



ROCKBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 5th September 2023** in the Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Rockbourne, at **7.00pm**.

Members Present: Cllr Kirkcaldy (Chair), Cllr Leeson (Vice-Chair), Cllr Carmichael, Cllr Wallis and Cllr Wise. Also present Mark Baulch, Clerk & RFO.

Guests Present: District Councillor Richards

The following members of the public were also present: Bea Churchill, Simon Churchill, Jen Cole, Nigel Cole, Jeannie McGraghan, James Northwood, John Patten, Liz Patten, Malcolm Smith and Chris Whyton

1. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Forsbrey and members of the public George Atkinson, Lynn Daly, Nigel Daly, Lucy Matthews and Nick Matthews.

2. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Correspondence received**

Fordingbridge Council – Lengthsman Agreement. The current agreement was forwarded to the Council and the Chair had signed this and it was returned by the Clerk. Questions were asked by Councillors and Members of the Public on cost and frequency of service. Cost confirmed by Clerk as £1,000 per year, further detail to be confirmed to Council after the meeting with the Lengthsman which has been called on Tuesday 12th September. This is to discuss the provision and work of the Lengthsman and the Chair and the Clerk will attend and report back to Council at next meeting.

New Forest District Council – Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan. It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council Clerk would draft a response.

Wessex Internet – Permission to run an onward route through the recreation ground. It was RESOLVED that **ACTION:** the Clerk will invite Josh Goodchild and Will Hudson to attend the next Council meeting to discuss this further.

Mrs. Lucy Matthews – Letter regarding planning application at Mushroom Farm. [Covered under Planning Agenda Item 9a]

Mr. George Atkinson and Mr. Nigel Daly – Letters regarding various points, circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting. **ACTION:** Cllr Wise to speak to Patrick Thompson with regards to the Churchyard. Cllr Wallis asked if the damaged wall belonged to the church. Cllr Wise confirmed that it did. Cllr Wallis asked what value CCTV would offer and Cllr Carmichael asked about the possibility of an ANPR display [showing number plates of vehicles as they enter a monitored area]. Simon Churchill asked about a speed indicator. **ACTION:** Clerk to enquire on costs of this and ascertain whether the Council already part owns a speed indicator. **ACTION:** Cllrs Leeson and Wise to look into cost of CCTV as this may also help with traffic issues. Cllr Kirkcaldy suggested a camera at each end of the village. **ACTION:** Clerk to check required signage and costs as well as check for funding. [Further discussion Minuted under Agenda points 4 and 13.]

Pageant Master for UK Town and Parish Councils – Letter regarding D-Day 80. It was RESOLVED to **ACTION:** Clerk to write to the Pageant Master agreeing in principal to create and light a beacon, requesting further information on this.

Rockbourne Cricket Club – Letter from Treasurer. It was RESOLVED to accept the offer to pay £600 towards the grass cutting in 2022. PROPOSED by Cllr Kirkcaldy and SECONDED by Cllr Carmichael.

4. Public participation time

With regards to tractor driving in the village, Cllr Kirkcaldy concurred with the view that they were unlikely to be going fast. Cllr Carmichael added that they may not be driving respectfully. Cllr Wallis asked if we could find out who they are? Cllr Kirkcaldy said that the problem was down to people again whilst Cllr Leeson raised the point about Dragons Teeth on the verges discussed at previous meetings, which Cllr Kirkcaldy felt were likely to be flattened. Chris Whyton stated that tractors were destroying the verges. Cllr Leeson pointed out that this is a farming community and Cllr Wallis added that the way in which cars park is actually the problem. Following a question about Speedwatch, Cllr Leeson said that he would be happy to take part in this. Cllr Kirkcaldy confirmed that he had taken part in some training for this some time ago and that anyone can do it. **ACTION:** Clerk to find pricing for training for Speedwatch. James Northwood asked if the Council can request that New Forest District Council reinstate all Dragons Teeth and paint the tops white? This may protect pedestrians. **ACTION:** Clerk to contact New Forest District Council. Also check on the legality of a suggestion by Cllr Wallis to run a cable across the road to give the impression of speed monitoring. **Amendment to Minutes as agreed at Meeting on 17th October 2023. Chris Whyton made a comment to Council which was responded to as being out of order.**

5. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting held on 25th July 2023

With three amendments, namely the misspelling of Cllr Wallis' name and the missing of an **ACTION** for Cllr Wallis to explore the litter issue and the missing **ACTION** proposed by Simon Churchill for the Clerk to approach Natural England with regards to maintaining the Bourne. It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council, held 25th July 2023, were approved and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Wallis, seconded by Cllr Carmichael.

6. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting held on 25th July 2023

It was agreed that all matters arising were covered in the agenda of the current meeting.

7. Reports by the Downlands & New Forest Ward Councillor and representatives on outside bodies

District Councillor Richards said that she had nothing to report. She wanted to be at the meeting to hear about planning matters.

