

**MINUTES OF QUENDON & RICKLING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9th MARCH 2022 AT 7.30 PM.**

Present: Sally Kitcat – (SK) Chairman
Tom Duncan – (TDN)
Katherine Nuthall - (KN)
Gari Spearpoint – (GS)

County Councillor Ray Gooding (RG)
District Councillor Neil Hargreaves (NH)
1 member of the public

1010. Declarations of Interest

None

1011. Apologies for Absence

Jennie Sutton (JS)
Keith Williams (KW)-Parish Clerk

1012. Minutes of the last meeting held on 9th February 2022 (already circulated)

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

1013. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 9th February 2022

None.

1014. Public participation session

None.

1015. Extraordinary Parish Meeting and Open meeting with Pegasi.

The open meeting was addressed by Robert Timmins from Pegasi who detailed the plans for development of two sites in Rickling. He was assisted by Claire Coats from Alan Baxter Landscape Architects. The constraints document, which provides full details of the proposals, is on the village website.

87 residents attended the meeting who raised many questions. At the end of the meeting a show of hands was taken on the development proposals. There was an almost unanimous objection to the proposals. A letter has been sent to Jo Upton, CEO of Pegasi, reminding her that at a meeting in 2019 Pegasi had stated that if there was clearly no interest by residents in the development plans, then Pegasi would walk away and go elsewhere. It would appear that this assurance no longer stands. The letter can be viewed on the village website.

The Parish Council would like to thank the school for the use of their hall for the meeting.
[218/2022]

1016. Correspondence

- a. The Cricketers Arms has advised that they do not want a “No Access” sign to be crayoned on the access road in front of the pub. GS will investigate No Parking signs.
- b. A resident has offered to help fight the proposed developments.
- c. TDN will put the UDC Green Issues pamphlet on the website.
- d. A request has been received for logs to be placed around the post box and the restored corner to prevent lorries from causing further damage.
- e. A reply has been received from Kemi Badenoch to an email sent to her regarding the placing of UDC in special measures. The wording of the reply appears to be a standard response.
- f. A resident has asked whether a car charging post could be installed near his residence. It is recommended that he contact Highways for advice. It is noted that this is within a conservation area and that he should therefore also consult Place Services.
- g. Various fallow areas on Maces Farm and being ploughed up to establish a wild flower site. The planting will take place in April and in Quendon meadow, with a winter bird food mix to encourage more wildlife.

1017. Finance

- a. **Accounts balances (already circulated).**
Noted.
- b. **Invoices and payments for approval.**
The payments were approved.

[219/2022]

FINANCE REPORT for FEBRUARY 2022

Balance b/f @ 31/01/2022

41638.95

Payments to be authorised for February 2022

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Reason
Ted Crow (already paid)	online	60.00	Football pitch preparations
Ted Crow (already paid)	online	49.66	Diesel for mower
Prontoprint (Keith Williams - already paid)	online	21.00	Pegasi meeting letters
Ted Crow (already paid)	online	8.50	Storage box
Payroo	online	6.00	Payroll expenses
Regal Expolite (already paid)	online	180.00	Line marking fluid
The Voice Box (already paid)	online	160.50	Deposit for musicians
CPRE	online	36.00	Renewal of membership
Keith Williams	online	359.97	Salary for February 2022
HMRC (Keith Williams)	online	90.00	PAYE for February 2022
Local Toilet Hire	online	127.20	Football pitch toilet hire
Npower	online	81.27	Electricity for January 2022
Lara Windsor (already paid)	online	40.00	Bridleway print
Ted Crow	online	70.00	Matchday preparation
Sally Kitcat	online	22.00	Carries's present
Total Payments for February 2022		1312.10	

Balance @ 28/02/2022

40326.85

Football Pitch hire

65.00

Balance c/f @ 28/02/2022

40391.85

Please note: The payments to HMRC and Prontoprint were made by the parish clerk and are being reimbursed.

1018. Planning

1. UTT/22/0495/FUL – 2 Rickling House Cottages, Rickling Green Road

Construction of one new dwelling within the rear garden of the existing main house.

The Parish Council objects to this application.

Similar applications for new builds on this site have been refused twice in the fairly recent past, and subsequent appeals dismissed.

[220/2022]

The site is within the conservation area and proposes a new house in the garden of a Grade II-listed building, of a size larger than the main building which would significantly affect the site of the current listed building. Furthermore access would be up the track Willis's Lane and involve back-garden development which is at odds with the Neighbourhood Plan.

1019. Events

Agree Events budget

A budget of £2000 for the Jubilee events was agreed. The Clerk is to apply to UDC for the Jubilee grant. A quote is awaited for a beacon.

There has been a very slow uptake on the purchase of pumpkin seeds for the competition. It is hoped there will be more interest in April/May.

The crusher has arrived for the apple press.

1020. Footpaths

The Parish Council met with Public Rights of Way Officer and showed him several issues in the village where we questioned responsibility. He has;

- a. Organised for the steps at the entrance of Footpath 28 (north end of Quendon) to be replaced over the next couple of months.
- b. Messaged the landowner of Quendon Wood asking them to clear the fallen tree so this will hopefully be done over the next 2 weeks.
- c. At the same time as the steps, he will get new tops fitted to the metal barriers at the entrance to Footpath 19 (Forsters Footpath).
- d. Will do a land registry search to see who owns the land the trees are originating from, (19) provided details of the Parish Path Partnership. We are interested in finding out more about this.
- e. Provided details of the paths which should be cut by their subcontractors once a year. We can view which ones are on our cutting schedule on the Essex Highways website. He will try to get the subcontractors to let him know once the parish is completed and we can check they have done all they should have and if not send them back.

The broken bridge by Broom Wood is to be mended by ECC in May when dry enough for their vehicles to access it.

[221/2022]

1021. B1383

Traffic Calming Scheme

RG told the Parish Council the implementation of the Traffic Calming Scheme is to begin 28th March 2022. Highways will notify residents.

Highways are still insisting that plastic bollards be installed for safety reasons. Their reflective nature is intended to give warning. The Parish Council queried if the bollards are needed as the cars already park on the pathway without any warning and the bollards were not present in the initial scheme drawn up by Railton. RG to investigate if they can be left out of the scheme altogether.

RG mentioned the speed survey along Cambridge Road will be set up in the coming week(s) prior to the implementation start date. SK mentioned speed survey equipment is already in situ in front of the Village Hall. RG wasn't aware of this and will investigate to find out who this belongs to. KN was led to believe the speed survey would be conducted along the B1383 between the fountain and the Rickling Green turning where the traffic island in the Phase II LHP Request is to be installed

(i) B1383 - Phase II LHP Request

RG advised that the unofficial review of the Phase II LHP request for installation of a traffic island (north of the Rickling Green turning) highlighted a need for illumination of the island from the verge i.e. street lighting. The size of the island is too small to have illumination on it. RG has been asked to consult with Highway Engineers for other options/alternatives that could be implemented to address and tackle the speeding and dangerous driving that occurs along this stretch of road.

1022. Tulip Tree/Tree Guard

The guard has not yet been received. The Clerk will investigate.

1023. England Cricket Day

This will be on Sunday 3rd July.

1024. Ponds and Meadows

Essex Wildlife Proposals

(i) A budget of £500 was approved for Essex Wildlife Trust to assess and produce a report on their findings and recommendations on the 2 village ponds. Paul Wilsher (PW) to organise a date and book as spring best time of year to do this.

(ii) PW to investigate companies to maintain and cut the 2 village meadows.

[222/2022]

1025. List of Parish Council responsibilities

Councillor responsibilities were discussed. It was agreed to just maintain basic coverage as at present there are not enough councillors to cover all.

1026. Football Pitch

- **Time charges**

The pitch time charges of 41 matches at £15 per match, totalling £615, was approved. To be taken out of pitch profits. Ted Crow (TC) to submit an invoice.

- **Access repairs**

£50 approved for private football pitch road repairs, also to be taken out of pitch profits. TC to submit an invoice.

1027. County and District Councillor reports

District Councillor Neil Hargreaves

- A prospective new Head of Planning has been interviewed and it is hoped to make the appointment shortly. He impressed in the interview, particularly when explaining how to work to get the designation notice revoked.
- LHP funding from UDC for 2022/2023 has been agreed. There will be a contribution of £200K from UDC on top of the £400K from ECC.
- Under the Community Projects distribution scheme £310K has been distributed to 16 voluntary bodies.

County Councillor Ray Gooding

- The council tax is to rise by 4.5%.
- 50% of the budget goes towards adult social care. This covers 17000 people out of a population of 1.4m.

1028. Date of next meeting

13th April 2022

1029. Closure of meeting

There being no further items to be discussed, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.34.

[223/2022]