

**CLIFTON UPON DUNSMORE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Held on 5 December 2016
At the Townsend Memorial Hall, commencing 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr M Nash (Chair), Cllr H Duncan, Cllr L Edwards, Cllr G Neelakantan, and Cllr C Palmer

Also present: Borough Councillor Leigh Hunt and four residents of the parish.

Clerk: Mrs C M Lord

MINUTE		ACTION
16/142	<p>1. Apologies for absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr A Robinson and from County Councillor P Morris-Jones.</p>	
16/143	<p>2. Declarations of Members Interests and requests for dispensations. None received.</p>	
16/144	<p>3. Public Forum – suspension of Standing Orders Public Forum opened at 7.33pm</p> <p>A resident informed the meeting that the St Marys Carol Service would take place at 4pm on Sunday 18 December. It is anticipated that those attending will then join in with the community carol event around the Christmas tree starting at 6pm.</p> <p>The resident informed the meeting that a Coffee Morning would take place on Saturday 10 December from 10.30am until 12.30pm at Manor Farm, Buckwell Lane.</p> <p>The resident also remarked that the temporary withdrawal of the green bin service and the proposed charging system would have a detrimental effect on the church, as it would not be able to dispose of its cuttings, leaves, floral tributes etc.</p>	
16/145	<p>4. Public Forum closed and Standing Orders resumed at 7.37pm</p>	
16/146	<p>5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7 November 2016 With the exception of a minor amendment at 16/139 (Ecogrid) the Members agreed that the minutes of the meeting were a true and accurate record. They were approved and signed by Cllr Marion Nash.</p>	
16/147	<p>6. Matters Arising and progress against resolutions None raised.</p>	
16/148	<p>7. Financial Matters <i>Payments</i> The list of payments made since the last meeting was presented and accepted by the Members of the Parish Council. The Chair signed the list of payments made on behalf of the Parish Council.</p>	

07/11/16	59.40	Morral Play Services
07/11/16	324.00	Pammenter Engineering Services
07/11/16	160.00	Stephen Lowe
07/11/16	35.47	Christine Lord
07/11/16	25.00	TMH Committee
07/11/16	29.27	Alastair Robinson (Melbros)

09/11/16	112.92	MvVeigh Parker & Co Ltd
15/11/16	16.00	Quill Payroll
22/11/16	302.06	EON
25/11/16		Christine Lord – Salary protected under DPA 1998
25/11/16	200.00	Christine Lord – Homeworking allowance

16/149 *Financial Statement*

The Members examined and accepted the Statement of Accounts for the period ending 30 November 2016, which was signed by the Chair as a true record.

Consultation on CTSG

The Members considered a report on the RBC consultation on the future of the Council Tax Support Grant and the effect on the Parish Council Precept.

They noted that significant ongoing reduction in government resources means that the Borough Council is potentially faced with a budget shortfall in 2018/19 and 2019/20. With this in mind, the issue of local council tax support grant funding for 2017/18 and future years is being reviewed.

Therefore, three options for the future level of support have been proposed to Parishes to consider and feedback to RBC by 18 December. RBC have recommended to Parishes prepare their 2017/18 precept demands on the basis that any of these options will be implemented.

Views on the following options are being sought:

1. Remove the funding in its entirety in one year, in 2017/18;
2. Continue to reduce the funding in line with the Government reductions in RSG to Rugby Borough Council;
3. As above in 2017/18 only, with no further funding in 2018/19 or future years.

If the CTSG is reduced or withdrawn, in order to continue to meet its current financial requirements, it is likely that the Parish Council will have to raise its Precept (and therefore its Tax Base), leading to a small rise in the amount of its portion the Council Tax paid by its residents. As in order for the Parish to receive the same overall amount of funds, parish taxpayers would need to pay more

To assist parishes a model 2017/18 Tax Base will be supplied in early December. This will allow Parishes to input different precept figures and look at the different outcomes for each option. RBC will not be able to feedback on its final position to parishes until 10 January 2017. Then final precept requests will need to be submitted by 20th January 2017.

Having considered the report the Members agreed that the Parish Council should:

- a) Inform RBC that it favours Option 2: Continue to reduce the funding in line with the Government reductions in RSG to Rugby Borough Council
- b) Once the model Council Tax Precept is received consider carefully the effect of all possible options on its requirements for 2017/18
- c) Not attempt to set its Precept for 2017/18 until the Parish Council meeting which takes place on 9 January 2017 when the effects are known and can be taken into account.