8. Payment of outstanding creditors

The Clerk gave a financial report, the contents of which were noted. The Clerk confirmed that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2022/23 had been successfully completed and filed with BDO. The Clerk also distributed the budget versus actual report for 2022/23 to all Councillors together with a proposed budget for 2023/24. There was a discussion over the traffic calming scheme, as only half of the invoice has been paid and so the other half has been budgeted for in 2023/24. The completed works do not meet the required specification, which was changed due to Highways intervention. **ACTION:** Cllr Carmichael agreed to follow up on this and escalate. County Councillor Edward Heron has previously been involved as well as officers of the Council. District Councillor Richards suggested that the relevant County Council Officer may now have changed.

9. Planning Matters

New Forest District Council is the local Planning Authority and consults Rockbourne Parish Council on Planning Applications received for Rockbourne Parish.

Reference	23/10820
Application Received	Tue 25 Jul 2023
Application Validated	Thu 27 Jul 2023
Address	THE LODGE, MUSHROOM FARM, ROCKBOURNE SP6 3NS
Proposal	Replacement dwelling; hard and soft landscaping

During discussion of this proposal, Bea Churchill pointed out that Councillors should have looked at this application ahead of the meeting. As the application is very detailed, it was RESOLVED that Councillors would **ACTION:** consider the application in more detail and respond to the Clerk with a proposed decision by Wednesday 6th September.

There will be a hearing at New Forest District Council on Wednesday 13th September at 9:00am to discuss planning proposal 23/10307 at Springbourne Farm. Rockbourne Parish Council invited to attend. No Councillors available to do so.

9b. Planning Decisions – *for notification only*

Reference 23/10365
Alternative Reference PP-12053539
Application Received Tue 28 Mar 2023
Application Validated Wed 29 Mar 2023
Address THREEWAYS COTTAGE, ROCKBOURNE SP6 3NL
Proposal Use of stables as annexe (Lawful development certificate that permission is not required for proposal)
Status Decided
Decision Was Lawful
Decision Issued Date 03/08/23

Reference 23/10567
Alternative Reference PP-12129261
Application Received Thu 18 May 2023
Application Validated Wed 21 Jun 2023
Address BAY TREE COTTAGE, ROCKBOURNE SP6 3NL
Proposal Outbuilding to the rear of the garden
Status Decided
Decision Granted subject to conditions
Decision Issued Date 21/08/23

Reference 23/10650
Alternative Reference PP-12223961
Application Received Thu 8 Jun 2023
Application Validated Fri 23 Jun 2023
Address BAY TREE COTTAGE, ROCKBOURNE SP6 3NL
Proposal New oak joist and replacement flooring in the bathroom; external brick repairs/replace and repoint with lime mortar. (Application for Listed Building Consent)
Status Decided
Decision Granted subject to conditions
Decision Issued Date 14/08/23

Please note that Rockbourne Parish Council is a Statutory Consultee for Planning Applications and as such does not make the final decision on any Application. The decisions and comments this Committee make will be fed into the planning process and added to reports by Planning Officers. New Forest District Council is the Planning Authority and will issue the final decision notice (Planning Determination) once their investigations into the application, consultation period and decision-making process have been completed.

10. Tree Survey

Four contractors had been approached to carry out the required works to two trees on the Recreation Ground. One had failed to quote, one had refused to quote and two others were presented to Council. It was RESOLVED that the Council would instruct the Clerk to **ACTION:** accept the cheaper of these two quotes and schedule the work. Proposed by Cllr Kirkcaldy and seconded by Cllr Wallis.

11. Children's Play Area

Two quotes have been received to date and Cllr Kirkcaldy suggested that we move forward with one of these. The Clerk proposed to use this month to attempt to **ACTION:** obtain a third so that this project could be moved forward.

12. Users of Recreation Ground and Pavilion

The current hire terms and conditions were distributed to the Council and it was RESOLVED to take these away and update with a view to another meeting with the primary user, Rockbourne Cricket Club. Simon Churchill said that we needed to promote the facility more and Cllr Leeson added that we should be promoting Rockbourne as a whole, in collaboration with other bodies like the Village Hall.

13. Flooding awareness

A letter received from Mr. & Mrs. Cole with regards to flooding and discussions with the Environment Agency. **ACTION:** Cllr Wise to speak to some residents and see if a record of past events can be created for Environment Agency. Clerk to contact Lisa Milton for more information. Carl Broadbridge willing to act as flood warden. Steve Malpass to come and speak to Council. Cllr Leeson to contact AGM speaker from last year and Natural England with a view to arranging a Village Hall meeting.

14. To arrange the date for the next meeting –

The next meetings will be Tuesday 17th October 2023, 28th November 2023 and 9th January 2024 @7pm – in the Pavilion, Rockbourne Recreation Ground. Those wanting to join the meetings are asked to please contact the Parish Clerk: rockbourneclerk@outlook.com for details.