

MINUTES OF RIMINGTON & MIDDOP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2017
AT 7.30 PM

Present: Bob Whittaker (Chair), Brian Berry, Ian Brown, Kate Hooper, Jacqui Lynch,
John Parker, Clerk, Borough Cllr Richard Sherras and one member of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Chris Smith

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 30 AUGUST 2017

The Minutes of the meeting of 30 August 2017 were accepted as a true record of proceedings at that meeting and duly signed.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Potential problems with a drain were brought to the Council's attention.

MATTERS ARISING

None

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Current Account: £3,375.90

The Clerk noted that the Transparency Fund monies had been received in November 2017 so there was a further £889.00 in the account. It was explained that these monies could only be spent on items as specified in the Fund application form.

Bob Whittaker advised that he knew, from his involvement with Rimington Memorial Institute, that the Institute's finances were in good shape and they were not in need of a grant from the Parish Council. It was accordingly proposed and agreed that the Parish Council would not give a grant to Rimington Memorial Institute for the financial year 2017/18. It was, however, agreed that a grant of £1,250 would be made to Rimington Recreation Association. It was also agreed to wait until the February 2018 Parish Council meeting before making any decisions as to whether or not charitable donations would be made for the current financial year.

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

Rimington Recreation Association	Grant	£1, 250.00
Bob Whittaker	Reimbursement for damaged sign repair	£37.00
Cathy Holmes	Clerk	£500.00

YEAR END MATTERS 2016/17

The Clerk explained that the duly completed Annual Return had been received back from the external auditors with a qualified audit opinion. The Clerk noted that the external auditors had advised that the accounting treatment of gifted assets ie the defibrillator had not been in accordance with proper practices and the Annual Return had therefore had to be revised and returned to the external auditors. As the defibrillator had been a gift it had been acquired at nil cost and had to be stated as such on the fixed asset register, even though its value was considerably higher. The additional work by the auditors had incurred a fee of £36.00. The completed Annual Return was duly approved and accepted by the Parish Council.

PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2018/19

The Clerk tabled a draft budget for the financial year 2018/19 noting that the figures were intended as a starting point for discussion. It was agreed that provision should be made for jobs around the parish to be undertaken by a lengthsman. It was also agreed that there should be a miscellaneous contingency provision of £500.00. It was noted that, in order to meet existing and additional, planned expenditure it would be necessary to raise the precept and it was accordingly agreed that the precept request to RVBC should be revised to £5,500 for 2018/19.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Susie Cottage, Rimington, 3/2017/1021

It was agreed that the Parish Council would not formally object to this application but would make observations to RVBC regarding there being insufficient car parking space for the size of dwelling proposed and that access to and from the property was on a difficult stretch of road which could cause dangers to highway users.

Tree works, Netherfield, Rimington 3/2017/1037

There were no objections to this application.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised that an e-mail had been received from Lancashire Highways advising that there should be, in the future, an improvement in the way Highways responded to issues raised by Parish Councils.

REPORTS

1. *Borough Councillor*

Richard Sherras reported that there continued to be dissatisfaction in the way Lancashire Highways responded to matters raised by Parish Councils and residents and he had been in contact with the appropriate County Councillor about the issue. Improved broadband continued to be rolled out for rural communities but it was likely there would continue to be problems for isolated properties as opposed to those in villages. The Boundary Commission continued to recommend that a new constituency of Clitheroe & Colne be created with the rural areas of the Ribble Valley becoming part of a large North Lancashire constituency.

2. *RVBC Parish Councils Liaison Committee*

Bob Whittaker reported on matters covered by the PCLC held on 09 November 2017.

3. *Rimington Recreation Association*

John Parker advised that the Association had made various grant applications and were awaiting responses to those applications. Details of events planned for the coming weeks were provided.

4. *Rimington Memorial Institute*

Bob Whittaker confirmed that the Institute was in a strong position financially.

5. *Clerk*

The Clerk advised that Transparency Fund monies had been received and had to be spent as specified on the application form. A computer and appropriate software had been sourced and web training would be arranged.

6. *Highways and Footpaths*

Bob Whittaker reported that, in conjunction with a resident, he had been in contact with Lancashire Highways regarding the possibility of extending the 30 mph zone at each end of the village. A detailed letter outlining the reasons for the extension of the zone had been sent to Lancashire Highways but Highways had responded that the injury statistics for the areas in question did not merit an extension of the zone. It was agreed this response was unsatisfactory, but Bob Whittaker advised a considerable amount of time and effort had been expended on the issue and as Highways were unlikely to change their minds the matter should not be pursued further.

It was noted that there had been an increase in the number of cyclists using roads around Rimington and many travelled at speeds which were too fast for rural roads in a poor condition. Problems with road surface flooding continued to be experienced and it was suggested the flooding was partially caused by damage to culverts.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Brian Berry advised that if the sale of his property proceeded to completion he would be leaving the area and would therefore be resigning from the Parish Council. A formal letter of resignation would be sent to the Council when appropriate.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 21 February 2018 at 7.30 pm