

NYMET ROWLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the 161st meeting of the Parish Council, held on Wed. 22nd March 2017 at 7.30.

Present:- Councillors Babs Channing (Chair), David Gruncell (vice Chair), Viv O'Dell, Winnie Rooks, Clerk Roger Cooper. John Daw Chairman MDDC. Apologies Adrian Pike.

RC advised that Adrian Pike's apology had been followed by his resignation because he finds it so difficult to attend the meetings. BC said the Council thanked him very much for his many years of service.

BC went on to say that Anthony Odhams has volunteered to be co-opted onto the council; all in favour so AO took his seat on the council.

JD advised us about correct procedure for allowing Members of the Public to speak at meetings. This should take place at the beginning of each meeting and last up to 15 or 30 minutes, and at no other time during the meeting unless asked to speak on a specific matter. Councillors should not necessarily have to provide an answer at said meeting, but could agree to answer at the next meeting. BC suggested that 15 mins. should be sufficient for our small Council, although MoP's would be invited by councillors to speak during meetings on specified topics; all in favour, motion carried. At this point BC said JD had another meeting to attend and was thanked for attending. MoP Ian Binnie asked BC to clarify if any comments at all could be made at any other part of the meeting without invitation, BC answered No they could not, at which point he left the meeting.

It was agreed that if MoP's wanted a specific topic adding to the agenda at a meeting they must give at least 3 full working days notice (excluding weekends & bank holidays) in writing to the clerk for the matter to be raised by a councillor.

BC welcomed Victoria Littlewood representing St Bartholomews's Church, who reported on the very perilous state of the Church's finances and the very large bills of at least £600 they face this year, due to the 5 year building survey that will take place later this year. The councillors discussed how they could help and voted to provide £150 towards these expenses.

The minutes of the meeting on 16th November 2016 were approved and signed.

Matters arising:-

PC Website. RC advised that he had checked with MDDC that there is no specific deadline for the website to be available for the public to view as long as the required information is published elsewhere. BC advised that her sight was now sufficiently improved for her to work on the website with RC. MoP Roland Smith said that a lot of village information and a forum are now available at nymet-rowland-pump.uk.

Emergency Plan. DG advised that the plan was nearing completion and thanked all those who had been helping to finalise it, and should be available for publication soon.

BT Broadband. AO reported that high speed broadband was now operating in the village providing higher speeds than had been anticipated. However households in the Hele farm area had not yet been able to connect, and further correspondence was now taking place with BT.

Village Defibrillator. As Ian Binnie had left the meeting there was nothing to report. The subject of a general first aid course was proposed as well, regardless of the outcome of the defibrillator, to be discussed further at the next meeting.

Finance Report:-

Expenditure. RC reported that there had been no expenditure since the last meeting, the bank balance remaining at £1,349-54. New expenditure for Village Hall hire (£23), RC honorarium (£25) and DALC affiliation (£58.81) were approved.

RC advised that he had heard from Grant Thornton that the Audit information would be sent out by the end of March. Roland Smith agreed to perform the internal audit.

New Business:-

The annual litter pick has been arranged for Saturday 8th April, at the Village Hall between 10-00 till 11-30AM.

A.O.B.:-

Christmas Tree. DG said that the Christmas Tree had been a great success, but it had been arranged with no cost to the council, Peter and Suzanne at the Old Rectory have kindly offered to provide the electricity again this year. DG suggested planting a tree on the border of the Village Hall and the Old Rectory to be paid for by the Council. The Village Hall committee would be consulted about this. He also thanked David Coeshall for providing the lights and assisting him to set it up and to Mary Shapland for providing the barrel.

Street Lighting. V'OD advised that if lighting has failed and the council are provided with the reference number of the light, they will usually attend to the matter promptly.

Dates of meetings for the year:- 17th May 2017, 16th August 2017, 15th November 2017, 21st March 2018 and 16th May 2018.

The meeting closed at 8-42pm.