

# Rodington Parish Council

## Council Meeting

**Minutes of Rodington Parish Council meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 3 December 2008 at Longdon upon Tern Village Hall.**

**Present:** Councillors J French (Chairman), D Johnson (Vice Chairman), B Ashton, C Broderick, and J Perkins.

**Clerk:** Alison Hinks.

### **1081/00 Chairman's Welcome and Announcements**

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

### **1082/00 Public Session and Matters of Concern**

Cllr French informed the meeting that the next T&W Parish Forum is arranged for 6.00 pm on Wednesday 7 January 2009 which clashed with the January Rodington Parish Council meeting.

**Resolved: Cllr French to attend the Parish Forum before the Parish meeting and arrive late for the Parish Council meeting. Cllr Johnson to Chair the Parish Council meeting in Cllr French's absence.**

### **1083/00 Apologies**

Apologies were accepted from Borough Cllrs Terry Kiernan and Jacqui Seymour and Parish Cllrs T Osborne and L Tudor.

### **1084/00 Declaration of Interest**

Cllrs Johnson declared a prejudicial interest under item 1087/00 of the agenda for payment for work relating to the production of the October 2008 Parish Newsletter.

Cllr Broderick declared a personal interest under item 1087/00 of the agenda for payment for the use of Longdon upon Tern Village Hall for the Parish Council meeting on 1 October 2009.

### **1085/00 Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 5 November 2008**

The minutes of the meeting of 5 November 2008 were proposed as a true record by Cllr French and seconded by Cllr Johnson. The proposals were unanimously approved and the minutes accordingly signed by the Chair.

### **1086/00 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk went through the report identifying the main points:

- The planning application for the conversion of redundant agricultural buildings to provide 4no. at Longdon Mill Farmhouse has been withdrawn due to the design/detailing being inappropriate and unsympathetic and that no marketing had been carried out in an attempt to attract employment re-use before residential is considered acceptable.

The appeal decision against the decision to reuse planning permission for the erection of a first floor extension, exterior alterations and conversion of existing barn to a single detached dwelling (use class C3) with associated works at The Piggeries, Grove Lane, Rodington was not due until early 2009. T&W Planning Department informed the clerk that they would be using this appeal decision as a test case for all other planning applications and appeals.

The Clerk has invited Elizabeth Atwood, T&W Planning Officer, to a future meeting of the Parish Council but to date has not received confirmation of attendance.

**Resolved: The Clerk to write to T&W Chief Executive to inform of this matter.**

- The Clerk has forward T&W Highways Department a list of all potholes in the Parish. Updates on progress will be given at future meetings.
- Jaswant Sidhu confirmed that Mr Manley's application to modify the definitive map of public rights of way is currently part of a back log of 50 such applications which are being dealt with in the order that they are received. Unfortunately, it could be some considerable time before Mr Manley's application is considered as each application requires a considerable amount of investigation and resources devoted to them are limited. Jaswant Sidhu will be writing to Mr Manley to update him on his application.

Jaswant Sidhu has been in touch with the landowners regarding the blocked footpath no.16 in Longdon upon Tern. The landowners have agreed to remove the part of the willow screen fence which covers the access point to the path and to also install a gate/stile to ensure easy access for users.

To date, the missing Bridleway sign post at the Rodington end of Footpath no. 6 and the blocked footpath no. 3 from Longdon upon Tern to Allscott are still being investigated by Jaswant Sidhu.

- To date, the Clerk has received no proposals or costings for the SIDs programme for rural parish councils.

**Resolved: The Clerk to chase the proposals and costings for the SIDs programme.**

- The Ministry of Justice have confirmed that the churchyard at St Bartholomew's Church, Longdon upon Tern will close to future burials from 16 November 2009.

- The Clerk has written to Martyn Withnall, T&W Transport Department, to suggest a change to the route of the 519 bus service. These suggestions have been forwarded to Arriva who will cost up the proposed changes. The service is partially funded by Shropshire County Council who will also need to agree the proposed changes. It was suggested that the Parish Council fund any changes agreed.

## **1087/00 Financial Statements**

- **Bank Reconciliation and Spreadsheet**  
The Clerk went through the bank reconciliation for the month of November 2008 showing a calculated balance of £297.74 in the Treasurers Account and £7,181.56 in the BMM Account. The Clerk confirmed that there was one outstanding cheque for payment amounting to £31.00. A copy of the bank statement is available for consultation by members.

The Clerk also went through the RPC Income and Expenditure spreadsheet for the month of November 2008.

The accounts were proposed as an accurate record by Cllr Johnson, seconded by Cllr Perkin, unanimously agreed by the Council and approved and signed by the Chairman.

- **Accounts for Payment**  
The Clerk circulated a list of payments for the month of November 2008. The accounts for payment were unanimously approved, cheques signed and internet transfers agreed.
- **Annual Running Costs for Rodington Parish Council**  
The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council basic annual running costs amounts to £3,547, excluding election expenses, costs to update the Parish Plan, maintenance for noticeboards/road signs, sports and recreation expenses, and grants, including those given to the Village Halls.

The Clerk also confirmed that as at 3 December 2008 Rodington Parish Council would have a projected underspend of £2,681. Cllr Perkin proposed that Longdon upon Tern Village Hall Committee should claim £1,000 to match that claimed by Rodington Village Hall Committee. This was seconded by Cllr Ashton and unanimously agreed by members.

**Resolved: Decisions on the underspend will be discussed at the Parish Council meeting on 7 January 2009. Cllr Broderick to forward a grant request from Longdon upon Tern Village Hall Committee for £1,000 which will be signed off by the Parish Council at the meeting on 7 January 2009.**

- **Parish Precept 2009/10**  
The Clerk went through the suggested Precept for 2009/10 showing a projected annual spend of £8,922. Cllr Johnson suggested that in 2009/10 the Parish Council negotiate a 2 year deal with their website host. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to continue the contract of employment for the Clerk and

associated costs are included in the projections. The Parish Precept for 2009/10 will be agreed at the next Parish Council meeting on 7 January 2009 in order that the final documentation can be forwarded to T&W Council by 31 January 2009.

**Resolved: The Clerk to contact HSBC Bank to check the terms of the 'free banking' for the Parish Council bank account. The Clerk to chase the invoice for the 2008/09 rates for the burial ground. The Clerk to finalise costs for the SID programme, revised bus route and computerised finance system for the next Parish Council meeting on 7 January 2009.**

### **1088/00 All Planning Matters**

- W2008/1270 Erection of two single storey side extensions to The Bungalow, Isombridge, Longdon upon Tern - Rodington Parish Council has no objections to this application.

**Resolved: The Clerk to inform T&W Planning Department of this decision.**

Cllr Johnson circulated a report reviewing the 2 recent planning applications to restore derelict buildings within the Parish which were refused planning permission by T&W Planning Department. The report also details the reasons for refusal referring to the T&W Core Strategy. T&W Planning Officers have delegated responsibility to make planning decisions outside of the Planning Board. Cllr Johnson highlighted that Rodington Parish Council is outside of the 3 rural areas designated for development in the Borough but the Core Strategy states that derelict buildings are different. Cllr Ashton pointed out that the derelict farm buildings are now unsuitable for modern farm machinery. Cllr French thanked Cllr Johnson for the hard work that he had put into his report.

**Resolved: Cllr Johnson to put his report on the Parish Website for the public to view.**

### **1089/00 Rodington Heath Post Box**

The Clerk informed members of a recent letter received from the Royal Mail regarding a request to re-site the post box in Rodington Heath. Members acknowledged that the post box had always been positioned on this spot and T&W Highways Department would be addressing the road in the next financial year. The Clerk has also received a letter regarding the inconvenient location of the post box at the end of Drury Lane.

**Resolved: The Clerk to write to the Royal Mail to say that the Parish Council sees no benefit to re-siting the post box in Rodington Heath and would like the box to remain where it is. The Clerk to also write to the Royal Mail regarding the post box at the end of Drury Lane asking for it to be relocated to its original position on Somerwood Road.**

### **1090/00 New Road Name Plates**

Cllr Perkin informed members that there is inadequate road signage on the entrance to Rodington Parish, by Drury Lane, to inform visitors that they are entering Somerwood.

**Resolved: The Clerk to contact T&W Highways Department to request that new signage is erected on the Parish Boundary when entering Somerwood.**

**1091/00 Representative on Wrekin Area Committee of SALC**

Cllrs Johnson and Osborne represent Rodington Parish Council on the Wrekin Area Committee of SALC.

**Resolved: The Clerk to inform the Chair of Wrekin Area Committee of the Parish Council's representatives.**

**1092/00 SALC Membership of Standards Committee as from 1 April 2009**

The Clerk informed the Parish Council of a request from SALC for Parish Council representatives on the Standards Committee.

**Resolved: The Clerk to write to SALC to say that Rodington Parish Council will not have a representative on the Standards Committee.**

**1093/00 Reports on Meetings Attended by Members and Ward Councillors**

Cllrs French and Broderick attended the Longdon upon Tern Village Hall Committee.

Cllr Perkin attended the Local Access Partnership Meeting where the Twister bus route was discussed. As of yet T&W are unsure how well this service is supported.

**1094/00 Correspondence**

All other correspondence was placed in the black bag for circulation to members.

**1095/00 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Rodington Parish Council is arranged for Wednesday 7 January 2009 at 7.30 pm at Rodington Village Hall. Planning applications will be made available to view from 7.00 pm.

As the business of the meeting had been concluded the meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

Signed:.....  
Chairman

Date:.....