

ROOKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Rookley Parish Council held on Wednesday 6th September 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Highwood Lane, Rookley, Isle of Wight, PO383NN.

PRESENT Chairman Cllr. E Wills

Cllrs. M Jones, I RigaudBarrett & A Watts and one member of the public.

138/23 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from IWC ward Councillor S.Ellis.

In the absence of a Parish Clerk, it was agreed that the Minutes be taken by Cllr Rigaudbarrett.

139/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None.

140/23 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meetings held on 5th and 28th July were approved and signed.

141/23 MATTERS ARISING/UPDATES

SWINGS. Locks and chains are in place to prevent use until the future of the swings has been decided. Mr Filer has renewed his offer to replace the wooden supports with metal poles.

SKATE PARK. The work has been completed and the skate park is again in use. Any outstanding documentation will be established once a replacement Clerk has been appointed.

WEBSITE. Whilst all essential documents are now disclosed on the Council pages within the RVA website, a few improvements are still to be implemented. The outgoing Internal Auditor is satisfied that the Council currently meets statutory requirements.

TREE WORK. A contract has been placed for the work to be carried out. The Chairman is to agree the implementation timetable. The Plum tree is to be pruned rather than removed/replaced to see whether it will recover.

ADDITIONAL COUNCILLORS. The need for additional Councillors will be emphasised in the next Newsletter. All formalities have been followed and the council is able to co-opt individuals without the need for an election. Meanwhile Councillors should continue to encourage acquaintances to consider volunteering.

REPLACEMENT CLERK. Mr Gareth Hughes has volunteered to prepare a new advert for review by Cllrs Wills and Rigaudbarrett. The Chairman suggested that we may need to consider reducing the number of meetings to make the job more attractive. Other Councils have gone down this route.

142/23 REPORTS ETC

CLlr Jones intended to establish whether the Men in Sheds guitar group will be available to provide music for Carols on the Green at Xmas.

No other reports

143/23 FINANCES

Details of payments made since 7th June were omitted from previous minutes and are included below.

Balance reported in minutes of 7 th June			10,757.27
E Reed	Grass cutting	170.00	
V Bailey	Salary and expenses	402.09	
RVA	Hall hire	275.00	
HMRC	PAYE on salary to March	96.40	943.49
August			9813.78
E Reed	Grass cutting	330.00	
Bright Brown	Salary administration	82.08	
Island roads	Dog bin clearing	337.92	
E Reed	Grass cutting	85.00	
V Taylor	Locum Clerk	25.50	860.50
Balance	End of August		£8953.28

Payments made were approved and the Bank Reconciliation noted.

144/23 PLANNING

This item was dealt at the beginning of the meeting.

Erection of barn and provision of access to land in Niton Road – planning reference 23/01221. Whilst the previous owner of the site had other plans, it was noted that the present owner intends to use the site as amenity land for family use and that this has allayed the concerns of neighbouring properties. It was resolved to support the application.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

The Next meeting will be held on 4th October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Highwood Lane, Rookley, PO383NN.