Minutes of Ryhall Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 16 December 2024 at 19:00 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs. Debbie Rolfe (Chair), Richard Ludlow (Vice Chair), David Wilby, Andrew Nebel, Phil Davis, Andy Yates, Simon Houghton & Marc Blake

In Attendance: 2 Members of the Public, Craig Huntbatch from Neighbourhood Plan Committee and Sarah Gresty-Parish Clerk.

Public Forum: None.

Agenda

24/25-98 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Corby and Markwell-Cook. These apologies were unanimously accepted.

24/25-99 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests: Cllr. Houghton declared that RutlandWeb his company had submitted at quote for website design to the Neighbourhood Plan Group.

24/25-100 Minutes of:

a) 18 November 2024 Parish Council meeting were presented as a true and accurate record of events. Proposed acceptance Cllr. Wilby, Seconded Cllr. Houghton. Cllrs. Yates, Blake & Davis abstained due to absence, the remaining unanimous in favour. **RESOLVED.**

24/25-101 Actions

a) **Action Tracker** from previous meetings was updated.

20mph speeding initiative. Cllr. Rolfe had met with the School Headmaster to arrange a further meeting in the new year with the school ambassadors and Hugh Crouch of RCC to rethink this initiative to encompass parking , sign posts and possible road markings. It was unanimously agreed by all Councillors present that because RCC had failed to implement this scheme on our behalf, the resolution to commit £3,500 of Parish Council reserves to this project were withdrawn. A commit of £500 towards a less ambitious project would be included in the 2025/26 budget. It was noted that Cllr. Richard Cleaver is campaigning locally for 20 mph schemes near schools and his campaign's progress would be monitored.

Spinney Lane Garages. Cllr. Nebel had been tasked to work with RCC to ascertain the status of the garages as no one had an understanding of the full history. Having made enquires with RCC and Longhurst Cllr. Nebel's findings are as follows:

- In 2009 RCC did a deal with Spire Homes (now Longhurst) to sell all of the council properties they owned across the whole of Rutland.
- The Lease that Spire Homes provided a copy of to Cllr. Nebel had no mention of the garages being part of the transfer of ownership at this time.
- RCC have confirmed that they own all of the spinney area including the land on which the garages are located.
- RCC have confirmed they have received rents from approx. 10 garage rentals. They have now gone through a process of putting a notice on every garage asking whoever thinks they own them to get in touch.
- RCC then hope to have a definitive list of which garages are currently being rented and used and those that have lapsed into non-use.
- RCC will then have to decided the future of this area and would be responsible for the costs of removal of dilapidated and unsafe garages.

- RCC would like to hear from the Parish Council what their thoughts and wishes are for this site.

Action: It was proposed to discuss this further at February meeting. This area is a bit of an eyesore and improvements could definitely be discussed and ideas fed back to RCC.

Whilst meeting with RCC Cllr. Nebel also ascertained from them that the village hall car park was owned by RCC together with the library area land. Action: Cllr. Nebel offered to approach RCC for clarification re the ownership of the parking area and what are RCC's rules of usage of the village hall parking area and its maintenance.

Recent poor quality road repairs in centre of the village.
Cllr. Wilby had attended an onsite inspection of the recent works with RCC's Portfolio Holder for Transport, Environment and Communities Christine Wise and Cllr. Corby. She agreed that rectifying works were required and were on the list to be done. Discussion took place on the urgency and dangerous nature of the lack of white lines and the need for this work to be done as a matter of urgency.
Cllr. Davis requested that we are provided with the process RCC go through to verify work completed. RCC should have an engineer signing off each job once complete. No Parish should have to go back to RCC with complaints of poor work, as the engineer signing off the work should already be aware and have drawn up corrective procedures.
Action: Cllr. Wilby will email concerns immediately.

White bridge missing bollard Cllr. Wilby will follow this up.

Water Leak Francis Court. **Action:** Clerk to chase Longhurst again this week.

