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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>RODINGTON PARISH COUNCIL</b><br/><b>Council Meeting</b></p> |
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**Present:**

Cllrs Janet French (Chair), David Johnson (Vice Chair), Brian Ashton, Tim Osborne, John Perkin, Liz Tudor.

**In attendance:**

Borough Councillors Jacqui Seymour, Derek Kiernan.

**Clerk:**

Michael Ward

**1010/00 Chair's Welcome and Announcements:**

The Chairman welcomed Councillors and the Borough Councillors to the meeting.

**1011/00 Public Session and Matters of Concern:**

A deep pothole was identified on Sugden Lane just after the bend by the kennels between Longdon upon Tern and Rodington and another on the edge of the road outside Rodington Village Hall. Cllr Tudor also informed the meeting that the edge of the road was disappearing in Drury Lane opposite the houses and the verge was also in bad condition on the bend between Rodington Heath and Somerton.

The matter of the encroaching boundary of the grave of Elsie May Davies over the adjacent grave was once again raised by Cllr Tudor.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to inform Telford and Wrekin of the potholes and deteriorating road as described above.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to try and contact relatives of Elsie Davies and ask for some of the mementos to be removed.

**1012/00 Apologies:**

Cllr Claire Broderick received and accepted.

**1013/00 Declarations of Interest:**

There were no interests declared but members could declare an interest at any point in the agenda.

**1014/00 Minutes of the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> March 2008:**

Minutes of the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> March 2008, copies of which had been previously circulated, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**1015/00 Financial Statements:**

The Clerk went through the unaudited end of year accounts and pointed out that the Council had a carry forward of £2,819.42 when unrepresented cheques and bank transfers were taken into account. The Council had significantly reduced its surplus over the course of the financial year, principally through the allocation of two grants to the village hall committees at Rodington and Longdon upon Tern.

**1015/01: Bank Reconciliation and Spreadsheet:**

The Clerk went through the Bank Reconciliation and explained the apparently large bank transfer to him caused by the need to reimburse him for his payment to the printers of the newsletter. There were also end of year claims for the use of his office at home for Council business and the use of his office equipment. The Clerk pointed out that this latter claim had been reduced from £1.56 per week in the previous year to £0.50 per week to take account of the fact that the Council had purchased a computer for the Clerk to use on Council business.

RESOLVED: Members unanimously approved the bank reconciliation statement and the accompanying spreadsheet.

**1015/02 Accounts for Payment:**

The list of cheques and Internet bill payments was circulated to members.

RESOLVED: Councillors unanimously approved the payment of all cheques and Internet bill payments.

**1015/03 Any other Financial Matters:**

The Chairman asked that efforts be made to recover deeds and other paperwork held by The Yorkshire Bank in Wolverhampton for transfer to HSBC. The Clerk explained that he had already tried to recover these documents but did not possess the necessary authorisation particulars necessary for The Yorkshire Bank to release the documentation. Councillors felt that this was an unsatisfactory situation and renewed efforts were needed in order to resolve this situation.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to contact The Yorkshire Bank again, clarify what items are needed in order for the bank to release the papers and report back to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

The appointment of Mr J. A. Nicholls as Internal Auditor was unanimously approved.

**1016/00 All Planning Matters:**

The Council received and noted planning permission given for:

W2008/0092 Erection of a side extension, rear conservatory and detached garage to rear at Willow Vale, Longdon upon Tern.

W2008/0133 Change of use from business/storage to manufacture of roof trusses at Unit 2, Rodenhurst Business Park, Rodington.

The Council received and noted planning permission refused for:

W2008/0067 Erection of a garden room to side of existing dwelling at The Wharf House, Rodington.

W2008/0099 Change of use of land and existing buildings for the storage of a lorry and restoration and storage of vintage motorcycles at Haston House, Long Lane, Wellington.

The Council had no objections to the planning application:

W2008/0309 Erection of a single storey rear extension at The Barn, Longdon upon Tern.

**1017/00 Recruitment of Parish Clerk:**

The Clerk explained that he had received an offer to become Parish Clerk at Albrighton following interviews he had had nearly twelve months ago prior to applying for the position at Rodington. Albrighton is a large Parish with its own High Street office and staff and it was an offer he felt he must accept. His immediate reaction was that he would need to resign from the position at Rodington but after further thought he was reluctant to do so and he would like to continue in both jobs to assess whether the combined workload was manageable.

The Chair and Councillors valued the Clerk's work and wished him to stay provided that standards were maintained.

RESOLVED: The Annual Review in July would be used to determine whether the suggested combined arrangement was feasible.

RESOLVED: If the Clerk or the Council felt that the workload was too great the Chairman should proceed with recruitment procedures for a new Parish Clerk without waiting for further authorisation from the full Council.

**1018/00 Clerk's Report:**

The Clerk highlighted some of the main points contained within the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act which had received Royal Assent in October 2007. This Act allowed parishes to be established in London and introduced the notion of “the power of wellbeing” which allows Parish Councils to spend on any activity which adds to the well being of the community. However, this provision is currently restricted to Quality Councils.

The Clerk also drew member’s attention to the quotation of Baroness Scott which claimed that this government, or any previous government, did not know how many Parish Councils existed and no comprehensive list existed.

**1019/00 Reports on Meeting attended by members and Ward Councillors:**

Cllrs Osborne and Johnson reported that they had attended the Wrekin Area Committee which had received a presentation on climate change. The new borough policy contains many targets but Cllrs Osborne and Johnson felt there was still some confusion about how these targets could be achieved when so many new dwellings were planned for the near future. Both felt that the committee still needed to develop a sense of purpose if it was to avoid becoming a talking shop.

Cllr Perkin had attended a meeting of Rodington Village Hall Committee but there were no matters discussed of direct relevance to the Parish Council.

**1020/00 Correspondence:**

The Chairman drew Councillors’ attention to a letter from Telford and Wrekin asking for feedback on the siting of a new plastics recycling bin in Rodington. Members supported this initiative and the proposed siting.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to respond to the letter indicating approval of the proposals.

Other correspondence was placed in the black bag for distribution to members.

**1021/00 Date of next meeting:**

Parish Council AGM on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 pm in Longdon upon Tern Village Hall

Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at the conclusion of the AGM in Longdon upon Tern Village Hall.

As the business of the meeting had been completed the meeting closed at 9.26 pm.

**Signed .....** **Dated .....**  
**Chair**

