

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF OCKBROOK & BORROWASH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE PARISH HALL, OCKBROOK ON WEDNESDAY 1st MARCH 2017**

Present

Cllr. M. Wallis, (Chairman)

Cllr. T. Holbrook

Cllr. J. Owens,

Cllr. D. Webster

Cllr. M. Wain.

Cllr. M. White

Cllr. V. Tumanow

R. Parker (Clerk to the Council)

Cllr. W. Major,

Cllr. R. Parkinson

4 Parishioners

Public Participation.

Cllr. R. Parkinson had submitted a report – attached. He was also sincerely thanked for his assistance in gaining a grant of £10,000 from Derbyshire County Council for additional trim-trail equipment

Cllr. W. Major advised that pot holes and street lighting repairs continued to be a major problem – some areas in Derbyshire were having LED lighting installed as this was more efficient and cheaper to run but this was being done by one complete street at a time.

A resident complained regarding what she called acrid smoke that was regularly affecting the Parish from Victoria Avenue. She had also complained to Erewash BC but as yet they did not appear to have taken any action. She produced photographs and was assured that the Parish Council would make enquiries.

Enquiries were received regarding any allotment vacancies. All except four of the allotment holders had returned their agreements and paid their fees for the current year. The four non-payers were assumed to have given up their allotments and their plots will shortly be offered to new applicants.

Cllr. M. Wallis as Erewash Borough Councillor announced that a police representative that used to attend our meetings was no longer considered necessary by the Police Force and was unlikely be attending in future. He also announced that he would be attending the full council meeting of the Borough on March 9th when the budget will be discussed. Unfortunately the problem of vandalism does not seem to be lessening. He detailed many items all of which was causing increased expense.

Part 1 – non exempt

1/3/17 To received apologies for absence.

Received and accepted from Cllr. A. Solloway, Cllr. K. Knapp, Cllr. D. Archer and Cllr. J. Fraser-Burton

2/3/17 Variation in order of business

No change deemed necessary.

3/3/17 Declaration of members interest

No declarations.

4/3/17 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2017

These had been circulated and read. Confirmation proposed by Cllr. J. Owens and seconded by Cllr. D. Webster – unanimous acceptance

5/3/17 To determine which items should be discussed with the public excluded.

Cllr. M. White asked if item 10/3/17 could be transferred to exempt items. – unanimous acceptance

6/3/17 Outstanding matters

Cllr. M. Wallis confirmed that the Parish Council were taking legal advice with regard to the possibility of houses being built on the rear gardens of Kimberly Road houses that wanted rear access off the allotments

Cllr. M. Wallis also detailed the problems of various large items being dumped in the stream. These will be removed within the next few days – a process that involved the Environment Agency and Erewash BC

The dangerous Queens Jubilee Sign that had originally stood at the Green Lane/Ridings junction and had been repaired and resprayed and would shortly be installed on the Bare Lane, Pares Way junction.

The Foresters Pub that had been closed for some time will shortly be demolished and 10 new houses built on the site.

As our Balmoral Cemetery is approaching full capacity a draft plan of a new cemetery to be created has been prepared. It will include a large number of grave and cremation remains spaces. It will also include a separate area for small children/babies and a natural burial area.

7/3/17 Clerks report

The Clerk had submitted a written report (attached) and asked if any part required any further explanation. None requested.

8/3/17 Chairman's report

Cllr. M. Wallis reported that the Christmas Light Switch on had now been arranged.

Royal Oak, Ockbrook – November 17th. Co-op store Borrowash – December 1st

Cllr. M. Wallis again reminded the council that cases of vandalism, litter and dog fouling continued to be a major problem by spoiling the appearance of our Parish and causing considerable expenditure. With this in mind he will be meeting with a closed circuit camera company to discuss installation at various points within the Parish. Whilst this approach is expensive it should reduce the problems and also the wasted expenditure. Any person causing vandalism, litter and dog fouling will be referred to the authorities.

Cllr. Wallis gave information regarding the Ockbrook Cricket Club which had been given a donation of £500 last year (first of three years) Apparently they are delighted with our support and will be displaying a banner free of charge actually thanking the Parish Council. It was proposed by Cllr. J. Owens and seconded by Cllr. M. Wain that the next donation of £500 should be sent early in April – unanimous approval.

