

Rhodesia Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 4th December 2019 in Rhodesia Village Hall

Present:

Councillor Margaret Leadbeater (Chair)

Councillors Audrey Samuel, Carla Wheatley, David Pressley and Gordon Hall.

M Welch (Clerk).

There were two members of the public present along with John Foster.

Mr Foster explained that the plans were drawn up in 2016 and now that funding is available he had commissioned a botanical survey and five-year management plan which was circulated. The survey had shown that there were 75 plant species including a bee orchid. It was suggested that the Parish Council relax their mowing regime and they were asked if this could be looked at. The Rotary club are still interested in being hands on with the project. The dipping platform needs looking at separately and in the future a meeting will be arranged on site.

A resident expressed concerns about rubble dumped in the ditch which has the overflow pipe for the quarry, Councillor Pressley offered to ask for this to be removed.

Trees that had been removed by developers were discussed, Councillor Pressley will ask the developer to contact the resident concerned to discuss this further.

Councillor Hall reported that VIA will be delivering seventy 20kg sand bags which Councillor Pressley explained needed to be put in the storage container.

The mower was tried and would not start so it was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting before the mowing season starts.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from County Councillor Sybil Fielding.

2. Declaration of Interest

Councillor Pressley declared an interest in the quarry.

3. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 6th November 2019

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th November, copies of which had been previously circulated to members were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes

a) Vacancy

Nothing further has been heard.

b) Quarry

This has already been discussed with John Foster and councillors have some reading to do.

c) Allotments/Memorial

Councillor Samuel has spoken to Paul who has not got time. Councillor Pressley will make enquiries about obtaining a half wheel.

d) Youth Club

According to Sybil someone from Valley is running the club. The clerk had also made enquiries, Shane had been asked to contact the clerk but as yet this has not happened. The clerk was asked to write to Councillor Fielding to ask her who to get in touch with.

e) Bollards at shop

An email had been sent to the shop and it was reported the owner doesn't understand why he can't have the bollards he asked for. There had been a meeting last week when the shop owner had not turned up. There was discussion about the options and councillors were told that the retractable bollards would also need maintaining and would increase costs considerably. Planning permission may be required depending on the option taken, it was agreed nothing could be done until we know what the owner wants.

f) Playing Field

We are still waiting for a reply.

g) Financial Regulations

Councillor Leadbeater proposed the draft regulations be accepted, seconded by Councillor Hall and all agreed. The clerk was asked to send out the final document.

5. New Business

a) Village Hall -Opening/Business Rates

Nothing further has been heard. Councillors agreed the clerk should charge £200 for the use of the hall for the elections.

b) VE Day

John Foster had agreed to incorporating trees into the quarry plans. Councillor Wheatley agreed to look into organising an event for VE Day and to report back at the next meeting.

c) Flooding

This had already been discussed.

6. Planning

a) New Applications

19/01437/FUL Planning Portal Ref: PP-08278127 Erect Single Storey Building to Create Three Units - Two (A1 Use) Units and One (A3 Use) Unit (Resubmission of 18/01483/FUL) Woodhouse Inn Shireoaks Road - Councillors expressed concerns about the parking as they felt that there may not be enough spaces.

19/01460/VOC Planning Portal Ref: Vary Conditions 3 and 6 of P.A. 17/01243/OUT to Allow Changes to the Layout of Car Parking, Re-Siting of Hotel and Restaurant/Bar, Alterations to Footprint of Retail Units 1-3 and Increase Depth of Landscape Buffer to Southern Boundary, Land at High Grounds High Grounds Road Rhodesia – there were no objections.

19/00852/FUL Residential Development of 128 Two, Three and Four Bedroomed Dwellings, Ancillary Works and Construct New Access - Land West of Queen Elizabeth Crescent Rhodesia – The access road won't be wide enough and is too close to the school. If there was access off Mary Street at the opposite end it would alleviate the pressure on this other road.

b) Decisions

There were no new decisions.

7. Finance

a) Balance - £3839.14 in the current account on 31st October.

b) Cheques - the following cheques were signed M Welch £440.27, Josephine Ambrose £240, B Walmsley £180 and M Welch January £440.27

c) Precept – the clerk had previously circulated the accounts, the precept will be discussed further at the next meeting. Councillor Hall proposed the precept be increased by 6%, seconded by Councillor Wheatley and unanimously agreed.

8. County and District Councillors

District Councillor Pressley will be submitting comments of his own to the planning applications.

9. Correspondence

Correspondence received has been circulated.

10. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 5th February 2020

The meeting closed at 8.50pm