

RUFFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16 November 2020 at 6.30 pm via Zoom

Present: Councillors:

D. Fernley (Chair)

B.Bates

J. Pearce

J. Ball

A. Drane

In attendance:

C. Millward (Clerk)

J.Peck (County councillor)

R. Dolan (Parkwood Leisure)

J. Robinson (Parkwood Leisure)

	DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS	ACTION
RPC/186/20	Apologies for absence: There were no absences.	
RPC/187/20	Declarations of interest: There were no declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.	
RPC/188/20	Dispensations: No dispensations required. Mrs Bates was having technical difficulties. She joined the meeting by phone.	
RPC/189/20	Co-option of new councillor: Mr Fernley reminded councillors that Professor Jonathan Ball was a previous election nominee but, at that time, there had been too many nominations so had stood down. Councillors unanimously co-opted Mr Ball as a councillor. The clerk will liaise with Mr Ball regarding the acceptance of office forms. Mr Fernley welcomed Mr Ball to the parish council.	Clerk
RPC/190/20	Parkwood Leisure Report (if any): Ms Dolan of Parkwood Leisure introduced her replacement whilst she was on maternity leave, Ms J, Robinson. Ms Dolan will liaise with the clerk and Ms Robinson with regard to their respective contact details. She reported on developments at the park as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The park has been open since May 2020 and was adhering to all government guidance regarding Covid 19. 2. Only takeaway facilities were open at the site 3. A small Christmas craft market will be taking place observing social distancing guidance and noted reports of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Mill end carpark being used for anti- social purposes after dark. She explained the difficulty of locking the car parks because staff need to leave and, currently, staffing on site is very limited. The impact of lighting was discussed. She will raise the issue with management and report back. b. Cars continuing to park on Rufford Lane c. Bins overflowing with paper cups which she will raise with the operations team. 	RD/JR RD/JR

	Ms Dolan and Ms Robinson left the meeting at 7.00 pm	
RPC/191/20	10 minutes public speaking time: No public present.	
RPC/192/20	Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 29 September and 27 October 2020: The minutes of both meetings were approved.	
RPC/193/20	Matters arising – for information only: No matters arising.	
RPC/194/20	Reports from district and county councillors: None present	
RPC/195/20	<p>Reports from Councillors: Mr Peck reported:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On NCC activities with particular reference to Covid 19. 2. That the Secretary of State had refused an appeal for a unitary authority. 3. A614 improvements. Mr Peck noted that the council had not been consulted in spite of making contact with the officer concerned. Councillors will consider the information provided by Mr Peck later in the meeting and forward their response to him to be passed on to the officer. <p>Mr Peck left the meeting.</p>	
RPC/196/20	<p>2021 meeting dates: Councillors approved the 2021 meeting schedule which the clerk will arrange to be uploaded to the NSDC website.</p> <p>The meeting timed out. Councillors re-joined (Mrs Bates by phone).</p>	Clerk
RPC/197/20	<p>Financial Matters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Financial position as at 31 October 2020: Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 October 2020 (incorporating the 2020-21 budget figures). Councillors viewed the balances as stated in the bank statements on line. b. Accounts for payment: The council unanimously approved eight payments totalling £683.93. c. Appointment of internal auditor: Councillors agreed that Halam parish clerk should be asked whether she would be prepared to undertake the role for a further year. They also approved the purchase of £50 gift vouchers as thanks for undertaking the role voluntarily. d. Review system of internal control: Councillors discussed the operation of the system of internal control and agreed that it was adequate for the size and needs of the council and continued to operate effectively, subject to the appointment of an internal auditor which was in hand. e. Consider need for interim internal audit: The clerk advised councillors as to the on-going nature of the internal audit process. Councillors considered their financial affairs for the financial year to date. They decided that, given the thorough nature of the internal audit carried out by Halam parish clerk, an interim internal audit would be disproportionate and was not justified. 	
RPC/198/20	<p>Planning matters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Applications: None. b. To note planning decisions by NSDC: Grant of permission in relation to 20/01609/HOUSE Double storey side extension to form double garage and home gym Abbey Rose May Lodge 	

	<p>Drive, Rufford received after the agenda had been circulated was noted.</p> <p>c. Enforcement matters including possible commercial activity on land adjoining Old Rufford Road: No developments.</p>	
RPC/199/20	<p>Parish environment and appearance including grass cutting arrangements: Councillors thanked the resident who had been sweeping up leaves. The winter salt supply had been delivered to Mr Pearce. The grit bins have been refilled by NCC.</p> <p>Councillors discussed the the proposal to install traffic lights at Deerdale Lane and Mickledale Lane outlined by Mr Peck at RPC/195/20 above (Reports from councillors) and agreed they object to the proposal because of the likelihood of bunching traffic and bottle necks on a road where visibility is restricted in a number of sections. In their view, lights would also compound the traffic issues caused by the heavy use of A614 by agricultural vehicles. They would prefer a system which allows traffic to continue to flow at a sensible speed. The clerk will inform Mr Peck accordingly.</p>	Clerk
RPC/200/20	Service faults: None	
RPC/201/20	Correspondence: NALC – Standards – Consultation – The clerk will circulate.	Clerk
RPC/202/20	Agenda items for next meeting: As above	
RPC/203/20	Date of next meeting: Tuesday 19 January 2021 at 6.30 pm	

The meeting closed at 7.30 pm