

East Donyland Parish Council
Full Parish Council Meeting – 11th July 2019
St Lawrence School, Rectory Rd, Rowhedge starting 7.00pm.

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Phil George, Richard Helliwell, Anna Appleyard, Peter Case, Doug Clay, Nina Crouchman, Tracie Guy & Dave Myers; ECC Cllr Kevin Bentley; Clerk Nicki Matthews and 5 members of the public.

The Chairman, Cllr Phil George, opened the meeting at 7pm with congratulations to the Regatta Committee on another very successful regatta event.

- 60/19 To receive and accept apologies and to note absences:** Apologies received from CBC Ward Cllrs Mike Lilley, Lee Scordis & Adam Fox.
- 61/19 To minute pecuniary & non-pecuniary interests of members relating to items on the agenda:** NC – non-pecuniary, item 68/19; RH – non-pecuniary, items 67/19 i) & ii); DM - pecuniary, items 65/09 & 69/19 and non-pecuniary item 67/19 iii); PG – non-pecuniary item 67/19 iii).
- 62/19 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13th June 2019:** PG proposed the minutes to be correct; AA 2nd – all agreed.
- 63/19 Have your say! The Chairman will allocate a max.15 minutes to ask members of the public to speak (max. 3 minutes each) on any matters relevant to parish business:**
- Trees on the Recreation Ground – please could the wire cages around three trees at the lower end of the rec be removed? RH advised this was looked at previously but there were issues with removal, to be referred to Maintenance Committee to revisit. *Action – Mt Cttee*
 - Memorial plinths on Recreation Ground – please could these be repaired and refurbished? *Action – Mt Cttee*
 - Fingerpost sign at top of Rectory Rd – thanks to Cllr Bentley that this has now been reinstated.
 - Street lights Rectory Rd – one of the three new lights is not working, could this be fixed? *Action – KB*
 - 30mph signs at top of Rectory Rd – one has been moved in line with the new lamp posts to extend the 30mph limit, but the one on the other side of the road has not? *Action - KB*
 - Trial bikes – Essex Police have been on site at the Hills quarry pits recently and have asked that residents report all incidents of trial bikes at the pits to them so they can take action.
- 64/19 To receive and note reports from:**
- i) Essex County Councillor, Kevin Bentley:
 - 20mph application – how is this progressing? NM advised that the speed surveys are complete and we are awaiting the results (no date yet given) so we can progress to the next stage.
 - Libraries – following public consultation it has now been announced that there will be no closures, all libraries will remain open.
 - EDCA annexe – KB is happy to give his support to this project.
 - ii) CBC Ward Councillors: apologies received, update from Cllr Scordis:
 - Middlewick Ranges – meetings and planning work for the potential development of the site is ongoing, with consultations on wildlife, archaeology etc taking place. At this stage the intention is for development to focus on the Abbots Rd area with the area closest to Rowhedge being protected. More details to come.
 - iii) The Clerk: report noted, with the following additional issues raised:
 - Gravestone repairs – DM raised concerns that other stonemasons have advised the headstone is not repairable and work could cause further damage or create a hazard. NM advised that the work has already been ordered as agreed by the Maintenance Committee from a qualified and established firm with the appropriate insurances etc; will monitor and evaluate work to ensure it is carried out safely and results are satisfactory.
 - Footpath linking FPs 24 & 27 – the application to have this path which runs across the Bloor site recognised as an official PROW has been successful and it will be added to the defined map.

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- Alistair Taylor bench – a proposal for a new location has now been submitted by the RHT and this will be on the August agenda for the Maintenance Committee to consider and agree installation.

65/19 To agree the payments list already checked by Cllrs Appleyard & Clay:

PG noted that the pension payment is higher than usual due to an adjustment for the previous financial year. RH proposed that the payments list be approved, PG 2nd – all agreed (DM left the room for this item). *Action – the Clerk*

66/19 To note the draft minutes of the Maintenance Committee on 19th June: noted. RH has met with J Sharp to discuss churchyard maintenance – aim to now set up a group to agree ongoing maintenance required and responsibilities of all parties. RH to circulate invitation to cllrs to join this group. *Action – RH*

67/19 To receive the following event applications:

i) Rowhedge Juniors Football Club for an Under 7s football tournament on 1st September:

