

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RODE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT RODE & DISTRICT MEMORIAL HALL ON
TUESDAY 6th August 2019 at 7.30pm**

UNCONFIRMED

Present:

Cllr. P. Banwell – Chair (PB)
Cllr P Restorick (PR)

Cllr P Travis (PT)
Cllr A Hooker (AH)

Cllr A Edney (AE)
Cllr E Butler (EB)

In attendance:

Zoe Symonds – Clerk
Cllr. Linda Oliver – County Councillor (LO)

Cllr. Barbi Lund – District Councillor (BL)
7 members of the public

1. Parishioners' Participation:

- i. **Remembrance Sunday:** It was confirmed although this year's Service of Remembrance will be in a different format to 2018, the Army will be taking part again and it is hoped to carry out the whole event at the War Memorial on The Green, weather permitting. Details are still to be discussed with the Church, however things are progressing.
- ii. **Wooden Remembrance crosses from 2018:** The crosses removed from The Green are all in a container at the Scout Hut, except for one which a relative requested to keep. The cross still in position in Remembrance of Pvt. Edgar Propert, has not been removed as his name does not appear on the War Memorial. Research carried out on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website confirms he was born on Rode Hill and Baptised at Christchurch. It was agreed Pvt. Propert should be remembered in a permanent way on The Green, if not on The War Memorial due to cost, on a separate stone. Costs to be researched by Resident. To be added to the September agenda.
- iii. **Dog Poo Bins:** Concerns were raised to the irregularity of emptying the dog poo bins around the village. BL to find out who the Mendip DC contractor is for Rode and also Norton St. Philip.
- iv. **Lower Street Parking:** Concerns were raised regarding cars parking either fully on the pavement or half on/half off in Lower Street, restricting the width for pedestrians and also risking damage to the culvert. It was confirmed it was residents not the building contractors. It was noted a similar complaint in The Mead had been dealt with. It was agreed notices, with the Parish Council approved set of wording stating it is illegal to park on a pavement, would be printed and distributed to the Resident to place on the windscreens of any vehicles parked on the pavement.
- v. **Planning Application at Rode Common Farm to replace static home with two storey house:** Resident stated she had been advised by Mendip DC to attend this meeting to introduce herself and her Partner to address any concerns the Parish Council may have regarding this application, explaining, due to the property having a Wiltshire address, the Planning Portal on the website automatically sent the application to Wiltshire where it was all approved. However, now it has been passed to Somerset Mendip have advised the garden and parking must be included in the curtilage. The Resident confirmed amended plans submitted for approval show a smaller building with the parking and courtyard garden now within the curtilage. LO confirmed it was the Planning Officer not the Parish Council who turned the original application down, commenting the applicant has done what Mendip requested therefore there is no reason for the Parish Council to refuse. The Chair confirmed support for the amended application. LO thanked the Residents for fulfilling peoples concerns.

2. Apologies for absence: Terry Morrow (TM)

3. Councillor's Declarations of Interests in Items on Agenda: Item 10 (a) 2019/0929/FUL – PB and AE as residents of Marsh Road.

4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July 2019: The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair as a true record.

5. Report from County Councillor:

Highways

- i. **Safety Audit:** Due to take place during September/October
- ii. **A361 20/30mph Signage:** A response has been received from the Technical Director of Autograph Homes; he is in contact with the Council, it is ongoing and moving forward. LO has offered her assistance.
- iii. **Speed roundels on road near school:** Traffic Management confirmed they are compliant in terms of enforcement and more roundels can be put on the road if required. LO commented it would be courteous to consult the residents as this is a Conservation Area. Parish Council will make a decision.
- iv. **Rode Mill Bridge Traffic Restrictions:** If a vehicle length restriction were put in place it would be 32 feet. If a 3-ton limit this would affect buses; it was suggested a sign 'Except for Buses' could be erected. It was confirmed radars only detect speed and length of vehicles not weight. LO to enquire if these would be enforceable. It was agreed more signage is needed ahead of the bridge. LO commented Highways have agreed to carry out a vehicle survey on the bridge on 4th September 2019.

