

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF OCKBROOK & BORROWASH PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT THE PARISH HALL, OCKBROOK ON WEDNESDAY 5th APRIL 2017

Present

Cllr. M. Wallis, (Chairman)

Cllr. T. Holbrook

Cllr. J. Owens,

Cllr. D. Webster

Cllr. J. Fraser-Burton

Cllr. M. White

Cllr. V. Tumanow

R. Parker (Clerk to the Council)

Cllr. W. Major,

Cllr. R. Parkinson

7 Parishioners

Public Participation.

Cllr. R. Parkinson had submitted a report - attached

Cllr. W. Major advised that pot holes and street lighting repairs are currently receiving quicker attention.

A resident reported that the hedges around the Bare Lane Recreation Ground had not been trimmed – she had already written detailing her complaint. Cllr. M. Wallis advised that the hedges were managed by both E M Homes, the Parish Council and by Erewash BC. Erewash like other councils are suffering from a reduction in their funding and this has resulted in the hedges being trimmed less regularly. It currently cannot be thoroughly cut due to birds nesting season. He promised to look into the problem to see if anything could be done.

Another resident mentioned that large quantities of waste was being dumped on local farmland and it did not seem that any planning permission had been sought. She was advised that the landowner could still make a retrospective application to the authorities. Cllr M. Wallis will investigate

A resident on Cole Lane advised that large amounts of rubble was being dumped in what is starting to appear to be a landfill site. Cllr. M. Wallis will investigate.

Cllr. M. Wallis as Erewash Borough Councillor confirmed that the budget had been agreed. Parishioners receiving their current rates demand will have noticed that there has been no increase within the rates attributable to Ockbrook and Borrowash and in fact many houses showed a decrease.

The improvements to the Ilkeston Museum have been completed to a very high standard – although more improvements are planned.

Part 1 – non exempt

1/4/17 To received apologies for absence.

Received and accepted from Cllr. A. Solloway, Cllr. K. Knapp, Cllr. D. Archer and Cllr. M Wain

2/4/17 Variation in order of business

No change deemed necessary

3/4/17 Declaration of members interest

No declarations.

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

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

5/4/17 To determine which items should be discussed with the public excluded.

Part of the Finance Chairmans report to be heard in Part 2

6/4/17 Outstanding matters

Cllr. M. Wallis advised that the Elm Street allotments have the possibility of two houses being built at the rear of the Kimberly Road gardens. It is difficult to oppose vehicular access to these houses via the entrance from Ladysmith Road but any request to lay utilities across Parish Council land will be refused. The Parish Council are also concerned for the safety of allotment holders close to the site and a fence will be erected if required.

Cllr. M. Wallis had previously detailed houses within the Parish that had unkempt gardens which potentially was attracting vermin. Action is now being taken against the householders.

The new equipment to be added to Bare Lane Recreation Field that had been delayed due to waterlogged ground will hopefully be installed by Easter and that the extra trim trail equipment for Deans Drive will also be available in the next few weeks.

7/4/17 Clerks report

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

He also reported that the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2017 have now been completed and asked if there were any objections to them being passed to the internal auditor for verification Proposed by Cllr. M. White and seconded by Cllr. J. Fraser Burton - unanimous

8/4/17 Chairman's report.

Cllr. M. Wallis has been made aware of problems on the x17 and Zoom buses – apparently the ticket machine was not properly calibrated and was only giving tickets for the outward journey meaning that travellers had to pay again on the return journey. The bus company has acknowledged the problem and has promised to re-imburse any traveller that has overpaid. The Ilkeston Flyer and Yourbus have now increased their routes from three to four per hour and are considering having two of the four routes to come through Ockbrook.

In an attempt to force irresponsible dog owners to pick up after their dogs the council will now be offering a £50 reward to anyone reporting an offender that results in a court fine. Free dog poo-bags are available at the office.

9/4/17 To receive reports from Parish Councillors

Cllr. J. Owens had regularly checked the planning applications and whilst most of the current applications were acceptable he was concerned with the application for the erection of three houses on Derby Road. The access seemed somewhat restricted. The Clerk will advise the Planning Department of our concerns.

Cllr. M. White enquired regarding the erection of a new bus shelter on Victoria Avenue close to the junction of Deans Drive. This had been mentioned to Derbyshire County Council last year. The Clerk will make enquiries.

Cllr. M. Wallis was pleased to report on the amount of compliments he had received regarding Balmoral Road cemetery. It was now looking very smart and well maintained. He also reported that the Electric Car Charger was available at all times but that it was aimed at visitors to the Parish to top-up their vehicles electricity charge.

Cllr. T. Holbrook referred to the list of cheques that required approval and signature that had been prepared by the Clerk. Proposal for acceptance from Cllr. D. Webster and seconded by Cllr. J. Fraser-Burton. He also understood that all the allotments vacancies are now relet.

PART 2 – EXEMPT ITEMS.

CHAIRMANS ALLOWANCE

Cllr. M. Wallis currently receives a Chairmans Allowance of £750 p.a. and finds this totally inadequate to meet the costs that he has to finance. The councillors accepted that he gets involved in far more activities for the Parish than could be expected from a typical Chairman. It was proposed by Cllr. J. Fraser-Burton and seconded by Cllr. M. White that his allowance should increase to £1500 from 1st April. Unanimous This item to be reviewed if there becomes a future change of Chairman.

It has been the practice of the Parish Council to donate £250 per cal. month to Ashbrook Youth Group. Approval was now required to continue for a further 3 months after which approval will again be sought. Proposed by Cllr. T. Holbrook and seconded by Cllr. D. Webster – Unanimous.

The council was also advised that a donation of £2100 was to be given to Borrowbrook Home Link by the S. Alcock for the poor trust. A cheque will initially be issued by the Parish Council following which a compensating payment will be transferred to the Parish Council from the Trust

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