Cllrs discussed that all events need to be publicised to notify the public that they are happening where there is potential impact on residents. NB the event is U12s not U7s. Cllrs agreed that it is a positive event and noted the parking management plans as a positive move. The club is growing with more younger teams which is great for families in the village. PG proposed that the application be approved, with a requirement for the event to be publicised to make local residents aware. RH 2nd – all agreed.

ii) Ye Olde Albion for a charity fishing competition on Pearsons Quay on 21st July: Cllrs noted that this event raises funds for Cancer Research, has been running for a number of years and is a well-attended, positive event. TG proposed the application be approved, PC 2nd – all agreed.

iii) K Myers for a Rowhedge Garden Show on Lion Quay on 24th May 2020: DM explained that the aim of this event is to build on the mini shows previously held at the applicant's home address, and will link with the resurrection of the Rowhedge open gardens event on the same day. The show will incorporate all aspects of the garden including promoting wildlife etc, and hopes to involve other organisations in the community with different activities, including the church, school, RCRC hut etc. Cllrs were very supportive and agreed this would be a very positive event to start the summer in the village; it fills a gap that currently exists in the event schedule. TG proposed the application be approved; AA 2nd – all agreed.

68/19 To consider the three quotes received for improvements to the patio and walkway to the RCRC hut on Lion Quay: It was noted that none of these quotes are from the company who carried out the previous work to the patio. Unity is the only company with a VAT element in their quote. RH proposed that Unity be commissioned to carry out the work on receipt of a satisfactory reference and timescale to complete works. DM 2nd – all agreed. *Action – NC & the Clerk*

69/19 To consider the three quotes received for remedial works to Pearson's Quay: DM noted that the specification for this work was put together approx. 6 months ago and on further inspection of the site, it appears that hydro-suction is the likely cause of the holes in the quayside. If this is the case, the proposed specification would not address the cause and could lead to the concrete subsiding, leaving a hazardous void below the metal walkway. DM recommended that a full investigation of the quayside be carried out by a qualified engineer to determine the extent and cause of the problems and what remedial works are required. DM then left the room. RH noted that the larger hole in the quay appeared after this specification was put together; although a temporary fix was carried out, this has potentially identified the need for a more in depth investigation. Cllrs discussed the quotes received but agreed that a full survey needs to be carried out by a qualified engineer in order to develop a new works specification to be circulated for quotes. CBC may be able to provide or recommend an engineer to carry out this survey. RH proposed that max £3,000 be allocated to obtain a full site survey to identify the works required to stabilise and repair Pearson's Quay. PG 2nd – all agreed. DM returned to the meeting. *Action – the Clerk*

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- 70/19 To discuss participation in the national celebrations being planned for the 75th anniversary of VE Day, 8th – 10th May 2020:** Cllrs discussed possible options, including a street party on the High St / quaysides, bringing together groups and organisations across the village in a joined-up celebration. DC noted that the school would like to be involved in the lead up to any event but as 8th May is a bank holiday, participation on the day would be an issue. Will also need to consider road closures etc. Cllrs agreed to hold a planning meeting on the 12th September (to link with full council mtg) and invite individuals and groups to attend with the aim of forming a community working party to take this forward. NM to organise and promote via catch up newsletter and email invitations. *Action – the Clerk.*
- 71/19 To deal with matters arising from the previous Council minutes not dealt with elsewhere in this agenda:** The action list was noted. The compost bin has now been emptied; the Heath Rd pallet compost bins have been built, RH to check site for any further action required. *Action – RH*
- 72/19 To discuss planning applications and note decision papers as listed: *Action – the Clerk***
- i) **Planning application 190753: Rowhedge Wharf; demolition of existing buildings and erection of 20 residential properties with associated access, amenity space, car parking, servicing, landscaping and utilities. Revision to site plan to exclude pump house:** Cllrs discussed the exclusion of the pump house as a positive step but noted that the other concerns relating to this application remain, including the increase in the number of houses and lack of affordable housing on this site. It was noted that there are only 4 visitor parking spaces for the site, which meets planning requirements but is likely to cause issues for residents as it has already done elsewhere on the wharf development. AA also questioned how many trees were being removed in order to accommodate this development. PG proposed that the council adds a further comment to this application, supporting the intention to retain the pump house but noting that the other concerns already recorded by the council still remain. RH 2nd – all agreed.

The meeting closed at 7.52pm.

Agreed as a true record.

Signed: Date:
Chairman