

MINUTES OF RIMINGTON & MIDDOP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH 2021
AT 7.30 PM VIA ZOOM

Present: Tony Perry (Chair), David Briscoe, Ian Brown, Rosemary Duckworth, Jacqui Lynch, Keith Pilkington, Stan Fitzgerald (from Item 5 onwards) Borough Cllr Richard Sherras, Clerk and one member of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 03 FEBRUARY 2021

The Minutes of the meeting of 03 February 2021 were accepted as a true record of proceedings and arrangements would be made for these minutes to be signed by the Chair.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

CO-OPTION OF A PARISH COUNCILLOR

It was explained that Stan Fitzgerald had expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor and had put his name forward for consideration. It was noted that Stan was an active member of the Rimington Recreation Association. It was agreed that Stan Fitzgerald be co-opted onto the Parish Council with effect from 17 March 2021.

(Stan Fitzgerald joined the meeting)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was suggested that Trevor Marklew speak under the Agenda item Public Rights of Way.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Yorkshire Bank £10,573

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

Bowland Mountain Rescue Team	Donation	£400.00
Tony Perry	Reimbursement for subscription	£22.

YEAR END MATTERS 2020/21

Risk Assessment

The Clerk tabled a draft risk assessment schedule which was duly considered and adopted. It was noted that an entry had been added to include the effects of a pandemic situation upon the Parish Council.

Asset Register

The Clerk tabled an asset register which was considered. The number of benches to be included on the Parish Council's Asset Register was confirmed as four.

Appointment of internal auditor

The Clerk advised that she was involved in a reciprocal arrangement for internal audit with the Clerk of another local parish and would repeat the arrangement for the forthcoming financial year end.

SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES (SpIDs) AND ROAD SAFETY MATTERS

The Chair advised that Alan Cox of Lancashire Highways had reported that suggestions of a SpID on Newby Lane had met with a serious rebuff from his colleagues at Highways. The reinstatement of road markings on the Lane would need to be reported as a fault via the Report-It website or calls made to the appropriate number. Lancashire Highways had quoted the price of £375.00 for supplying and installing a suitable SpID post at X. It was agreed that this price should be paid and the post ordered. The Chair confirmed that the residents who owned the land where the post was to be installed had agreed to its installation. The Chair advised that, when the post was installed, he would contact the SpID manufacturer again regarding purchase of the SpID device. It was agreed that a device flashing "Slow down" may be more effective than those showing happy or unhappy faces.

PARISH COUNCIL GRANTS AND DONATIONS

It was confirmed that the Rimington Recreation Association would not be seeking financial assistance from the Parish Council in the current financial year. Keith Pilkington was requested to enquire if the Institute had made a decision regarding Parish Council financial assistance in 2020/21.

The Clerk advised that a letter requesting financial support had been received from Bowland Mountain Rescue Team. It was agreed that the Team were very active in the district and regularly assisted with incidents on Pendle Hill. It was agreed that the Parish Council should give a donation of £400.00 to the Bowland Mountain Rescue Team.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND MATTERS

The Chair confirmed that nothing further had been heard regarding an objection to the Variation of Condition application submitted by Rimington Caravan Park.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY ("PROWS") AND PARISH LENGTHSMAN

Trevor Marklew advised the meeting of recent concerns expressed by local landowners regarding the use of footpaths over their land. In particular, there were concerns regarding dogs being let off leads, people straying from the designated paths and the disturbance of ground-nesting birds. It was noted that the Recreation Association would shortly be sending out a newsletter and it was agreed the problems regarding the use of footpaths should be included in that newsletter. It was further agreed that appropriate signage should be investigated as it was noted that many of those

using footpaths were not actually locals so would not receive the newsletter. Keith Pilkington advised that the NFU recognised the problems reported were a national issue and provided their members with appropriate free signage.

An update was provided on jobs to be undertaken by the Pendle Lengthsman. It was noted that the Parish Council had taken out membership of the Peak and Northern Footpath Society (PNFS) in the hope that funding may potentially be available for footpath improvements. Keith Pilkington reported that the PNFS had erected some directional footpath signs on his land and that a fund was held by the PNFS specifically for that purpose so it may be worth an application if more directional signs were required.

Richard Sherras advised that Lancashire County Council would only accept responsibility for registered footpaths in the parish and that there were some paths which may not be registered.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Richard Sherras reported that Ribble Valley Borough Council had set up a working party to deal with issues arising from dog bins as there were so many queries and problems across the district relating to this matter.

The Parish Council formally recorded their thanks to John Parker, who had recently retired from the Parish Council after 29 years' service. It was noted that John's father and grandfather had both served the Parish Council for a significant number of years too.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 12 May 2021 (venue to be determined)

NATIONAL CENSUS 2021

The Clerk explained that promotional materials were now being received from the Census organisers.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair confirmed that a replacement bench had been purchased for Lover Lane and this would be installed when the weather improved.

Flooding problems and the possible reasons for the problems were mentioned near Key Hills and at Susie Corner.

It had been suggested at the last meeting that Rufus Carr be approached regarding cutting back the large leylandii in front of their premises. It was further reported that this seemed to have become a sensitive issue, without Parish Council involvement, so was best avoided at present.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 17 March 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom.