CLERK

16/150 *Second draft of the budget and Precept bid for 2017-18*

The Clerk was requested to prepare the draft budget and Precept bid, to take into account all 3 options for the reduction of the CTSG for the meeting on 9 January 2017.

16/151 **8. Planning matters**

- [R16/1033](#) Rugby Radio Station (key phase 2) Reserved Matters relating to 183 dwellings

CLERK

The Parish Council resolved to make no comments on this application

10/152 **9. Correspondence**

- *RBC – Green Waste collections*

The Members discussed the withdrawal of the green waste collection and the possible introduction of charges at length. It was remarked that the survey appeared to be focused on charges and did not allow comments to be made. The scheme makes no allowance for the differences in urban and rural settings (meaning those residents with larger gardens would be penalised). There were concerns about increased fly tipping of green waste and that the black bins will not be large enough to accept all the mixed waste in future. It was agreed that proposals as to how to address the situation would be discussed in full at the January meeting.

Through the Chair, Borough Councillor Leigh Hunt explained that the present scheme was very expensive to operate during the winter months because of low tonnage collection rates. RBC are purchasing a route optimisation software system which will make it far more efficient in future, when only those who pay for the collection will be included; saving waste journeys in areas where bins are not presented.

CLERK

- *RBC Extension of Local Plan consultation*

The Chair informed the meeting that RBC had extended the period of consultation on the draft Local Plan. Comments can now be made until 17 January 2017. The Clerk was requested to place the details on the website.

16/153 **10. County and Borough Councillors' reports**

Borough Councillor Leigh Hunt reported that:

- She had written to WC, RBC and Urban&Civic (UC) requesting the left turning on to the link road for people travelling north from Hillmorton on Hillmorton Lane. The response from WCC had been positive, although UC were concerned about re-design leading to possible delays to the scheme leading to problems with funding. Councillor Hunt considered that delays could be avoided as the works are starting at the Butlers Leap end, allowing time for amendments further down.
- The costs of the Traffic Calming scheme are higher than expected, and WCC is now liaising with Prologis and UC with a view to providing additional funding.
- WCC have stated that a case for a feasibility study on improvements to the St Thomas Cross junction will be prepared for submission to the Transport Review Group once resources are available.
- It would appear that Clifton Cruisers have submitted a planning application in respect of their ongoing works to the old canal arm, but that it has been rejected as being incomplete. Despite this, works are moving ahead. Councillor Hunt urged those with concerns about damage to the environment at this stage, to contact the statutory environmental consultees directly.
- The Rugby Advertiser will cease to pay her for contributions to the District Diary in the New Year. Previously any monies provided have been donated to local organisation such as the church, school and TMH.

16/154 **11. Progress against the priorities of the 5-year plan**

The Members examined the 5-year plan and observed that all actions were running to schedule. However, a review of some of the dates may be required. The Clerk was requested to circulate the priorities monitoring sheet for Members to examine, to enable it to be discussed at the next meeting.

CLERK

16/155 **12. Reports from Councillors**

16/156 **Quotations received for the refurbishment of the play area – Councillor Robinson**

In his absence, the Chair presented the details of a report submitted by Councillor Robinson.

In summary: Six companies have been invited to quote on a like for like basis. All site visits were accompanied by Cllr Robinson and had the same brief

Specifics of the brief were:

NEW 1 accessible roundabout / 2 springers / 1 revolving/ tilting disc for multi play.
REMOVAL OF Double slide / see-saw, 2 existing springers. New equipment to be set on wet pour safety surfacing.

The Members examined the 5 quotations returned in detail, noting that there was a considerable difference in both cost and presentation style. The overall quotation costs varied from £14,680 to £26,334. They considered that the quotation supplied by Kompan offered a middle-range cost option accompanied by a professional well-presented works proposal, which provided them with confidence.

Councillor Nash proposed that the quotation from Kompan for £17,120.46 should be accepted, and that efforts to find external funding to support the Parish Council contribution should be made, prior to placing the purchase order.

On a show of hands all Members were in agreement.

16/157 **Resolved:**

- a) **That the quotation for refurbishment of the play area from Kompan for £17,120.46 should be accepted.**
- b) **That efforts to find external funding to support the Parish Council contribution should be made, prior to placing the purchase order.**

16/158 **Quotations received for the resurfacing of the car park – Councillor Palmer**

Members considered the report on the quotations received, presented by Councillor Palmer.

They observed that 3 quotations for the installation of Ecogrid had been obtained, and that the overall cost quoted varied between £13,718.35 and £25,130.35.

