

**DRAFT MINUTES OF QUENDON & RICKLING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023 AT 7.30 PM.**

Present: Tom Duncan – (TDN) Chairman  
Philip Sowter – (PS)  
Ljiljana Ortolja-Baird – (LOB)

Keith Williams (KW)-Parish Clerk  
County Councillor Ray Gooding (RG)  
2 members of the public

**1271. Declarations of Interest**

None

**1272. Apologies for Absence**

Caroline Mackrill (CM)  
Gari Spearpoint (GS)  
District Councillor Neil Hargreaves (NH)  
District Councillor Judy Emanuel (JE)

**1273. Co-option of Parish Councillor**

Susan Caroline Joannou (SJ), having submitted an Application for Co-option to the Parish Council, confirming residency and other qualifications, was unanimously elected onto the Parish Council. The parish clerk will advise UDC.

**1274. Reassignment of councillor responsibilities**

SJ – Events and Neighbourhood Plan  
LOB - Defibrillator

**1275. Minutes of the last meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 (already circulated)**

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

**1276. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

None

**1277. Public participation session**

The displayed map of the village is out of date.

**1278. Correspondence**

- LOB has been in correspondence with Andrew Thomson regarding the defibrillator.
- Wi-fi is now operating in the Village Hall and Gigaclear is offering a training session.

**[284/2023]**

## **1279. Planning**

### **UTT/23/1112/HHF – Gable End, 3 Greys Hollow**

Single storey rear extension

No objections.

### **ESS/66/22/UTT – Ugley Landfill Site, Cambridge Road**

Importation of soils to allow re-capping and reprofiling of restored landfill, and installation of ground-mounted solar array.

No further comments.

## **1280. Finance**

### **a. Accounts balances (already circulated).**

Noted.

### **b. Invoices and payments for approval.**

The payments were approved.

### **c. Consideration of Instant Access Savings Account with Unity Trust Bank.**

It was agreed to open an Instant Access Savings Account and transfer £30000. It was commented that councillors will investigate options for investing in village capital expenditure schemes.

### **d. Discuss appointment of a councillor to oversee PC finances.**

It was agreed to formulate a Finance Committee to consist of SJ and TDN (as Chair).

## **1281. Events**

### **Autumn Daze**

This will be the next village event and is scheduled for Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September. A budget of £1500 was agreed.

### **Boundary Walk – update**

LOB is meeting Rob Timmins on 23<sup>rd</sup> June for a rehearsal of the walk. There is no fixed date yet for the walk but it is hoped to be in early September

## **1282. Footpaths update**

### **Cambridge Road footways/verge**

Some verges have been cut. GS reported that there had been a promise that work would commence “in early June” but there has been no action thus far.

**[285/2023]**

RG advised that Highways had allocated funds to carry out the footway repairs along Cambridge Road, but no date has yet been set.

**1283. Adoption of new Financial Regulations**

The new Financial Regulations were adopted and the parish clerk will post them to the website.

**1284. Insurance**

Discuss three-year long term agreement

It was decided not to proceed with the three-year long-term agreement. Although the existing policy has been renewed for the current year, it was proposed to investigate alternative insurers.

**1285. Ugley Landfill update**

This was dealt with under Planning.

**1286. Neighbourhood Plan**

Phil Sowter attended the 6th June, Newport, Quendon and Rickling Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee Meeting. Two working groups are represented - the Development Working Group and the Environment Working Group. The Development Working Group continues to consider any merits of potential development under the UDC Call for Sites and the Environment Working Group is reviewing existing policy areas including Local Heritage Assets, Locally Important Views and a new Policy area Local Green Spaces.

**1287. Football posts update**

The football posts have been installed.

**1288. Winter salt provision overview**

The salt is to be delivered to the car park to the rear of The Cricketers Arms. The parish clerk will make the necessary application for the Salt Partnership Scheme.

**1289. The Link – update**

Robert Arnold has stepped down as editor of The Link. His replacement is Sandra Arnold.

**1290. Defibrillator**

The defibrillator was accessed this month although an ambulance arrived before the device was actually used. New pads have been purchased.

**[286/2023]**

**1291. First Aid Course**

LOB has recommended that all councillors should be trained first aiders. This was agreed. LOB will make enquiries regarding the training.

**1292. Communications overview**

SJ wondered if there should be better communications within the village, for example to let residents know more about the activities of the Parish Council. Could there be more avenues of communication to make villagers more aware of village activities and actions? Villagers should be encouraged to participate.

**1293. County and District Councillor reports**

**District Councillor Neil Hargreaves (report submitted in his absence)**

- Following the local elections there have been changes to responsibilities amongst cabinet members.
- Cabinet has been reduced from seven to six.
- There is a consultants report covering off street and on street parking with a number of recommendations.
- I chaired a working party last week allocating the second year's funds from the government's levelling up fund.

**District Councillor Judy Emanuel (report submitted in her absence)**

- I have been made vice-chair of the planning committee.
- Have attended a number of training courses, one of which relates to the Local Plan.

**County Councillor Ray Gooding (RG)**

RG was called away before he was able to present his report.

**1294. Date of next meeting**

**12<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**1295. Closure of meeting**

There being no further items to be discussed, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.44 .

**[287/2023]**