/143 Project to Remedy Cowfield Drainage.

Item not taken

2024/144 Project for Flagpole.

It was noted that this will be an item in the summer newsletter the aim of which will be to consult with residents and obtain feedback on the proposal to erect a flag pole on the War Memorial Gardens.

2024/145 Speeding Through the Village.

Concerns were raised over speeding traffic through the village, the speed limit (60 mph) on all three approach roads and consideration given to the installation of speed activated traffic lights at the entry points.

Particular concerns were raised in relation to Long Lane which is narrow and dangerous and cannot accommodate heavy and large vehicles. It was suggested that a weight limit be applied and also a reduction to the speed limit.

Councillor Adair had advised in advance of the meeting that speed checks were due to take place along Front Street, Wood Lane & High Hazel Road.

Action (i) The Clerk to ascertain cost of installing speed activated traffic lights
(ii) Councillor Adair to ask RMBC to consider the introduction of a weight limit and reduction to the speed limit on Long Lane.

2024/146 Defibrillator in the Bole Hill Area.

Consideration was given to locating a defibrillator on a lamppost in the Bole Hill area.

Action: The Clerk to ascertain from RMBC whether a defibrillator could be attached to and powered from the lamppost, the cost of that particular type of machine and the availability of any grants towards purchase.

2024/147 Jones Homes Relocation of Winding Wheel.

Councillor Parker-Foers advised that at a meeting on 30th June with Jones Homes the exact location of the wheel had been **agreed** and that the work was now in progress.

2024/148 Issue of Cricket Balls going over the High Fence.

Councillor Croxton reported a complaint of cricket balls being hit over the high netting and landing in a resident's garden.

Action: The Clerk to pass the complaint to the Cricket Club.

2024/149 Security at the Reading Rooms

Discussion took place regarding internal security at the Reading Rooms

Action: The Clerk to investigate the condition and age of the alarm and ascertain whether the key pad could be replaced with a fob system and, if so, the cost.

2024/150 RMBC Maintenance Schedule – Increasing Number of Complaints.

Cllr Baum Dixon raised concerns that the maintenance schedule for grass cutting had fallen well short of requirements.

Action: The Clerk to invite Barry Connelly, Head of Service, RMBC, to attend the July PC meeting

2024/151 Co-option to Parish Councillor Vacancy

It was agreed that the vacancy be advertised in the summer edition of the Newsletter and a notice placed in the Reading Room window

Resolved: That the vacancy be advertised.

Proposed: Councillor Baum-Dixon

Seconded: Councillor Beckett

2024/148 Planning & Review of Progress on Projects through 2024

The forward planner was reviewed and noted:

2024/149 Events Working Group: Report from the Group on Recent Events and Future Plans including Consideration of Risk Assessments, Agreement to any Financial Implications & Parish Council Sign Off

- (i) **Feedback on the 80th D Day event** – the event was successful and well received.

The Chair advised that she had received a complaint from the RFO that the approval by RMBC for the use of the WMG and the risk assessment for events where the PC is the sole organiser were disregarded in several respects in both the planning and hosting of the event which may have

resulted in there being no insurance cover and should there have been an incident those involved being personally liable.

The Chair asked, that to ensure no repeat, that full details of all future events as they are planned are shared in writing in advance of a detailed discussion at PC meetings so that the full PC can engage with the detail of events in a timely manner and as they give their approval with the organisers returning to the PC should any variation to that approval be required.

(ii) Future Plans

Councillor Baum Dixon reported that the Picnic on the Pitch event would take place on 21st July in the same format as last year with a few additional attractions.

(iii) Risk Assessment for Tug of War

Resolved: The Council approved the draft risk assessment for the Tug of War game at the Picnic on the Pitch event.

Proposed: Councillor Rowbottom

Seconded: Councillor Hickey

2024/150 Standing Items

a) Reading Room

i. Housing & Parish Councillor Surgeries:

3rd July - Councillors Croxton and Parker-Foers to be in attendance.

b) Allotments/Garage Sites

The Clerk confirmed that an allotment tenancy had been agreed and signed for the small plot at the rear of Wood Lane.

Also, that allotment checks were undertaken with Councillor Parker-Foers and letters had been sent to 5 tenants whose plots required minor work.

c) Burial Ground

- i. Extension to the burial ground - The Clerk reported that this remains with the solicitors.
- ii. Paving - Councillor Parker-Foers advised that she would remind the contractor in the event that the remedial work had not been undertaken for which a completion date of the end of June had been given

d) Recreation Ground and Play areas

Councillor Baum Dixon informed the meeting that the play area at the Cricket Club had undergone an inspection and there was nothing of note to report.

e) Environment

Nothing to report

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

RB2024/0745 – Retrospective change of use from hairdressers to mixed use café/hot food sales at Mr. B's Front Street. The clerk reported that an extension to the consultation closing date to 1st July had been requested and granted. There was no objection to the change of use but concerns were expressed regarding customer parking at the top of Well Lane which affects pedestrians crossing the road which should be submitted to RMBC in respect of the application.

Resolved: To make representations in respect of concerns about traffic and parking.

Proposed: Councillor Baum Dixon

Seconded: Councillor Rowbottom

Action: The Clerk to draft comments for submission to planning, circulate to Parish Councillors and then submit via the planning portal.

Decisions

Permission granted to create a means of access to 3 Bole Hill.

Permission granted to allow care for people with wider range of needs at Rother Heights, Rother Crescent.

Other Planning Matters

The Appeal to the Planning Inspectorate against RMBC's refusal for the erection of 2 flats with parking at the site of Old Enterprise Centre is pending a decision.

It was noted that commercial activity at Mill House ceased with effect from 20th June, the owner having obtained alternative premises and RMBC to be notified should this not be the case.

g) Newsletter – Update

Councillor Baum-Dixon advised that the deadline for articles is Monday 1st July.

h) Neighbourhood Watch - Update

Nothing to report.

2024/151 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

Nothing to report

e) Community Centre

Nothing to report.

f) Community Centre & Playing Fields Memorial Committee

Nothing to report.

2024/152 Finance and General Purposes – Approval of accounts for payment.

The following accounts were approved for payment

Receipts

Keetons – Burial Fee	BACS	800.00
Danes – Memorial Fee	BACS	50.00
Donation Easter Activities	Cash	70.00
Clarkson's – Memorial Fees	BACS	80.00
Reading Room Letting	BACS	60.00
Allotment Rent (part year)	BACS	4.15
RMBC – PROW Partnership	BACS	1000.00
Smarty phone credit	Direct Debit	10.00
LATES		
Foers - grave pre- purchase	BACS	300

Payments

Staff Salaries Pension Expenses June 2024Q1 HMRC	BACS/DDebit	3,182.56
EDF Energy - Gas June 2024	BACS	60.86
Opus – Electricity June 2024	BACS	53.46
Smarty – Office Mobile Phone monthly tariff June	D/Debit	10.00
Sky: 14.6.24 – 13.7.24 - broadband	D/Debit	28.74
A Flinders – Burial Ground Maintenance May 2024	Direct Debit	389.03
Sarah's Home Cleaning Services Ltd – Clean RR May	BACS	45.00
Arco – PPE – Boots, gloves, t-shirts	BACS	162.23
Arco – PPE - Trousers	BACS	43.98
Gulthwaite Nurseries (V Beckett) Plants Bole Hill	BACS	102.15
Dunelm (W Parker-Foers) – door mats	BACS	27.20
A Flinders – Removal of green waste WM Gardens	BACS	50.00
RMBC Grave digging	BACS	258.00
Petty Cash –milk, weedkiller, tools WMG, fuel mower	BACS	106.86
LATES		
Fowler Sandford -ground rent	BACS	0.60

Bank & Cash Book Reconciliation 29th May 2024

Balances at bank:	Current account	* 23,589.43
	Deposit account	* 12,693.78

Cambridge Building Society	80,000.44
Nationwide Building Society	36,891.14
Total	£153,174.79

*£10,000 transferred from current to deposit account 17.6.24

Proposed: Councillor Hickey
Seconded: Councillor Croxton

Changes to Bank Mandate

Resolved: That the Clerk be added to the banking mandates for the Nationwide and Cambridge accounts and the RFO removed. Also, that now as dual role holder becomes the main contact and authority, that the required number of signatories for any instructions to the bank is two and that the business address for correspondence be changed to the Reading Room, 25 Front Street, S60 5QP.

Proposed: Councillor Hickey
Seconded: Councillor Rowbottom

2024/153 Items for information/Future Business

Councillor Croxton reported incidence of Ash Die Back on at least two trees in the village.

2024/154 Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 29th July 2024 at 6.30pm in the Reading Room.

2024/155 Exclusion of the Press & Public

Resolved: To excluded the press and public from the meeting on the grounds that the consideration of the following items may involve the likely disclosure of confidential information (s1 (2) Public Bodies (Admissions of Meetings) act 1960).

Proposed: Councillor Parker-Foers
Seconded: Councillor Baum-Dixon

2024/156 Property – update

Decision on Property Lease - deferred.

2024/157 Finance Issue

Discussion took place on a recent banking issue

Resolved: To accept the offer of the bank
Proposed: Councillor Parker-Foers
Seconded: Councillor Baum-Dixon

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Chairman:

Date: