

## Ruscombe Parish Council

### Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council

Held in the William Penn Room, Loddon Hall, Twyford

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7:30pm

**Councillors Present:** Mr M Evans (Chair), Mr P Cassidy, Mr J May, Mr G Merrick, Mrs A Hasted and Mr P Evans

**Others Present:**, Mrs S Wisdom (TPC)

**Clerk in attendance:** Mr G Winder.

7:30pm Mr M Evans opened the meeting.

**70/23 Apologies for Absence:** Mr G Howe, Mrs J Holmes

**71/23 Declaration of Interest:** No new interests to declare.

**72/23 Minutes:** Minutes for 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 circulated via email, approval proposed by Mr G Merrick, seconded by Mr P Evans and approved unanimously.

Minutes for Extraordinary Meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023 circulated previously via email, approval proposed by Mr M Evans, seconded by Mr P Evans and approved unanimously.

**73/23 Public Comments sent to the Clerk or Councillors:** Streetlighting issues in Pennfields have been fixed. FOI request received and being actioned with Democratic Services.

**74/23 Update from Twyford Parish Councillor:** Mrs Wisdom shared update that all at TPC are in election mode. Discussion about climate change is progressing.

Coronation plans are apace with times TBC and will be announced via web site.

Tennis courts looking positive and skate park progress slowly moving forward.

**75/23 Update from Wokingham Borough Councillors:** None.

**76/23 Ruscombe Neighbourhood Plan:** Mr M Evans shared with Council that the plan has been re-submitted for formal review on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at the BC Executive Meeting. In the meantime, we have written to all the owners.

A further Regulation 16 Consultation will be conducted in 4 weeks followed by an independent examination.

Action: Clerk to scan and summarise owner responses to Council.

**77/23 Planning Applications:** None to consider. Mr G Merrick commented that WBC was now responding to acknowledge RPC input.

**78/23 Ruscombe Ponds:** Mr G Merrick shared update on further discussion with Econet. They have scheduled out what should be done with a date in October to renovate ponds. Further discussion needed including what Econet can do versus what other contractors are needed.

Action: Provide Kingfisher contact details to Mr G Merrick.

Castle End Pond has had excess willow cuttings removed. Fencing supplier is waiting for materials and the fence will be positioned back from the road but allow a margin to the pond edge.

7.45pm, Mr J May joined the meeting.

**79/23 Pennfields Orchard:** Action: Find out status regarding CR Landscapes and mulching.

**80/23 Hardship Fund:** TPC to let RPC know how and when a contribution is needed.

**81/23 SID Maintenance:** Mr Chambers has taken over maintenance and will submit a quarterly invoice.

**82/23 Trees:** All new trees in Northbury Avenue are in bloom.

**83/23 Coronation Planning:** A £500 contribution will be made towards TPC celebrations with approval in finance section. RPC residents will receive the flyer.

**84/23 Annual Parish Meeting:** This will be separate from any Council meeting and will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Action: Clerk to request Twyford Room at 7.30pm. Mr M Evans will source a guest speaker from either Mr S Lloyd or Mr S Conway. A flyer will be needed for social media and notice boards and possibly RG10.

Public are invited and agenda will include a few words from Chair, Planning Chair, a finance report from the Clerk with income and expenditure and a session on the Neighbourhood Plan, facilitated by Mr G Merrick or Mr M Evans.

**85/23 Loddon Hall RPC Rep:** Nothing to report.

**86/23 CIL Money:**

Opportunities in boundary upgrades, flooding/drainage repair.

Action: Clerk to look at where we are with CIL, consult auditor and establish the rules to share at next meeting.

Mrs A Hasted spoke to Ms S Hardcastle about graphic design for village sign and will follow up with her further. Mr P Cassidy is obtaining a quote to supply the sign (CIL project).

**87/23 Finance:** Payments to consider:

Loddon Hall Invoice £ 16.25 Paid #1/4

O'Neill Homer Invoice £ 3120.00 Paid #2/4

Kennet Engraving Invoice £ 78.00 Paid #3/4

CR Landscapes Invoice £ 2203.00 Paid #4/4

Edge IT Invoice £ 285.60 Paid #5/4

TPC Coronation Contribution £500.00 #6/4

Clerk Wages and Expenses £736.17 #7/4

SSE (Feb) £55.00: Paid Direct Debit

These payments were proposed by Mr J May, seconded by Mr P Evans and approved unanimously.

**88/23 Reports from liaison rep:**

Mr C Bell of NPCG would like to get Planning Chairs together.

**89/23 Any other business:**

Mr M Evans raised the issue about the renaming of the boundaries and the exclusion of the Ruscombe name. He will follow up with this asap.

Mr M Evans reminded Council that it will need to elect a Chair, Planning Chair and Vice Chair at the next meeting which will be the Annual Meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023, moved back from the 4<sup>th</sup> .

Mr M Evans closed the meeting at 8:41pm

Chair Signed\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

**Date of next meeting: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

Chair initials\_\_\_\_\_