24/25-102 Neighbourhood Plan (NHP)

i) NHP Communication Plan was received by the Parish Council

ii) A verbal approximate NHP budget and potential grant options was received from Craig

A full discussion took place on how a NHP would/could proceed. Main Points discussed:

- Benefits of having a NHP are we would have some leverage over RCC to say no to any future developments
- Financial advantages of the increase in CIL monies received
- Negatives are the massive uncertainties of changes being made by the Labour Government to the planning processes and the increase in housing requirement targets
- NHP budget is in 2 parts:
  Firstly, the community engagement (website/leaflets/volunteers/posters/events/consultations)
  Secondly, professional expertise for planning support and helping to write policies.
  Estimate of total cost in the region of £15k. With potential grants available of £10k. Therefore, the Parish Council would need to commit to a budget for £5-6k over 2 years.
- Grant submission years run from April-March
- NHP need to initially set up a website, recruit volunteers, leaflets printed but until there is a commitment to go ahead this will not be started.
- NPH Committee to consult further with Edith Weston Parish Council who are presently going through their referendum process for a NHP.
- Designated area of a NHP has to be approved by RCC.
- Craig's hopes are to try and get as much money from grants. However, a commitment to a shortfall from the Parish Council is required before starting the process.

Action: A full discussion and decision will be made on 6th January during Parish Council budget resolution. Craig to provide primary costs to get to a grant application stage in April

Current Year 2024/25

24/25-103 Financial matters presented by the Clerk as follows:

a) **Financial Report** for the period to 30 November 2024 with bank statements.

b) **Payments** as follows:

File Ref	Date	Detail	Net £	VAT £	£
	12/11/2024	Transfer from savings			5,000.00
70	13/11/2024	Plough Environment	£ 270.00		
71	13/11/2024	RJ Flowers	£ 700.00	140.00	
72	26/11/2024	Nest	£ 147.98		
	27/11/2024	Transfer from savings			£5,000.00
73	27/11/2024	Rutland County Council	£ 3,013.64		
74	27/11/2024	RJ Flowers	£ 700.00	140.00	
75	27/11/2024	Ryhall Village Hall	£ 20.00		
76	27/11/2024	Ryhall Allotments Association	£ 726.00		
77	27/11/2024	S Gresty	£ 2,105.46		
78	27/11/2024	Farm Forestry Co	£ 145.75	29.15	
79	30/11/2024	Unity Trust Bank	£ 6.00		

Proposal: To **accept ,adopt** and **resolve** the financial records above. Proposed Cllr. Wilby, Seconded Cllr. Ludlow and unanimous in favour.

c) Replacement of the damaged bin on the village hall car park at a cost of £152 + vat from RCC.

Proposal: To purchase a replacement bin. Proposed Cllr. Rolfe, Seconded Cllr. Ludlow and unanimous in favour. **RESOLVED.**

d) 2025/26 Budget. Some discussion took place on the figures presented, but as RCC had not supplied the Band D council tax figures required this will be carried forward for resolution at the January meeting. It was unanimously approved that we should work towards a balancing budget without using reserve.

24/25-104 Planning Issues

a) planning applications received since the last meeting:

2024/1299/FUL Proposal: Erection of a two storey side extension – 7 Manor Close.

Agreed Response: We note the alteration to the design following refusal of the last application, and have no objection, subject to planning Officer approval that the mass and density issues have been satisfactorily resolved.

b) Local Plan Regulation 19 response. This has now closed.

24/25-105 Village Issues – to receive updates or further information

a) Highways issues

Cllr. Nebel reported recent anti social and vandalism in the church by a group of youths. Action: c/f to February meeting agenda ideas for constructive things for local youths to get involved in.

b) Any Other Items. None.

24/25-106 Governance Documentation.

i) Anti-Harassment and Bullying Policy. Cllr. Davis had some comment and improvements to make on this draft policy. Action: Cllr. Davis to update the policy and present at the next meeting.

CHAIRPERSON: DATE:

It was noted that from time to time the Parish Council receive unpleasant emails and remarks which are not acceptable. Action: Cllr. Nebel to draft a statement to be used on all correspondence stating that rude or abusive language will not be tolerated.

24/25-107 Reports from Councillors on meetings they have attended as parish council representatives.

Cllr. Wilby had attended a Stamford North Quarry Farm onsite meeting with the Developers. The Planning will be submitted to the Planning Committee around 16th January. He challenged the Developers to ensure that infrastructure is done correctly such as provision for flooding, sewage, waste and electricity and road traffic, A1 access, GP surgeries (as Empingham will not cope with the extra pressures and this will also affect Lakeside Practice). The housing is likely to be of a more environmentally sustainable build.

24/25-108 Correspondence was noted from the Agenda.

24/25-109 To receive Items for Future Meetings. None.

2025: 6th January, 3rd February, 3rd March, 7th April, 12th May, 9th June, 7th July, 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November & 8th December.

Meeting Closed at 21:14

CHAIRPERSON: DATE: