

# Rodney Stoke Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs H Marshall 3, Barrows Park, Cheddar BS27 3AZ Tel: 0742328394

## Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting of Rodney Stoke Parish Council held in the Draycott Memorial Hall, Latches Lane, Draycott on Thursday 17th November 2022 at 7pm

**Present:** Cllr Sealey (Chairman) and Cllrs Dearden, Gladman, Haskins, James, McGovarin and Ward. Also present was District and County Cllr Wyke and the Parish Clerk. No members of the public were present.

**254.1 Apologies for absence:** Cllr Bullen ill health; Cllr Daynes work commitment; Cllr Dollins ill health; Cllr Dudden work commitment. The apologies were accepted. Mr S Young, Secretary of the Hall Management Committee and Secretary and Treasurer of the Playing Fields Management Committee also gave apologies.

**254.2 Declarations of Interest** None

**254.3 Public Participation:** None

**254.4 Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29th September 2022, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and unanimously approved.

**254.5 District and County Council Report:** These items were brought forward. The **highways and transport portfolio holder** is to visit the A371 route, members were invited to raise any issues they wished to be seen, the speed limit extension in Rodney Stoke and both the problems with parking and pulling out at the top of The Street in Draycott were raised. **Local Community Networks:** responses to the recent consultation are under review **126 Bus** including the importance of supporting the bus service, difficulty funding after next April, circulating the timetable **Barnetts Well** District Cllr Wyke will investigate the designation of the green.

**254.6 Matters arising from the Minutes: Caravan Signage:** Priddy Council will discuss our request for additional signage **Card Memorial Railings:** A permit to carry out the works is being investigated **Memorial Tree:** The Playing Fields Management Committee approved the planting of the tree, and the purchase will now go ahead.

District and County Cllr Wyke left the meeting.

**254.7 Roads Report:** Temporary Road Closure: **Nyland Drove, Cheddar** was noted; The **Multiuser path** between Draycott and Rodney Stoke has been investigated for clearance by County Highways.

**254.8 Planning: Enforcement** matters in the Parish were updated. The Planning Committee decided not to send any further response to **The Draft Supplementary Planning Document: Greenspace and audit. Planning Forum Training**, the slides have been circulated to members.

**254.9 District Council Report: Climate and Ecological meeting:** Cllr Dearden had provided a written report which had been circulated. A copy is available in the Minute Book. It was noted that support is available to volunteers to evaluate trees and hedges. Local interest is to be investigated.

**254.10 Local Government Reform.** The recent consultation had been discussed in item 254.5.

**254.11 The Rev Cobley Playing Fields Report: The AGM minutes** had been circulated. A copy is available in the Minute Book. **A request for funding** from the Playing Fields Committee had been received and will be considered at the January meeting. An **inspection report** was discussed: worn contact details on the signage will be replaced; a bolt is stuck but can't be adjusted; damage to the wildlife barrier and the redundant gap will be investigated and will be reviewed at the next meeting; measures to repair the self-closing gate will be replaced.

**Action:** Cllr Gladman and the Clerk

**254.12 New Memorial Hall Report:** The recent request for 'warm spaces' was raised, it was discussed that the spaces currently identified are generally already heated.

**254.13 Burial Ground Report:** There were no interments this period. The **Burial Ground Inspection** was discussed: The Clerk is to contact interested parties for headstones which require attention. Notices will be added to plots where no current address is available. After 3 months the Council will consider further action. The Clerk is to remind relatives about regulations regarding planted plots. **The pond** needs revitalising, the Clerk is to contact the newt society for advice.

**254.14 Somerset Association Local Councils:** Cllr Dearden offered to respond to the **Well Being Survey**.

**254.15 Environmental Issues:** The report had been circulated; a copy is available in the Minute Book.

**254.16 Neighbourhood Watch:** The report had been circulated; a copy is available in the Minute Book.

**254.17 Footpath Walkers Report:** The County Footpaths Officer has offered to liaise with Highways to address some of surfaces of the **interconnecting footpaths in Draycott**.

**254.18 Emergency Planning** The request for Emergency contacts was discussed, it was noted that the Council doesn't hold information on vulnerable residents. The matter will be deferred to the next meeting.

**254.19 Community Matters: Cllr Dearden** volunteered to be the new **bus representative**. The Clerk is to pass on thanks to the previous representative for their help. The Council agreed in principle to add **a memorial plaque to the Card Memorial railings**, the wording and quote is to be agreed. **Request from resident:** The Council discussed a recent request regarding the Rodney Stoke Inn. It was decided not to get involved.

**254.20 Correspondence:** All correspondence was brought to the attention of the Council including the following recent items: Mendip's Community Lottery Fund open for applications until 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023; Consultation on priorities for the UK Shared Prosperity Rural Fund – the Council agreed the response; Notification of East Harptree Clearfelling work; Civility and respect project; A webinar on cyber risk and insurance; Shop local and park for free on Small Business Saturday; Council launches online learning tool for Mendip food businesses; Rescheduled Honeygar Reserve visit.

**254.21 Newsletter:** Planting the sapling to commemorate the Jubilee; reinstatement of the railings and a memorial plaque; to promote use of the 126 bus.

**254.22 Statement of Accounts:** The statement for November, had been previously circulated. The bank reconciliations for October and November had been previously verified.

**Resolution:** To approve the statement. Unanimously agreed.

**254.23 Financial Report:**

i. The **payments schedule** had been previously circulated. **Resolution:** To approve the schedule. Unanimously agreed.

Itsa Goal Posts Ltd	I19	Goal Posts	£1176.82
Probusiness Ltd	I20	Payroll	£46.50
GWB Services Ltd	I21	Grass Cutting	£137.16
HMRC	I22	Clerks PAYE	£92.19
H Marshall	I23	Clerks Salary & Mileage	£846.60
GWB Services Ltd	I24	Grass Cutting	£225.12
A Chick	I25	Street Cleaning	£323.00
HMRC	I26	Clerks PAYE	£89.66
H Marshall	I27	Clerks Salary & Mileage	£845.49
H Marshall	I28	Clerks Expenses	£102.43
NEST	DD	Pension	£28.66
NEST	DD	Pension	£28.56

ii. **NJC pay agreement review**

**Resolution:** Cllr Gladman proposed implementing the new pay agreement and backdating the new pay scales to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. Cllr Ward seconded. Unanimously agreed.

iii. **Budget and Precept 2023 24** The Councils accounts were reviewed, the rate of inflation and correspondence from the County Council were discussed. The draft

budget was adjusted to increase the budgeted figure for salaries and reduce transfers into reserves. The draft budget was reduced from a 7.9% increase to a 4.99% increase.

**Resolution:** Cllr Ward proposed approving the adjusted the draft budget at a 4.99% increase. The **precept request for 2023 24** will be £27,084.00 Cllr Gladman seconded. Unanimously agreed.

The Clerk is to submit the request.

**254.24 Dates of future meetings**

2023 January 19th, March 16th, May 18th, July 20th, Sept 21st, Nov 16th

**Time of closing meeting: 9.09pm**