Other Matters

£2000 of Community Funding has been given to be divided between different Parishes. In previous years Rode has had a share of this with the Lunch Club and Rode School benefitting. LO asked for thoughts on worthy causes in Rode which may be considered for this year. Discussion followed.

6. **Report from District Councillors:** BL has been approached by a Resident who has raised concern on the effects of 5G; the Resident has previously attended a Parish Council Meeting. BL commented she has had a discussion regarding this with the Green Party where there is a whole range of opinion. BL to meet Mendip DC Group Manager for Growth and Planning for an overview and to see how Mendip are managing the concerns of Residents as other people have also approached her regarding this matter. BL has arranged a meeting with the Resident and will forward summary of the meeting to the Parish Council and to LO as it involves Planning and Highways.

7. Actions from the previous meeting:

- i. **Grass cutting on playing field contact contractors for clarification:** Completed.
- ii. **Photograph road junction and speed signs obscured by overgrown vegetation. Contact Highways re cutting back verges in three locations:** Completed.
- iii. **Report faulty street light, 16A Marsh Road:** Completed.
- iv. **Report blocked drains – 5 Farthing Row and Church Lane (past no.35):** Completed.
- v. **Riverside Walk signs – change Clerk's name and contact details:** New signs ordered; landowner to put up new signs.
- vi. **Approach and email resident re cutting back their hedge:** The hedge has now been cut back. The Parish Council thanks the Resident for carrying this out.
- vii. **Chat Bench Initiative – write to PCSO to decline:** Completed.
- viii. **Bank Mandate – Clerk's details to be updated (see Agenda Item 15(ii):** Completed.
- ix. **Contact land owner to reinstate footpaths on Brown's Ground and other owned land:** Path on Brown's Ground reinstated by the land owner and the vegetation obscuring the footpath sign from Church Lane has been cleared.
- x. **Felled tree on The Mead overhanging the road needs to be removed:** No response to letter sent in July. Clerk to follow up.

- xi. **Damage to Lower Street and Halfpenny Row – email developer and copy SCC:** No response received from Developer. Clerk to email County Roads at SCC. LO to request Highways visit to assess the damage.
 - xii. **Weight of vehicles using The Mill bridge:** See Agenda Item 5(iv).
8. **Co-option of Councillor:** An application had been received and all in favour of welcoming Michael Oldfield to the Parish Council. Declaration of Acceptance Forms and Register of Members' Interests Forms will be completed.
9. **Highways Issues and TAG:**
- i. **Traffic Calming - Bradford Road/Rode Hill:** Ongoing.
 - ii. **Auto Speed Watch:** Auto Speed Watch (ASW) has been rejected by Avon and Somerset Police as they cannot operate on data ASW supplies to legally prosecute as it is open to a legal challenge.
 - iii. **20 mph roundels on road outside school:** see Agenda Item 5(iii).
 - iv. **TAG:** Meeting with TAG to discuss issues is taking place on 27th August 2019 and will be reported back on after the meeting.

PT thanked AH for joining CSW commenting it was good for the Parish Council to actively support this. EB is completing CSW training.

10. **Planning matters:**

New applications:

2018/2961/FUL: Erection of two storey dwelling house to replace existing static home/conservatory – Land at Rode Common Farm, Southwick. Amended plans received 4th July. No objections.

2019/0929/FUL: Change of use from agricultural land to garden – Land to rear of 18, 20 & 22 Marsh Road. Concerns raised for land being outside Planning Boundary and no precedence sanctioning something outside of this. Clerk to send letter to Mendip DC detailing Parish Council concerns for the Planning Officer to consider.

2019/1725/TCA: Tree works – T1 fell dead Cherry. T2 Magnolia reduce by 1-3m. T3 Reduce Plum by 2m. Works felling trees in a Conservation Area. No objections.

2019/1765/TCA: Proposed tree works: T1 Mature Crack Willow (*Salix Fragilis*) to be pollarded – Orchard House, 11 Frome Road. No objections.

Mendip decisions:

2018/2218/APP: Application for approval of details reserved by conditions on planning consent 2011/3124 - Church Farm, 3 Frome Road. Approval

2019/0609/LBC: Replacement of downpipes at rear (west elevation of property) with larger diameter pipe to provide easier flow and access – 5 Langham Place. Approval with conditions

2019/1422/S106: Modification/Discharge S106 Agreement – Church Farm, Parkgate Lane. Approval.

2019/1725/TCA: TCA: Application to tree works – T1 fell dead Cherry. T2 Magnolia reduce by 1-2m. T3 reduce Plum by 2m – 5, Lower Street. Approval.

Other planning matters: None

11. **Playing Field – Adoption of gifted S106 land:** Ongoing. The Chair and landowner have now agreed the plan. The Chair read a letter from the solicitor referring to the amended Transfer Plan to tie-in with the 106. It was agreed this needs to be resolved quickly to enable Autograph to move on as soon as possible as this is a financially damaging situation to them.

12. Rode Bus Services: PT reported that a new customised Rode Bus Timetable will be needed in September to be funded by the Parish Council.

13. Dog Poo Bins on The Mead: Initial problem with the bin on The Mead overflowing. The Clerk had contacted Neighbourhood Services at Mendip DC to have all the bins in the village emptied, however only the bin on The Mead was and the bin at The Mill was still overflowing. It is thought the issue may be due to contractor holidays. Residents to be asked to monitor The Mead bin and report to Parish Council if overfilled. If this is a regular occurrence an extra bin installed in The Mead will be considered. It was suggested a general litter bin be installed at The Mill to save general rubbish being put into the dog poo bin. Clerk to write to Landlord. It was confirmed all the dog poo bins have now been emptied.

14. Correspondence:

- v. **Email from Residents – Drystone wall on site of the Old Temperance Hall:** The wall needs attention; some of the stones have become loose and have fallen out. The Chair and TM have viewed the wall with John Flindall, a retired builder, who is willing to attempt to repair the wall to save The Parish Council the cost of a Drystone Waller. The Chair commented the large trees, willow and conifer, on Parish Council owned land near the Temperance Hall site need cutting back as they have grown through the telephone wires. Open Reach have confirmed this is the responsibility of the landowner. A local tree surgeon will be contacted regarding cutting the trees back. Planning Permission will be required as the trees are in a Conservation Area.

15. Financial matters / Financial Position at 25 April 2019

- i. **NatWest Reserve Account – £46113.10 NatWest Current Account £10.00** (unreconciled-Bank Statements not received):

Financial position at 29th July 2019

Payment of Accounts:

	<u>£</u>
New Clerk – Zoe Symonds, Salary & Expenses June & July 2019	536.90
HMRC PAYE (Period 4)	107.20
Eagle Grounds Maintenance Ltd – grass cutting (Inv. 6424 - May 2019)	725.12
Terry Morrow – laptop, Office Software & virus protection (for new Clerk) (€329 + €25)	354.00
Mendip DC – Returning Officer Fee & Exps.	104.50
Eagle Grounds Maintenance Ltd. – grass cutting (Inv. 6508 – July 2019)	725.12
Rode & District Memorial Hall – Rent for Council Meetings April-June 2019	24.00

- ii. **Receipts:** tbc on receipt of Bank Statements.
- iii. **Nat West Bank Mandate - amendment re new Clerk & remove old Clerk details:** Signed by cheque signatories. Clerk to return signed Mandate to Bank.
- iv. **Change of Bank Account Address:** Forms signed by cheque signatories. Clerk to return signed Mandate to Bank.
- v. **Online Banking:** Clerk queried if Parish Council legislation allows for online banking. Clerk to contact SALC for advice.

16. Items for next agenda/Items to report

A Resident wished it to be noted a Plum tree has been planted on Parish Council owned land in Farthing Row. To be looked at and opinion given at the next meeting.

17. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 3rd September 2019 at 7:30pm, Committee Room, Rode & District Memorial Hall

The Meeting closed at 9:25pm

Zoe Symonds
Clerk to Rode Parish Council

Signed _____

Date: _____

Print: _____

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 3rd September 2019 at 7.30pm