



## ROCKBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Rockbourne Parish Council meeting held in the Pavillion, Rockbourne Recreation Ground on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August @ 7.00pm.

#### MINUTES

**In attendance:** Cllr Kirkcaldy (Chair), Cllr Ash (Vice Chair), Cllr Whitworth, Cllr Broadbridge, Cllr Carmichael, Cllr Bradwell, and Gale Pettifer (Clerk).

**Also present:** Adele Holmes, Kathy Smith, Nick Matthews, Lucy Matthews, Susan Forsbrey, Liz Patter, Jeff Forsbrey.

#### **Public Participation**

Adele Holmes recommended the re-installation of flashing 30 sign outside her property. Cllr Ash reported that that pole mounting is redundant under this new HCC scheme, but that high poles had been installed elsewhere that can be used with speed warning indicators. Cllr Kirkcaldy further reported that this facility was under review as part of the Traffic Calming Scheme.

Adele Holmes said that the footpath styles behind her property are now planks of wood and difficult to use; also, at the top of the hill the style is two planks that are difficult to traverse; and the style before Marsh Farm is rickety and dangerous. Cllr Kirkcaldy said that the replacement of the styles was the responsibility of the landowner. **ACTION:** Parish Council to write to the landowner to request replacement/repair of styles.

Lucy Matthews asked if the Parish Council had confirmed the design of the Traffic Calming Scheme. Cllr Kirkcaldy explained that Hampshire County Council Highways had designed the scheme according to statutory road regulations and planning laws. The Parish Council had made various proposals and recommendations, including ensuring space for farm vehicles, and supported the final HCC designs as the optimum compromise. These plans were published on the village hall and PC website some 18 months ago with the works delayed significantly by the pandemic.

Lucy Matthews proposed that the northern pinch-point was going to be narrow, and traffic would not be able to pass. Cllr Whitworth said that the pinch point was designed for large agricultural vehicles to pass over it. Cllr Carmichael explained that the road width would be 4m at the southern pinch point and 3.1m at the northern pinch point and HCC have assured the Parish Council that the volume of traffic would not cause tailbacks or issues with traffic flow.

In response to other queries, Cllr Ash briefly outlined the history of the scheme and the years of work by the Parish Council to work around the HCC and NFDC imposed constraints and achieve some measure of traffic calming in the village. The realistic alternative now is to do nothing, to allow the road to deteriorate further to make it is so difficult for traffic and

hazardous for pedestrians that it brings risk of HCC and other external agencies imposing their own solutions on the village. Professionals from Hampshire County Highways had designed the scheme and would undertake the road works and installation. He stated that, due to one objection about one element of the scheme, HCC had halted all work including removal of old signs. Cllr Ash asked for support for the scheme in a manner that allows undisputed work to continue whilst the single item of contention is considered.

Cllr Carmichael explained the ambition for the scheme – to make Rockbourne safe. Cllr Whitworth commented that the stationary traffic is the safest kind of traffic. Cllr Ash explained about the ‘rolling’ pinch point of vehicles at school drop-off and collection times that has, on occasion, caused villagers to assist in the management of traffic – included using villagers’ driveways as passing places.

Cllr Carmichael explained that while the average speed through the village is 26mph (in a 30mph zone), on a narrow road with no footpaths this was too fast. The aim of the scheme was to slow the speed of vehicles coming into the villages and make the rat-run through Rockbourne as least desirable as possible. With the probability of additional housing in Alderholt, the road traffic calming scheme was needed as a matter of priority.

Cllr Ash reported that large vehicles cannot be stopped from transiting through the village, except that very large lorries accessing the composting facility at Newbourne Farm are required to enter and exit via the north under its planning consent. However, it would be helpful if villagers reported infringements and incidents of hazardous driving by other large vehicles.

1. To receive apologies for absence. NONE.
2. To receive declarations of interest. *Councillors are invited to declare any relevant interests at this point or at any point during the meeting.* NONE.
3. To review minutes of the previous meeting - held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021 - and discuss/update matters arising from previous minutes not appearing as agenda items.
4. To review Parish Council finance.

The Clerk reported that the accounts for the Recreation Ground Trust and the Parish Council were with external auditors.

The Clerk reported that the Co-operative Bank were having technical issues – their internet banking system was unavailable. This was confirmed by the Chairman, who had attempted to contact the bank by phone. **Action:** Clerk to circulate updated finance report asap.

5. To discuss planning matters:
  - a. Planning Decisions – *for notification only.*

a.1.: **Application Received:** Tue 15 Dec 2020

**Application Validated:** Mon 21 Dec 2020

MISTS FARM, ROCKBOURNE ROAD, SANDLEHEATH SP6 1QG

**Proposal:** Demolition of agricultural buildings & dwelling, with new replacement green oak framed farmhouse & ancillary accommodation, with new replacement smallholding tractor / equipment / storage barn, allowing for roof & ground mounted photovoltaic panels

**Status:** Decided

**Decision:** Granted Subject to Conditions

**Decision Issued Date:** Mon 26 Jul 2021

- b. Tree Work Applications – *for notification only* – none received.

- c. Planning Applications: - none received.
- d. Other Planning Matters: - none received.

6. To discuss traffic management issues, roads and ditches.  
Cllr Kirkcaldy stated that the Parish Council were scheduling a meeting with CCllr Edward Heron and staff from Hampshire County Council Highways Department to speak with the village about the Traffic Calming Scheme. He asked that any concerns or suggestions be submitted in writing to the Parish Clerk to enable County to respond on specific issues. As soon as a date had been confirmed details would be circulated. Lucy Matthews offered to circulate an email via the Village Hall distribution list and was thanked by the Councillors.  
Cllr Kirkcaldy said that the damage to the drain cover, opposite Westhays, had been reported. Cllr Whitworth reported that blue markings had appeared on the drain cover and expected the repair to take place imminently.
7. Parish Lengthsman: *next visit 9<sup>th</sup> August*. An additional job of cutting the hedge around the sign around the Rockbourne Villa sign/at the bottom of Whipps Hill.
8. To hear reports from other meetings. *None reported*.
9. To discuss correspondence. *None reported*.
10. To arrange the date for the next Parish Council meeting: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021 @7pm – in the Pavilion, at Rockbourne Recreation Ground.

Meeting ended 19.42