

**MINUTES of the Ordinary ROWDE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016, 7.30pm, at Rowde Village Hall**

<b>PRESENT:</b> S Mundy (Chair), J Dalley, J Hawkins, G Sartin, A Seedhouse, L Stewart <b>Clerk:</b> R Jeffries <b>Present:</b> Councillor A Cuthbert		
1.	<b>Apologies &amp; Acceptance of Apologies:</b> B Bentley, C Stevens	
2.	<b>Register of Members' Interests</b> No business interests were recorded.	
3.	<b>Chairman's five minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Chair gave permission for the minutes from the July Parish Council meeting to be approved and signed. Please see item 6 below.</li> <li>▪ The Chair noted that the container has been removed from the Large Playing Field. The contents of the container have to be disposed of separately. It was agreed for a skip to be hired for these items to be removed, which included carpet from the allotments, an old kitchen that was previously used in the pavilion. All items were owned by the Parish Council. Thanks were given to J Dalley &amp; D Packer for tidying up the area.</li> <li>▪ Fibre-optic broadband: BT has commenced work to install fibre-optic broadband in the village. This work started without notification to the Parish Council, in spite of assurances from BT that the Parish Council would be notified. The electricity to the cabinet is still to be connected (as at 12/10/16).</li> </ul>	
4.	<b>Wiltshire Council update – Cllr Cuthbert</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Cuthbert noted the time that she had spent speaking with BT in pursuit of fibre-optic broadband for Rowde. In addition to this, the Parish Council, Wiltshire Council, MP Claire Perry and many individuals have been in correspondence with BT. Cllr Cuthbert was thanked for all of her hard work in helping to achieve fibre-optic broadband in Rowde.</li> <li>• The Parish Council asked if the Chair could give an official response on Facebook to residents regarding the situation with fibre-optic broadband coming to Rowde.</li> </ul> <b>News from the Area Board Meeting: 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A defibrillator awareness session was held.</li> <li>• There was a presentation on the proposals for development at the Wharf.</li> </ul> <b>Wiltshire Council budget update</b> Cllr Cuthbert gave an overview of the recent Wiltshire Council budget consultation. The elderly and disabled people need to be supported more. The grant from Central government is going down. In part this has been met by the 2% social care levy which is ring-fenced for adult social care. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Department for Communities &amp; Local Government (DCLG) is proposing a council tax referendum for local councils. If there is a rise in the precept of 2% or £5 per year, whichever is higher, a referendum will be invoked. This will affect larger councils at first. However, it is stated that the government is aware that increases in precept continues to concern local tax payers and is therefore prepared to consider extending referendums to all parishes. The consultation closes on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Cllr Cuthbert urged councillors to respond to the consultation to protect their right to levy taxes according to local need.</li> </ul>	Chair
5.	<b>Public Question Time</b>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A question was asked about insurance cover for the grounds worker from HfT. The Chair confirmed that the insurance costs were being covered by HfT as the worker is a contractor.</li> <li>• A donation was given towards the costs of using the generator for a private function. It was commented that the generator was very quiet and used very little fuel. However, it is not equipped with the necessary leads. D Revell will consult with the Parish Council to advise on the leads that need to be purchased.</li> <li>• A question was asked about the recent ordering of the skip to remove waste items from the container on the large playing field. It was confirmed that all items to be removed belonged to the Parish Council and were causing a hazard to users of the field. There were no private possessions being disposed of.</li> <li>• A request was made for the hedges to be cut to the right and opposite the exit from Conscience Lane onto Devizes Road.</li> </ul>	<p>Clerk (DR)</p> <p>Clerk</p>
6.	<p><b>Agree the minutes of the ordinary Parish Council meeting 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No changes were made to the minutes. The financial calculations stand as correct. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by J Hawkins, seconded by A Seedhouse. All Councillors were in favour.</li> </ul> <p><b>Agree the minutes of the ordinary Parish Council meeting 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The minutes were proposed by G Sartin and seconded by J Dalley. All Councillors were in favour.</li> </ul>	
7.	<p><b>Matters arising &amp; actions taken from the meeting 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016.</b></p> <p>Matters arising were dealt with in the meeting. Please see items below.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Village Appearance</b></p> <p><b>Community planter project:</b> A list of possible locations for planters was proposed. The Clerk will annotate a map of Rowde with the suggested locations and circulate for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L Stewart will write to groups in the village to invite them to take part in the project. Individuals can become involved too. The groups/individuals will be provided with a planter and the location details for where it will be sited. S Mundy will design the planter and circulate at the next Parish Council meeting.</li> <li>• It was proposed that zinc animal troughs are used as the planters next to Manor Farm. G Sartin will ask about costings for zinc troughs.</li> <li>• A suggestion was made to approach advertisers in the village magazine to see if they would like to sponsor a planter. It may help to cover the costs of the plants.</li> <li>• It is intended that the planters will be in situ by March, with judging taking place in June/July. There could be a presentation at the village fete in July.</li> <li>• L Stewart will circulate the proposed letter to Parish Councillors.</li> </ul> <p><b>Fly-tipping: Sands Lane</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been recurring incidences of fly-tipping off Sands Lane, next to the Large Playing Field. Recently a smashed television, pram wheels, board games and large cardboard boxes have been left in the car park. This land is owned by the Parish Council and as such Wiltshire Council will not remove the fly-tipped items. The recycling bank has been full for many months. The unwillingness of the company to empty the recycling bank has exacerbated problems.</li> <li>• It was proposed that the recycling bank should be removed from the Sands Lane site. All Councillors voted in favour of removing the bank. The Clerk will write to the company and ask for the bank to be removed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Shared grounds maintenance proposal</b></p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>S Mundy</p> <p>G Sartin</p> <p>L Stewart</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bromham Parish Council are interested in meeting to discuss the idea further. Other Parish Councils may be interested in sharing a contractor but do not wish to become involved with employing their own grounds maintenance worker. A. Seedhouse will continue to talk with Cllr Cuthbert to establish the capital costs of setting up the proposal.</li> <li>Devizes Town Council has approached Rowde Parish Council to discuss possible participation in their grass cutting provision. In 2017, Devizes Town Council are looking to bring their grass cutting in house and we may be able to buy into their service. Cllr Cuthbert warned of rural councils being used to subsidise the work of Town Councils.</li> </ul> <p><b>Grounds Worker</b></p> <p>The pavement from Maundrell Close to St. Matthew's Close has been cleared by Tim, our grounds worker from HfT. The tyre planters past Furlong Close have also been tidied by Tim and planted with bulbs for the spring.</p> <p><b>The Hill</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Clerk had obtained a quote for treating the grass on The Hill with a four course weed and feed treatment. It was agreed not to pursue the quote at this time, as a volunteer has offered to scarify the grass on the Hill. This will take place in the next few weeks. [Clerk's note: the weed and feed will be applied in the spring now due to falling temperatures. When the weeds have been killed off, the grassed area will be scarified.</li> <li>It was noted that the grass will look worse before it looks better due to removing all of the weeds and the time it takes for new grass to become established. A sum of up to £50 was agreed for new grass seed and materials. All Councillors voted in favour.</li> <li>Planted box: P Evans has kindly agreed to continue maintaining the planted box.</li> <li>Our grounds worker from HfT will paint the benches on the Hill.</li> </ul>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>A Seedhouse</p>
9.	<p><b>Village Amenities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>BT fibre-optic broadband</b></li> </ul> <p>The cabinet has been upgraded for fibre-optic broadband. There is currently no electricity running to the new cabinet (at time of meeting 12/10/16).</p>	
10.	<p><b>Development</b></p> <p><b>Bungalow Development off Silverlands Road: Road name suggestions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There was some discussion about possible names for the new bungalow development. It was agreed that the street should have a historical/geographical connection. A street name around 'Reed Place' the Saxon name for Rowde was proposed. This ties in with the existing themes of Marsh Lane, Springfield Road and Silverlands. Proposed by A Seedhouse, seconded by J Dalley. All Councillors were in favour.</li> <li>Permissive footpath around the bungalow development: there will be no planting of crops in this field for another 12 months. The spoil will be stored to the east of the site. The path is permissive so it allows for deviations along its route. Ramblers and walkers will find the most suitable route around the spoil.</li> </ul> <p><b>Neighbourhood Planning:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P Allfrey has expressed an interest in being involved with the Neighbourhood Planning project. The Parish Council was grateful for P Allfrey's interest. It was agreed that A Seedhouse and J Hawkins, will meet with Cllr Cuthbert, P Allfrey and a further contact to progress the project.</li> </ul>	

	<b>Planning Application</b> 16/08908/FUL Myrtle Farm, 28 Bunnies Lane, Rowde for a proposed log burner and flue, roof light and solar panel array. The Parish Council found no objections.									
11.	<b>Allotments &amp; Playing field</b> <b>Update on central security post</b> Allotment tenants have expressed their wish for the central security post to remain in place. This is to protect the grassed path from being churned up by vehicles, especially in the wet weather. <b>Update on use of the field and fees collected.</b> The Rowdey Cow Rowde FC pitch fees for last season are still outstanding. J Dalley will pursue this matter with the Wiltshire FA.									
12.	<b>Village Communication</b> <b>Facebook:</b> G Sartin continues to post details of the Parish Council meeting dates on the facebook page. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The planter project is a popular topic with many people interested in taking part.</li></ul>									
13.	<b>Financial matters &amp; monthly invoices for September</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The invoices for September were approved and cheques were signed for a total of £2181.21. Proposed by J Dalley, seconded by J Hawkins. All Councillors were in favour.</li></ul> <table border="1"><tr><td>Admin costs inc. meeting room hire</td><td>1019.02</td></tr><tr><td>Grounds maintenance</td><td>441.80</td></tr><tr><td>Repairs: footpaths, Heritage sign, skip</td><td>720.39</td></tr><tr><td><b>Total:</b></td><td><b>2181.21</b></td></tr></table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Permission was given to include the invoice for the skip hire in the above total and to pay the invoice for the meeting room hire of the Village Hall.</li><li>It was proposed that L Stewart is added to the list of approved bank signatories.</li><li>The proposal to place a solar panel on the pavilion has been postponed.</li><li>The Parish Council accounts have been passed by the external auditor. There were no queries on the finances. The only note mentioned was regarding the timing of signing of the governance forms.</li></ul>	Admin costs inc. meeting room hire	1019.02	Grounds maintenance	441.80	Repairs: footpaths, Heritage sign, skip	720.39	<b>Total:</b>	<b>2181.21</b>	Clerk
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14.	<b>Additional Question Time</b> No further questions were asked by members of the public.									
15.	<b>Correspondence</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Extinguishment of a length of public footpath at Springfield Road:</b> Wiltshire Council has extinguished a length of public footpath at Springfield Road, Rowde. This section of the footpath has been built over with the houses at 16, 17, 18 Wheeler Place. A resident was concerned about the veracity of this information. It was noted that the matter is a Wiltshire Council matter and further queries should be directed to Wiltshire Council. The resident was thanked for their concern.</li></ul>	Clerk								
	<b>Date of next meeting</b> <b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.</b>									

A reminder that all requests for work/or goods should be presented to the relevant Committee first for authorisation.

Signed: ..... Chairman Date: .....