Following discussion on the merits of each proposal, Councillor Nash proposed that the quotation submitted by K B Block Paving for £13,718.35 should be accepted by the Parish Council. On a show of hands all Members agreed.

Councillor Palmer was requested to instruct K B Block Paving that the works should not commence until after the Christmas period.

Resolved:

- a) **That the quotation submitted by K B Block Paving for £13,718.35 for the installation of Ecogrid on the Car Park should be accepted by the Parish Council.**
- b) **K B Block Paving should be instructed that the works should not commence until after the Christmas period.**

16/159 **Update on purchase of a community defibrillator – Councillor Palmer**

Councillor Palmer informed the meeting that a grant application made to the County Councillor Fund had been successful; and that £1,700 had been granted in respect of the purchase and installation of the community defibrillator.

The Chair requested that Councillor Palmer and the Clerk now liaise with the potential suppliers of the equipment and the TMH in order to arrange installation as soon as possible, for the benefit of the community.

CLLR
PALMER/
CLERK

16/160 **Community Engagement – Councillor Nash**

Councillor Nash informed the meeting that the Parish Council have been provided with the opportunity of having a presentation / demonstration on the use of a community defibrillator by the Rugby Community First Responders. She proposed

that the event should take place in late February or early March, and that the event could be used to engage with the residents and also raise funds for the organisation. Everyone agreed that this was a good idea.

CLLR
NASH/
CLERK

AGREED: That a presentation / demonstration on the use of a community defibrillator by the Rugby Community First Responders should take place in late February or early March 2017.

16/161 **Update on proposed Christmas proposals – Councillor Robinson**

In his absence, the Chair presented the details of a report submitted by Councillor Robinson.

She informed the meeting that the Christmas tree is due to be installed in the week commencing 12 December and that the organising of the community carol event appears to be well received by the residents.

16/162 **Update on the Conservation Group – Councillor Edwards**

Councillor Edwards informed the meeting that the recent litter pick had been well attended, with all roads in the village covered. The majority of the litter was again on Newton Road. The next litter pick will be on Saturday 4 March 2017, as part of the Keep Britain Tidy campaign.

All scheduled tasks have been completed with the exception of the bulb planting, which will take place sometime before the new year.

The Conservation Group have been looking at working with Newton PC, to find innovative solutions to dealing with the green waste produced from its activities. Ideas include building small composting systems and hiring a chipper. The provision of skips has been discounted as they may be subject to abuse.

16/163 **13. Options for the street lighting - Councillor Palmer**

Councillor Palmer informed the meeting that he had been in discussion with Newton PC, to find out more about their recent upgrading of street lights to more efficient LEDs. The scheme was on a much smaller scale than would be required for Clifton upon Dunsmore; with the equivalent cost, likely to be between £55-60k, so we could not afford to fund a complete improvement scheme. A more cost effective solution may be to choose areas where lighting is in need of upgrading (North Road for example) and devise an improvement programme. Councillor Palmer will also ascertain what WCC would expect in terms of a standard for the adoption of the lighting.

Through the Chair, Borough Councillor Hunt offered to raise this query at a forthcoming meeting at WCC.

The Members agreed that any proposals for the improvement of street lighting should be brought back to the next meeting to be discussed further.

CLLR
PALMER /
BC HUNT

AGREED: Proposals for the improvement of street lighting should be brought back to a future meeting to be discussed further.

16/164 **14. Issues raised by residents of The Locks – Councillor Duncan**

Councillor Duncan presented a list of queries which had been raised by residents of The Locks; largely concerned with the ongoing development at Radio Station Rugby and the new link road. The nature of the queries could only be answered by either Urban&Civic or the Borough Council planners.

With regard to the overgrown hedge on Hillmorton Lane, the Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to the Land Agent concerned; and that he had scheduled the work to cut back the hedge to be done during the first week of the new year.

Through the Chair Borough Councillor Hunt advised Councillor Duncan to speak to her local Borough Councillor (Kathryn Lawrence) about the issues.

The Chair also instructed the Clerk to write formally to Urban&Civic, detailing the list of queries raised.

CLLR
DUNCAN/
CLERK

AGREED:

- a) Councillor Duncan to speak to her local Borough Councillor (Kathryn Lawrence) about the issues raised by residents of The Locks
- b) The Clerk to write formally to Urban&Civic, detailing the list of queries raised.

16/165 **15. To receive Members motions for the next meeting.**

None presented

16/166 **16. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place Monday 9 January 2017 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Minutes approved and accepted as correct

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Chair

Dated