Cllr. M. Wallis had regularly checked the new trim trail equipment on Deans Drive and found that there had been no problems and it was being regularly used by our younger residents. The Parish Council had been given two options as to the additional trim trail equipment to be purchased with the £10,000 grant gained by Cllr. R. Parkinson. The unanimous approval by the councillors was for option two. The Clerk will advise the suppliers and installation should be towards the end of April.

9/3/17 To receive reports from Parish Councillors.

Cllr. D. Webster advised that an approach had been made by a local youth football team to be able to use our Deans Drive football pitch. A large percentage of the players actually live in the Parish and find travelling to other Parishes to play games both inconvenient and expensive. It was proposed by Cllr. M. Wallis and seconded by Cllr. M. White that this should be approved with a charge of only £5 per match - unanimous acceptance. As a result of the dog fouling on the parks she understood that a covert dog warden would be patrolling and that covert cameras had been installed.

Cllr. T. Holbrook pointed out that he had inspected the recent income/expenditure statements and a schedule of cheques requiring signature that had been prepared by the Clerk and recommended acceptance. Proposed by Cllr. M. White and seconded by Cllr. D. Webster – Unanimous. He also announced that the Parish had applied for a similar precept as in recent years – there being no increase. A contract for renewal of servicing the Clock outside the Co-op Store in Borrowash had been received and as this seemed extremely expensive it had been decided to gain further quotations before the end of the existing contract.

Cllr. M. White announced he was still unhappy with the carwash at the Wilmot Arms which he had believed would be applying for planning approval. He would now be looking to planning enforcement being involved. Princess Drive have expressed an interest to be involved in the Erewash in Bloom and had received advice from Dave Brammall of Erewash BC. Their intentions were to start small this year and expand over the coming years. A request for a grant from the Parish Council may be made.

Cllr. M. Wallis confirmed that complaints had continued regarding unkempt and untidy gardens which potentially attracted vermin. A house in Borrowash had been officially ordered to tidy up by Erewash BC and a further two properties in Ockbrook were being looked at. From February 19th the Zoom bus has been cancelled and has been replaced by 12 and 12a over slightly different routes. Routes 9 and 9a are safe until the end of September and efforts are being made to see it continued afterwards. The Ilkeston Flier has increased its routes from three to four per hour and consideration is being given to a change of two of the routes to come through Ockbrook. Complaints continue to be received with regard to some of the establishments on Moor Lane – Planning enforcement has become involved.

Cllr. J. Owens had regularly checked the planning applications and decisions and whilst most of them involved extensions he was concerned that the application for 2 The Ridings appeared to have problems. The access as existing is very narrow and was onto a busy three road junction especially at school times. The Clerk will advise the Planning Department of our concerns.

PART 2 – EXEMPT ITEMS.

Grant of £250 To Kareena.

Kareena is a nine year old local girl that was hoping to have an operation to enable her to walk which could not be funded by National Health. A collection box to help with fund raising had been stolen from “Marmalade & Tea”. Kareena had been on Radio Derby describing how heartbroken she was knowing someone had possibly denied her the chance of walking. A grant of £250 was proposed by Cllr. J. Owens and seconded by Cllr. M. White. – Unanimous.

ELECTRIC CAR CHARGER.

As a result of continued complaints nationally regarding polluted atmosphere and for more use of green energy a charger for Electric Cars had been approved at our last Parish Council Meeting and had actually been installed. Cllr. J. Owens said it was most unlikely that local electric car owners would use the facility as they already had charging facilities at home. He was aware that many councils had already installed similar equipment that was available for visitors to the area and he actually relied on these when visiting in the north of England.

Cllr. M. White was worried that it seemed that we were favouring electric car drivers against petrol and diesel drivers and also that it could be somewhat expensive for the Parish Council.

Cllr. J. Owen advised that a credit card reading device could be attached to the machine but this would cost the Parish £300 per annum. As the equipment was only designed to give a top-up rather than a full charge it is doubtful if any receipts would cover the £300 expenditure.

It was agreed that by limiting the hours that the facility was available it would not be creating the desired effect. The Clerk was asked to ensure that it was available full time but also to regularly check electricity usage to ensure that it wasn't becoming expensive.

Date & Time of next meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 5th April 2017 commencing at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall, Church Street, Ockbrook. DE72 3SL

