

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 5th DECEMBER 2022
IN RUNWELL VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00PM**

IN ATTENDANCE: - Chairman: Mr. P Clark; Messrs: Davis, Lansdale, Mpawose, Redway, Rogers, Sloane & Tarplett. Mesdames: Ellis, Hutson and Payne; 7 members of the public.

The Chairman wished those present a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and welcomed everyone to the December meeting. He further invited members and the public to stay after the meeting for refreshments.

Minute 140 Apologies: Cllr Evans. Apologies accepted.

Minute 141 Declarations of Interest – None received.

Minute 142 Public Participation

Traffic - Speed checks in Brock Hill; Project to provide speed monitors in the parish to be scheduled for 2023; **St. Luke's** - Land Trust (the open space managers for the development) have increased their maintenance charges by 14% to cover replacing trees that had not previously been properly cared for by Countryside prior to the handover. Unhappy residents. Chair to speak to the parks department at CCC to see if any of the areas can be planted with trees from the City Council pledge to plant a tree for each resident; **Streetlights** - Church End Lane (5 lights) maintenance crews have been in attendance but lights still not working; **Blocked drains** – Continued issues with full ditch outside 54 Brock Hill, piped sections along the road not allowing free flow of surface water into Runwell Brook. Previously reported will be chased up.

Minute 143 Minutes of Council Meeting 7th November 2022; Planning Committee meeting held 21st November 2022 and the combined Finance and Standing Committee meeting held 21st November 2022 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Minute 144 Co-option for Councillor Vacancy

One application received from Mrs G Gould. It was proposed and seconded to appoint Mrs G Gould as a member of Runwell Parish – carried unanimously. Mrs Gould took her seat and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Chair welcomed her to Runwell Parish Council.

Minute 145 Clerks Report

See Appendix 1

Minute 146 Finance

(i) Payments for approval

Lloyds Bank - Pre-payments

| | | | |
|------------|-------------|---|---------|
| Debit Card | Asda | Xmas Decs, Alarm/Microphone Batteries, DeCaf Coffee | £39.00 |
| FPO | Go Pak | 2 Replacement tables & 100 chair feet protectors | £345.24 |
| FPO | J F Wickham | Runwell Shed purchases | £127.50 |
| D/debit | Adobe Pro | Monthly subscription Nov/Dec | £15.17 |
| D/debit | Veolia | Hall Refuse | £131.04 |
| | | Sub total | £657.95 |

Lloyds Bank - Payments for authorisation

| | | | |
|-----|--------------------|---|-----------------|
| FPO | J Pharez | Salary | |
| FPO | JC Rogers | Salary 5 weeks plus locking etc | |
| FPO | Essex Pension Fund | Staff Pensions | |
| FPO | L Vallis | Groundsman Runwell Park 4 weeks @ £232.50 | £930.00 |
| FPO | DMR Garden Serv | Hall Garden - Monthly | £60.00 |
| FPO | A – Z Supplies | Hall Supplies - Nov | £171.42 |
| FPO | Activ8 Creative | Winter Roundabout | £425.00 |
| FPO | Viking | Office Supplies | £68.92 |
| FPO | Viking | Replacement Cigarette Bins x3 | £125.96 |
| FPO | P Clark | Travelling Expenses 356miles @ 0.45p | £160.20 |
| FPO | H J Tweedie | Returned Hall deposit | £30.00 |
| FPO | A Shepherd | ditto | £30.00 |
| | | Total | £5753.18 |

The Council agreed a transfer of £5,000.00 (Five thousand pounds) from the Deposit Account to the Current Account to cover these payments.

Barclays Bank Payments

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 107669 | L Cook (Hedgehogs R Us) | Hedgehog Highways Box 50 | £157.50 |
| 107670 | Abbott Signs | Hall & Park Signs | £38.31 |
| D/debit | E.on Next | Electricity used at Hall monthly | £181.00 |
| Total | | | £376.81 |

Sufficient funds held in the Barclays Current Account to cover these payments.

(ii) Precept 23/24

Following a discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously to set the precept at £118239. (One hundred and eighteen thousand, two hundred and thirty-nine pounds.)

When this is divided by the tax base of £1980.96 (using the figure supplied from CCC) the amount of the charge on Band D ratepayers will be £59.68 a 0% increase.

(iii) Financial Regulation 6.18 Amend Debit Card Limit

Following a discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed to amend the Debit Card Limit to £750.00 (Seven hundred and fifty pounds). New wording on appendix 2 attached to these minutes.

(iv) Coronation Mugs

Following confirmation of child numbers attending local schools, nurseries and pre-schools it was agreed to purchase 600 Coronation mugs. The best price to date following research by the Clerk and Hall Chairman was £5 per mug. Order to be placed.

Minute 147 Hall

Letter received advising the members that the Runwell Horticultural Association had decided to close. This was noted with sadness. The Club asked whether the Cups could be displayed in the Hall. The club would cover the cost of supplying and installing a display cabinet. It was agreed that the cups could be displayed in the committee room the dimensions and numbers of cups to be checked first. The Council agreed to take over the contents of the kitchen cupboard and store room cupboard.

Minute 148 Correspondence

1. RHA – See Minute 147 above.
2. ECC Passenger Transport – New Transport Information Website consultation.
3. Letter sent to neighbour concerning leylandii tree overhanging the Hall garden.

Minute 149 Planning

1. Applications Received:
 - (i) 22/02023/FUL – Land South of 8 Canewdon Gardens – Construction of new dwelling. Formation of access. *RPC comment:* No comment
 - (ii) 22/01997/FUL – 56 Running Well - Loft conversion with three front dormers. *RPC comment:* No objection.
 - (iii) 22/01948/FUL – Land at Dobe Farm – Demolition of Outbuildings. Formation of two detached bungalows with formation of access. *RPC comment:* The parish council object to inappropriate development of the greenbelt. The council asks that the legitimacy of the buildings that are proposed to be removed (and replaced by the two dwellings) is checked due to previous enforcement issues.
 - (iv) 22/02075/FUL – Car Sales Highover Cottage, Runwell Road – Demolition of existing commercial buildings and construction of new dwelling. *RPC comment:* The parish council object to inappropriate development of the greenbelt. The proposal will cause harm to the openness of the greenbelt by extending the developed housing area along this section of the Runwell Road. The original commercial permission 08/00870/CLEUD only shows 3 small buildings plus hardstanding areas, the proposed house appears to much larger than the developed area previously permitted.
 - (v) 22/01901/FUL – 148 Swan Lane – Retrospective application for outbuilding in rear garden. *RPC comment:* The parish council objects due to a loss of amenity for neighbours.

- (vi) 22/02090/FUL – 21 Ethelred Gdns – Single storey side and rear extension. *RPC comment:* Supported.
- (vii) 22/02088/FUL – 3 The Greenway – Single storey rear/side extension; first floor extension with juliet balcony. Internal/external alterations. *RPC comment:* Supported.

Minute 150 Reports

Hall – Quotation received from SGC Glass to replace the Hall windows, replace fire doors and provide entrance canopy. 2 further quotations to be obtained.

Park – The members were updated on discussions with CHP and Anglian Water for joining the proposed public toilets to the main sewer.

Runwell Roundabout – Winter Edition mostly distributed. Some streets still left to cover.

Allotments – Only 2 rents left to pay. Rent increase to £30 in 2023, advised at the AGM. Letter sent to the tenant to remove the willows.

Schools Cllr Hutson informed the council that she had been elected Chair of Governors at RCPS. Bug boxes to be arranged with Runwell Shed and to collect 2 Hedgehog Highways at the end of the meeting. Parents have been encouraged to ‘Park & Stride’ – this has been popular with the children. The school is keen to be involved with the parish.

The Chair thanked Cllr Hutson for her involvement with Wickford Christmas Market.

Cllr Hutson advised the members that Wickford Carnival would again be taking place in September 2023 and would provisionally like to book Runwell Park as the assembly point. Formal request to follow.

PRoW – DD reminded the members about the 48th Boxing Day Walk – assembling at Runwell Park at 10.15am to leave at 10.30am. Wellies advised.

CCC – The new Mayor is Sue Dobson (following the death of John Galley)

Minute 151 Notices of Motions and Future Business

- Planning Committee Meeting (if business dictates) Monday 19th December 2022 7pm.

Minute 152 Agenda items for the next meeting of Runwell Parish Council on 9th January 2023. Please note no decision can lawfully be made under this item. LGA 1972 section 12 10(2)(b) states that business must be specified.

- (i) Civility & Respect Pledge (NALC recommendation)

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

The members and public were invited to stay for refreshments.