

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2015, 7.00PM**

PRESENT: Cllr. Arrowsmith, Cllr. Bolar, Cllr. Powell, Cllr. Tilt, Cllr. Mrs Grey and Cllr. Mrs Bestwick

1. APOLOGIES

- 1.1 Cllr. Mrs Holloway, District Cllr. Mrs Sherrey and County Cllr. Mrs Jenkins

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

- 2.1 Chairman asked all members present to declare any personal or prejudicial interest on any items on the Agenda.
Other Disclosable Interest – Cllr. Arrowsmith – St Kenelms Primary School PTA
Cllr. Tilt – Winwood Heath Allotment Plot Holder

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 3.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes be signed as a correct record.

4. FINANCE

4.1 Accounts for Payment

E Sheppard	Environmental Control x 4	£170.00
J Harper	Gate Keeper	£30.00 x 2
HMRC	Payroll taxes due	£408.84
SLCC	Training	£53.40
Playsafety Limited	Play Inspection	£114.00
E Sheppard	Lengthsman	£1422.50

It was agreed for Cllr. Powell and Cllr. Mrs Grey to sign the cheques.

- 4.2 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to amend the bank mandate form to include Cllr. Tilt and Cllr. Mrs Holloway.
- 4.3 Quarterly bank reconciliation statement approved by all councillors.

5. PLANNING MATTERS

District Council Decisions

15/0800- s St Kenelms Road, Romsley – change of use of first floor C3 to office, staff room, freezer and chiller associated with A1 use on ground floor – **Approved**

15/0784 – Residential Unit Adjoining 3 Dark Lane, Romsley – two storey side extension and ground floor infill front extension. New garage and access to serve 3 Dark Lane – **Approved**

15/0514 – Brackendale, Holt Lane – demolition of existing buildings and construction of replacement dwelling and barn/stables -

Approved

Planning Applications for Parish Council Comments

15/0894 – 9 Eastleigh Drive, Romsley – rear ground floor extension –

No objections

6. PLAYING FIELD/RECREATION AREA

- 6.1 The RoSPA Report had been received from Playsafety Limited and scrutinised by Clerk. There wasn't any serious remedial work recommended apart from some loose fixture and fittings on the roundabout which were classed as low risk. The Clerk has instructed the Lengthsman to fix them. The play bark will also need significant topping up over the next couple of years to get to a sufficient acceptable level. Clerk to obtain an electronic version of the RoSPA Report and place on the website.
- 6.2 Clerk had been told there were travellers again in Halesowen and with liaise with the Chairman, both there was no immediate need to close the park gate. The Gate Keeper was instructed to close the gate as early as possible for the next few days and to closely monitor the area.

7. ROADS/FOOTPATHS

Chairman and Clerk are to meet with Graham Cutler, Hagley Place Team Co-ordinator from Bromsgrove District Council to discuss our grass cutting schedule in detail. It will be a good way to discuss some of the concerns the Parish Council has with the level of service we are presently receiving and to audit what they should be cutting.

8. WINWOOD HEATH ALLOTMENTS

- 8.1 The allotment tap has finally been completed; it now just needs a door fixing on the front which Cllr. Tilt will arrange. There are three plots remaining but one will be used to site our new storage shed so it was agreed not to advertise them at the moment as they are in need of complete clearance.
- 8.2 The allotment holders Christmas lunch has been arranged for 15th January, 1.30pm at Bromsgrove Golf Club.

9. PARISH LENGTHSMAN/MAINTENANCE

- 9.1 It was asked that the Lengthsman provide a quarterly report commencing December including works commencing, due to be completed or works that need intervention with County Council.

10. OUTSIDE MEETINGS

- 10.1 Cllr Mrs Bestwick is in the process of setting up a meeting with Haybridge to discuss the creation of a Romsley Youth Council.

- 10.2 Clerk had received notification from Halesowen Chamber of Commerce that Halesowen Estate Agents were under the impression Romsley and Hunnington were to be taken out of the Haybridge pyramid/catchment area. This was having a significant impact on them selling houses in both parishes and obvious house prices. The Chairman met with the Admission's Officer at Haybridge who confirmed this was incorrect and has placed a statement on their website stating this, explaining Hunnington and Romsley are still in the Haybridge pyramid and have allowed us to link this to our own website. St Kenelms Primary School have also sent a letter to parents reiterating we are in the catchment area and the Chairman will include a piece in our next newsletter. Haybridge has actually increased their intake from September 2016 by an extra 22. It was agreed for the Chairman to draft a suitable letter to all estate agents in Halesowen and Hagley emphasising the statement from Haybridge.

11. **EVENTS PLANNING**

Romstock organising is going well and this year it will be branded as "A Right Royal Romstock". Cllr. Powell has created a robust Action Plan to be vigorously worked through. Cllr. Powell is to meet with Mark Moran this week to discuss bands and staging, three bands are already confirmed. He has also drafted a letter to be sent to firms/companies/businesses in the area asking for sponsorship of the event.

12. **COMMUNICATION**

- 12.1 www.romsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk is our new website address. This will be launched in our next newsletter. Clerk and Cllr. Powell have booked some website training with Cadoo which will enable us to upload our own documents straight to the website. Twitter and Facebook are also being used a lot more frequently and Cllr. Powell asked Councillors and parishioners to let him have any events/information/news to be sent out.
- 12.2 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to adopt Policies/Standing Orders on block. Clerk to have them uploaded onto the website.

13. **TRAINING**

- 13.1 Nothing to report

14. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S**

- 14.1 District Cllr. Allen-Jones confirmed that not all the New Homes Bonus monies had been allocated and encouraged us to apply for some funding next year.

15. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

- 15.1 No report given.

16. **TO RECEIVE CLERK'S PROGRESS REPORT**

- 16.1 Commemoration of First World War – meeting arranged for 11th November 2015.
- 16.2 Wheelie Bin Stickers – this item was deferred
- 16.3 Birmingham Resilience Project – Chairman, Cllr. Bolar and Clerk met with Severn Trent and Laing O'Rourke last week. The parish council arranged the meeting as they felt they have a duty to represent the concerns of the Community to Severn Trent as well as being a conduit for positive news from Severn Trent to parishioners. The Parish Council wanted to be clear fully on the proposals and how they envisage the project will affect residents, the planned length of the disruption and the mitigations they are intending to put in place to reduce this impact. The meeting was a very successful engaging meeting and the council felt that they recognised their responsibilities towards the parish. They were well aware of speed calming issues in Dayhouse Bank and it was felt that would be willing to help with any initiative to alleviate this. They also walked around the playing field carpark and think they recognised the need to rectify the area from the last time they were working in St Kenelms Road.
- 16.4 Neighbourhood Watch – Awaiting results of the questionnaire.
- 16.5 Parish/Neighbourhood Plan – a working party has been formed consisting of Cllr. Mrs Holloway, Cllrs. Mrs Bestwick and Cllr. Bolar who will be meeting shortly. The strategy is to start communicating to parishioners via a questionnaire which they will produce.
- 16.6 Storage – it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to purchase a storage shed to be sited at the allotments.

17. **TO RECEIVE REPORT OF PARISH COUNCILLORS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Nothing to report

18. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Thank you card from St Kenelms Nursery for the grant towards new play kitchen

19. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Monday 14th December 2015, at 7.00pm to be held at St Kenelms Primary School