

TREETON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE READING ROOM ON MONDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2024

Present: Cllr W Parker-Foers (chairperson), Cllr R Rowbottom, Cllr J Chadburn, Cllr B Croxton, Cllr K Parry

Cllr O Baum-Dixon joined the meeting at 18:32.

2024/225 Apologies for Absence

Received from Cllr V Beckett and Cllr T Adair

2024/226 Public Question Time

No members of the public were in attendance.

2024/227 Declaration of Interest

Cllr Baum-Dixon declared interest in item 2024/233 Grant Applications

2024/228 Minutes of Previous Meetings

Resolved: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 28th October 2024 to 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: Cllr Chadburn
Seconded: Cllr Parry

Resolved: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 1st November 2024 to 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: Cllr Parry
Seconded: Cllr Croxton

2024/229 Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda.

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

RMBC have closed Church Lane to all but local traffic and have issued a repair notice to the property owner as the wall around St Helens Church is deemed unsafe. Discussions were held between the homeowner and RMBC around the cause of the wall's movement. In respect of the walls around St Helens and along Church Lane, Cllr Parker-Foers will chase RMBC again for an update.

Relating to the closed burial ground, work is due to start on strengthening the retaining wall week commencing 2nd December after RMBC confirmed legal negotiations had been completed.

2024/146 Defib in Bole Hill Area

Project remains paused.

2024/207 Sarah Champion's Letter regarding Road Congestion

It was noted that the Parish Council are awaiting confirmation from Sarah Champion's office on when she may attend a future meeting.

2024/189 Flagpole on War Memorial Garden

It was confirmed that the flagpole was erected in time for the Remembrance Sunday service. It was noted that the flagpole has received positive feedback on social media and that there is an article the next Newsletter.

2024/230 Whitestone Solar Farm

A leaflet has been delivered to all homes in Treeton with information relating to a proposed Solar Farm to be located in Rotherham. It was noted that the sites identified include land in and bordering Treeton. There are a number of public consultations proposed over the coming weeks, some of which Cllr Parker-Foers and Cllr Croxton will endeavour to attend. It was agreed that this item will be retained on the agenda under Environment for monitoring.

2024/231 Clerk's report & correspondence

The following have been circulated to Parish Councillors by email and are for information:

- a. RMBC - Details of planning applications, decision and appeals.
- b. RMBC - Rotherham Roundup
- c. RMBC – Rother Vale News
- d. RMBC – November Events
- e. RMBC – Rotherham Town Centre News
- f. RMBC – Parish Council Network News
- g. RMBC - Parish Council Network Meeting
- h. RMBC – Linnean Society Local Nature Grants
- i. YLCA - White Rose bulletin
- j. YLCA – News & Notifications
- k. YLCA - Training and discussion group opportunities
- l. YLCA – Law & Governance Bulletin
- m. SYCMA – Webinar briefing sessions
- n. ICO – November newsletter
- o. Sarah Champion – relating to road safety and congestion
- p. Whitestone Solar Farm Introduction

2024/232 Borough Councillor's Report

Cllr Parker-Foers presented information provided by Cllr Adair in his capacity as Borough Councillor.

RMBC have been asked to further review the footpaths on Aughton Lane with a view to clearing vegetation to make the area safer.

RMBC have agreed to add the road and footpaths on Front Street to their next tranche of road improvements.

2024/233 Grant Applications

An application was received for grant funding from Treeton Memorial Community Centre & Playing Fields for £1000 towards the purchase of a "Deep Slitter" machine to assist with drainage on the football and cricket pitches on the Washfield Lane. A discussion was held regarding this application and a resolution reached.

Resolved: The Parish Council agreed to offer a grant of £500 towards this project.

Proposed: Cllr Parry
Seconded: Cllr Chadburn

2024/234 Project to remedy Cowfield drainage.

A discussion took place over the Parish Council's reticence to agree to grant funding applications which could restrict the use of parts of the Cowfield to football only for a number of years. As a result, the following resolution was reached.

Resolved: The Parish Council will seek to fund the Cowfield Drainage Project using CIL funding available.

Proposed: Cllr Rowbottom
Seconded: Cllr Baum-Dixon

2024/235 Planning & Review of Progress on Projects through 2024

Christmas Trees are due to be placed on Lamp Posts in the final week of November. It was noted that RMBC have arranged to replace a number of lamp posts in Treeton in the 2nd week of December. Christmas Trees will therefore not be sited on these until after their replacement.

The Christmas Tree Festival in the War Memorial Gardens will take place again. The available slots were taken very quickly, and trees will be sited ready for them to be lit on 1st December.

The Nativity Scene at St Helens Church to be erected and lit for 1st December.

2024/236 Events Working Group

Santa's Grotto will take place at the Reading Room on 15th December. Whilst this is free for children, refreshments available to purchase on the day.

