

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016  
IN RUNWELL VILLAGE HALL AT 8 PM**

**IN ATTENDANCE** – Chairman Mr W.B. Lansdale; Messrs Clark; Martin; Rogers, and Sloane. Mesdames Martin; Payne; Varney and Evans. CCC Millane and Ride

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the September meeting and reported that Matt Grummett had resigned from the Council due to work commitments.

**Minute 89 Declaration of Interest** – None declared

**Minute 90 Public Participation**

- (i) JS reported that the “Traffic Calming” width restriction by Waverley Crescent had been hit twice during the last month and asked whether repairs to the light were scheduled. Clerk to arrange a meeting with Mid Essex Area Highways to discuss the future of the scheme.
- (ii) SM reported the overgrown hedge adjacent to the A132 Runwell Road, PC further reported that he had spoken to ECC Highways last month when he reported the same issue and apparently the file has been closed. Clerk to send strong letter regarding the condition and maintenance of the only footpath along the Runwell Road.
- (iii) LP reported that the Bus Stop sign by 19/21 Brock Hill was obscured by the hedge and the bus driver had refused to stop as he was not aware of the stop. Letter and/or visit to request the owner of the hedge to cut back.
- (iv) CE reported that a child had been hurt crossing the A132 Runwell Road trying to catch a “Pokémon” part of a current trend in a virtual reality game. Similar accidents have increased since the release of the game. CE reported the poor state of the footpath in Runwell Chase, BL responded that improvements were unlikely until the general commitment made by Countryside Developments/ECC Highways in connection with St. Luke’s Park Development were implemented. Clerk to write for provisional date for the work to be completed.
- (v) DD reported that the stream that fed the watercourse in Church End Lane/Runwell Park (where the Flood Alleviation Scheme is taking place) is dry where it crosses through upper Meadow Lane implying that the flow in the bottom section may be coming from another source. Clerk to advise Tim Savage at CCC and request the water is tested. DD asked for further clarification on the definition of a ditch/watercourse and what is allowable to be filled in. Clerk to get definition from Charlotte Smith ECC.
- (vi) Residents from Ethelred Gardens reported that Cygnet Dentist Practise in Swan Lane had submitted a further planning application to extend the dentist surgery and expressed their strong objections. The Chairman advised them that the application would be discussed under planning later in the meeting and noted their views.

**Minute 91** The Minutes of the Council Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**Minute 92** Clerks report Appendix 1

**Minute 93 Finance**

- (i) Payments

Petty Cash

Petrol – Park £16.43	Kettle - Hall £30.00	Allotments – Wood Treatment £17.99
Allotment Key Deposit Returned Plot 29 £12.50		<b>Total £76.92</b>

Prepayments

107178	S Thoroughgood	Mobile Welding repairs - Park	£300.00
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Cheques to issue

107179	Mrs J Pharez	Bookers – Hall Water heater & taps	£463.08
107180	Mrs J Pharez	Salary	
107181	Mrs G Smith	Caretakers Salary 5wks & Locking	
107182	Essex Pension Fund	Pension	£400.35
107183	L Vallis	Groundsman 5 weeks & back pay	£1531.40
107184	C Rogers	Hall garden maintenance	£50.00

107185	BF Ground Maintenance Ltd	Grass Cutting x2 Runwell Park – June	£264.00
107186	P Clark	Basildon Mower Centre – Park Equipment	£1264.64
107187	A-Z Supplies	Hall supplies	£59.34
107188	CPRE	Annual Membership	£36.00
107189	A Knight	Plumbing/repairs – Hall	£160.00
107190	Chelms City Council	Play in the Park	£100.00
107191	J Cawston	Returnable Hall Deposit	£20.00
107192	R Hills	Ditto	£100.00
107193	Mrs L Abbott	Caretaker cover	£50.00
107194	A Stevenson	Allotment Key Deposit	£25.00
107195	Cash	Petty Cash as above	£76.92
107196	Viking	Office supplies	£34.82
107197	Basildon Locksmiths	Park padlocks/keys	£107.41
D/Debit	J & J Pharez	CCTV Broadband	£12.21
D/Debit	Anglian Water	Hall Sewerage 6 months	£416.41
D/Debit	Essex & Suffolk Water	Hall	£403.51
		Park	£42.99
		Allotments	£264.64
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£7799.05</b>

The Council agreed to transfer £7000 from Business Tracker A/c to Current A/c to cover these payments

(ii) Receipts and Payments 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup>.June 2016. The Council approved the accounts.

#### **Minute 94 Correspondence**

1. ECC – Changes to Re-cycling Centres. It was agreed to send a strong letter or protest to ECC as the changes will lead to an increase in fly-tipping across the county especially in the rural areas.
2. TCV – Free tree pack offer, the Clerk has signed up to receive free trees when available.
3. Nevendon Steering Group – Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> October 10am – 4pm in The Downtowner and Wickford Library. Groups wanting to promote themselves to express an interest by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.
4. CCC – Notice of change of date of Local Plan Training to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 10.30am – 1pm

#### **Minute 95 Standing Orders**

The Clerk reported she had asked Mike Letch (tutor on this subject at EALC) for advice on the merits of and /or problems of including a section on “Canvassing”. More information to follow defer to next meeting.

#### **Minute 96 Planning**

- (i) 16/01424/FUL – 27 Egbert Gardens - Proposed front, side and rear extension. Raise the roof, create first floor accommodation with two side and one rear dormer with rear balcony and 2.2m high fence to side and rear boundaries. The following matters were raised as an objection: Proposed new garage beyond existing building line; the proposal will have an overbearing effect due to the size and scale of the development; insufficient parking for the number of bedrooms proposed; rear balcony overlooks neighbours.
- (ii) 16/01476/FUL – Lynfords Farm, Runwell Road - Retrospective application for replacement 2m closed board boundary fence – No objection.
- (iii) 16/01519/FUL & 16/01520 102 Swan Lane – Single storey side extension to existing dental surgery & One externally illuminated fascia sign and one non illuminated static sign. Strong objection – overdevelopment, no increase in parking, out of character.
- (iv) 16/01385/OUT Brock Hill Farm – Erection of dwelling, garage and new access. The Council objected to the application as inappropriate development in the greenbelt by majority vote: 6 members objected and 3 members supported the application.

#### **Minute 97 St. Luke’s Park and St. Mary’s crossing improvements**

RR reported that it had been agreed that all infrastructure work would be completed before any of the houses were occupied. Mrs Eley’s property had been blighted by the changes to the road layout and negotiations to improve her access and other issues were on going; poor landscaping and light and noise pollution affecting her property. No further news regarding the crossing, proposals awaited from Essex Highways. Clerk to send

a chaser letter to maintain pressure for the implementation of St. Mary's crossing. Further matters of concern to be reported to Neil Jordan CCC Planning Officer: Condition of open areas including ditches, area by Brockwell House, timing of road and pavement improvements

### **Minute 98 Hall - Curtains**

Two further quotations received: Ashwell Interiors: £7585.00 Tricia Newman: £8000.00  
It was unclear from either of the quotations whether VAT was included or extra. The Council gave authority to the Hall Committee Chairman Stella Varney and member Linda Payne to decide which company to approve for the contract after the Clerk had clarified the VAT position with both companies. Work to take place during half term in October 2016.

### **Minute 99 Runwell Brook – Ethelred Gardens**

PC reported that a resident whose garden ran adjacent to the brook had purchased a permit from the Environment Agency (EA) to complete work to the brook as his garden had been eroded due to the bend of the watercourse. Following the recent training from Charlotte Smith ECC "Where does all the water go" it is known that Runwell Brook is a main tributary of the River Crouch and as such should be maintained by The Environment Agency, the brook is subject to a maintenance programme which is due to take place soon. The Council agreed that the resident should not be responsible for the repair, also H&S issue. Letter to be sent to EA and ECC. EA recently removed a tree/s close to Egbert Gardens in the same brook.

### **Minute 100 New Councillor Recruitment**

The Chairman reported there are 4 vacancies on the council with a fifth member moving soon. It was agreed to spread the word to get some new members. Clerk to draft a flyer to put in local shops and Library.

### **Minute 101 Reports**

**Hall** – SV reported that the work in the kitchen had been completed – see Clerks report; curtains to be agreed shortly, purchaser for old curtains has been found. SM asked about the defibrillator, repaired box to be stored, consideration to be given to purchase a machine solely for the Village Hall. PC asked about the Flag, JM had taken done torn flag, repair or replacement needed. New flagpole discussed.

**Park** – PC reported "Play in the Park" had been a great success, numbers greater than those recorded as under 3's not included (80+ children) attributed to good weather and event held in the afternoon. "Flood Alleviation Scheme" – work in Runwell Park virtually complete, still work to finish in Meadow Lane. 400 tonnes of hard core and type 1 stone used to re-instate the car park, a period of wet weather needed to consolidate the surface. Sadly quads bikes had already disturbed the surface so modification to be made to main gate to stop unauthorised access when the park is closed. Areas all safe for Wickford Carnival to assemble on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September. New football team may be interested in hiring a senior pitch. A lot of time spent sorting and replacing padlocks and keys. Old trash screen from Meadow Lane Brook currently stored in park and not wanted by CCC, available for scrap. BL thanked PC for his time resolving issues.

**Allotments** – LP reported the ploholders had a BBQ on site on 4<sup>th</sup> September attended by 40 members. All the plots are currently let with 2 people on the waiting list. AGM 24<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> October in Village Hall.

**CCC** – Support offered to residents regarding planning application for Cygnet Dentist Practise 102 Swan Lane and matters affecting St. Luke's Park development.

**Tree Wardens** – SM reported that a lot of the trees and bushes planted as part of the landscaping scheme for the St. Luke's Development had died, although initially watered this had not been continued. RR confirmed that dead trees etc would be replaced by Countryside.

**Footpath PRoW's** – DD reported that he had previously cleared Footpath 2 which was subsequently cleared by CCC and that in his opinion there was no reason why the footway in Runwell Road should not be cleared. (Please note Public Footpaths (PRoW's) are overseen by CCC whilst footways on the Highway are the responsibility of ECC) PC/JP to follow up.

**Runwell Roundabout** – The Clerk reported, new editor found to work alongside KR pending her retirement

### **Minute 102 Notices of Motions and Future Business**

Committee meetings needed September/October for Hall and Park.

Wickford Carnival Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2016

### **Minute 103 Agenda items for next meeting - Carry over current items.**

Meeting closed at 10PM