

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ROSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT MEMORIAL HALL, ROSSINGTON, AT 7.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 8th MARCH 2011

Present:

Chairman	Councillor T Wilde
Councillors :	J Adam, C Beaumont, T Chandler, D Clark, B Harrison, J Greehalgh, T Jewsbury, C Judd, J Quinn, W Pagin, B Royle, G Sheldon.
Clerk	S Merriman
Public	2

3641 PUBLIC FORUM

The Police were absent.

During the public forum the following item was raised and where applicable responded to :

- The PACT meeting scheduled for Wednesday 9th March 2011 at the parish hall which is to incorporate a 'Big Society' approach.

3642 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST, IF ANY.

RESOLVED to note there were no declarations of interest.

3643 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8/02/11

RESOLVED to approve the minutes as a true record subject to the following addition to minute 3615 PUBLIC FORUM :

The chairman reminded parish councillors that the public forum was essentially an opportunity for members of the public to raise issues.

3644 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 8/02/11

3644.1 POTHLES (Minute 3635 refers)

The clerk read out an email from Darren Hughes with reference to the potholes that had been reported to DMBC following the February parish council meeting.

3645 ALLOTMENT RENTS 2011/12

RESOLVED to support the Allotments Committee recommendation that the rent be set at £45 for 2011/12 (the same as 2010/11).

3646 ADDITIONAL ALLOTMENT LAND

Consideration was given to an offer of land from DMBC to the Parish Council and York Street Allotment Society. It was reported that the land (possibly wholly or partly) had originally been granted to DMBC as Open Space Land.

RESOLVED prior to setting up a meeting with York Street Allotments Society to progress this issue, to firstly clarify the status of the land with DMBC.

3647 LIBRARY CLOSURE PROGRAMME

RESOLVED To note the minutes of the 14/2/11 Library Preservation Committee.
RESOLVED To approve and note the minutes of the 22/2/11 Library Preservation Committee.

RESOLVED To note that on 1/3/11 The Campaign for the Book launched a legal challenge to the Secretary of State's failure to comply with his duties under the 1964 Public Libraries and Museums Act.

Cllr J Adam commented that as a result of public pressure and the risk of legal challenge to its consultation procedures DMBC had not 'retrieved' the libraries as reported in the media on 18/2/11 but had only put back its closure programme for 12 months. This was to give it time to apply more rigour to its consultation procedures and allegedly to properly consult with communities, including with parish councils, rather than dictate to them. Given this claimed extended consultation process, he felt it was a matter of concern that in an article in Rossington Today, that must have been submitted by the 12/2/11, DMBC Ward Richard Cooper-Holmes had asserted that the library was moving to Holmescarr. A number of other councillors confirmed Richard Cooper Holmes had told them that the library was moving to Holmescarr.

RESOLVED to write to Mayor Davies to determine if the statements made by Councillor Cooper-Holmes are correct and if they are not, will the people of Rossington, led by the Parish Council, be involved in serious consultations regarding the future of the village library.

3648 PUBLIC TOILETS ON NORMAN CRESCENT

Chairman Cllr T Wilde reported on the present unsatisfactory impasse with DMBC Neighbourhoods who were refusing to repair pipe bursts on account of cost. In the meantime, the toilets remained closed whilst the parish council still had to pay the wages of the toilet cleaner.

RESOLVED to write to DMBC saying the parish council expected DMBC to repair the burst pipes and refurbish the toilets to an acceptable standard, prior to the possibility of the parish council taking them over.

RESOLVED to continue paying the toilet cleaner and to review this issue at the April meeting.

3649 SWIMMING BATHS

Consideration was given to an item from Cllr D Clark about the generally poor state of repair of the swimming baths, including the leaking roof.

RESOLVED to complain to DMBC about the baths state of repair and to ask if the imminent transfer of the baths to Dome Leisure Trust will result in remedial repairs being undertaken.

3650 DMBC : REPORT TO CABINET 2/2/11 DMBC REVENUE BUDGET & COUNCIL TAX 2011/12

Consideration was given to the response from DMBC's new Director of Finance & Corporate Services about the parish council's concerns to do with DMBC's unattainable Objectives, the inadequacy of its Reserves, its unfeasibly low Council Tax Level, its relatively low collection rates and the level of overpayments to its staff that remained uncollected.

RESOLVED to welcome the candid response from Simon Wiles, and to note with some concern the under-spending forecast for 2010/11 and the fact that overpayments to staff were nearer £800,000 than the £320,000 reported on 2/2/11 to Cabinet.

3651 ROSSINGTON MARKET AND CAR-PARKING AREA

Cllr C Judd expressed concern that a hot dog stand had been allowed by DMBC to operate on the market, within a stones throw of a shop selling similar produce. RESOLVED to write to DMBC Neighbourhoods to seek clarification of the rules.

3652 WATER TABLE MONITORING POINTS

RESOLVED To approve a motion from Cllr C Judd to place 6 water table monitoring points around Rossington at a cost of £50.

3653 PROJECTS GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Consideration was given to a motion from Cllr C Judd to set up 'Enhance Rossington', a projects governance committee to run all precept funded projects. The clerk explained that he had also received proposals from other councillors about the committee structure and was currently reviewing it.

RESOLVED clerk to bring back some proposals for consideration by the newly elected council following the May 2011 elections.

3654 ROYAL WEDDING

RESOLVED not to support a motion from Cllr C Judd to mark the royal wedding.

3655 R.I.B.

Cllr C Judd explained the reasons for his resignation from the R.I.B. group to do with the R.I.B budget. The clerk reiterated the points previously made at the February Meeting – Minute 3634 refers.

RESOLVED to note

3656 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

RESOLVED to support a motion from Cllr C Judd to have "A.O.B." as the last item on the parish council monthly agenda for exchanges of information or the giving of a preliminary notification of important business for next time.

3657 GRANGE LANE CEMETERY

Consideration was given to an item from Cllr C Judd concerning damage from

DMBC vehicles to the cemetery grounds and environment. The proximity of the damage to graves was of particular concern.

RESOLVED to write to DMBC Cemeteries with the parish councils concerns and to ask that that appropriate remedial work be undertaken.

3658 EMERGENCY PLANNING / SNOW CLEARING

RESOLVED to note DMBC Neighbourhoods holding response to the parish councils representations about the bad weather impact on highways and pavements. Chairman to raise with Neighbourhood Manager.

3659 THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION'S 90th BIRTHDAY

Consideration was given to a suggestion to hold a Poppy Party over the weekend of 10th to 12th June 2011.

RESOLVED to take no action.

3660 PARISH COUNCIL DATA BACKUP

RESOLVED To approve a request from the clerk to utilise the data backup service of the parish councils website host, VisionICT, £50 set up costs and £10 per month.

3661 FINANCE – ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED To approve the following payments :

Payee	Cheque Number	Amount £-pp
Westmoreland Civil Engineering Ltd	2512	10374.00
BT	2513	136.71
Zurich Insurance	2514	1798.55
Staples	2515	149.09
Yorkshire Water	2516	19.96
S Merriman - Feb 11	BACS	1016.23
J Gilsenan-Lewis - Feb 11	BACS	184.64
L Docherty - Feb 11	BACS	697.85
Inland Revenue - Feb 11	2517	663.64
SYPA Feb 11	2518	642.58

3662 YLCA ADVICE NOTE : ELECTIONS 2011

RESOLVED To note.

3663 MINUTES OF 10/2/11 PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED To approve and note.

3664 MINUTES OF 18/2/11 FLOOD DEFENCE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED To approve and note

3665 THE EPILEPSY PROJECT

RESOLVED To note a letter of thanks for the donation to the Christmas meal.

3666 DMBC : FAMILIES INFORMATION SERVICE

RESOLVED To note the availability of the new website that incorporates the Families Service Directory and Childcare Search Facility
www.doncasterchildrenandfamilies.info