Carol Singing is planned for the War Memorial Garden on 22nd December.
Permission for the activity will be sought from RMBC

A discussion took place on the preferred method of payment for attendees of events, concluding that card or electronic payment is becoming expected. The Events Group would therefore need to be able to offer this facility.

Resolved: To purchase a "sum up" or similar card payment machine up to the value of £50 for use at Parish Council events.

Proposed: Cllr Rowbottom

Seconded: Cllr Chadburn

VE Day 85th Anniversary May 2025 is to be discussed with the Events Group.

Picnic on the Pitch ownership and responsibility was discussed. Whilst the Parish Council agree in principle that the ownership should sit with the PC, confirmations would be required from its insurer to ensure that the event is able to be adequately covered.

Action: Clerk to contact insurer to determine requirements.

2024/237 Standing Items

a) Reading Room

- i. Parish Cllr, Housing & PCSO Surgeries
Wed 4th December – Cllr Parker-Foers to attend.
- ii. Cllr Croxton has cleared the debris from the guttering around the flat roof, the performance of existing guttering will be reviewed once all the leaves have fallen from the trees.
- iii. Radiators appear to not be warming fully. The Central Heating service schedule is to be checked and a suitable engineer contacted if required.

b) Allotments

- i. Antisocial behaviour reported at an allotment on the Well Lane site.
Clerk to contact the tenant in this respect.

c) Burial Ground

- i. Registering the land – The land has now been measured by a surveyor and the updated plan submitted to the Solicitors to update at the Land Registry.
- ii. Additional Land – as part of i. above the full extent of the land in the original purchase agreement has been determined. The current burial ground measures 56 metres in length, land owned by Treeton Parish

Council extends to 94.6 metres in length. Awaiting update from the Solicitors

d) Recreation Ground & Play Areas

Item not taken

e) Environment

2024/180 – Proposed Electricity Substation near Brinsworth

No additional information is currently available, item to remain on the agenda pending planning application.

2024/238 Footpaths from Waverley to Treeton

Cllr Croxton gave an update on responsibility for maintenance of the footpaths between the River Rother and the Railway Bridge at the bottom of Washfield Lane.

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 has been:

RB2024/1289 – Application for an extension and increase in roof height to a barn at Old Flatts Farm for conversion to a Cattery. The Parish Council confirmed it has no objection to this.

RB2024/1579 – Application for Lawful Development Certificate – land to the rear of 17 Front Street. This relates to a planning application from 2011 (RB2011/0111) for which consent has already been given to erect a number of dwellings.

Decisions:

None

g) Newsletter

The next issue is to be distributed early December.

h) Neighbourhood Watch

Nothing to report

2024/239 Report from Representatives on external bodies

a. RMBC/Parish Council's Network Meeting

Item not taken

- b. YLCA Branch Representatives**
Nothing to report
- c. Banks Group (now named On Path) – Penny Hill Wind Farm**
Nothing to report
- d. Treeton Youth Club**
Item not taken
- e. Community Centre**
Item not taken
- f. Community Centre & Playing Fields Memorial Cttee**
Vandalism has been noted on the playground over recent months.

2024/240 Finance & General Purposes.

The following accounts were approved for payment

Receipts			
Out of Treeton Burial Fees	BACS		3000.00
Christmas Tree Sponsorship	BACS		720.00
T Bernstein Circl	BACS		80.00
Allotment Fee	BACS		12.00
Transfer from Deposit Account	Transfer		10000.00
Payments			
Flagpole	BACS		934.80
Salaries	BACS		1100.32
Smarty - Clerk Phone	Card		10.00
Reading Room Deposit Return	BACS		50.00
Sky Broadband	Direct Debit		28.74
EDF Energy	Direct Debit		109.37
Burial Ground Maintenance	BACS		389.03
RR Cleaning	BACS		45.00
Balances at Bank 25/11/24 - Current Account		£	16052.64
Deposit Account		£	42873.21
Cambridge Building Society		£	80000.44
Nationwide Building Society		£	36891.14
Total		£	175817.43

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

2024/241 Items for information/Future Agenda

Burial Ground Rules & Fees
Budget Review
Fence at Catcliffe Flash layby

2024/242 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 16th December 2024 at 6.30pm in the Reading Room

2024/243 Exclusion of the Press & Public

To consider exclusion of 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: Cllr Chadburn
Seconded: Cllr Rowbottom

2024/156 Expired Lease

Decision on Expired Lease – deferred to January meeting

2024/244 Complaint to Cooperative Bank regarding Data Breach

The clerk updated the meeting around a recent complaint made to the Cooperative Bank regarding a data breach. A response was agreed.

2024/245 Land Issue

A discussion took place over an issue relating to land. Additional information is to be identified and appropriate advice sought.

Meeting closed at 20:27

Signed Chairperson: