

**Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee inclusive of Amenities Committee held by**  
**remote zoom video conference.**  
**on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7pm**

Cllr Matthew Douglas  
 Cllr Lorraine Foster (Ab)  
 Cllr Tracey James (A)

Cllr Gillian Dunn  
 Cllr Barbara Deavin  
 Cllr Diane Farthing  
 Cllr David Graham  
 Cllr Harry Curtis

Cllr Anne McLeod  
 Cllr Alice Tomlinson (A)  
 Cllr Phillip Thomas

Cllr Josephine Spencer (PC Chairman), Cllr Sue Clegg (PC Vice Chairman)

**Also present:** Jacki Grice (Parish Clerk), Lisa Simpson (Hall Manager), Cllrs Roger Upton and Abby Brennan (Rushcliffe Borough Council), Cllr Kay Cutts (Nottinghamshire County Council) and four members of the public.

**1 Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs Alice Tomlinson and Tracey James. Cllr Neil Clarke (RBC)

**2 Declarations of Interest**

None received.

**3 Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes/Amenities Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 for Approval.**

**Resolved:** "That the minutes were approved as an accurate record and will be signed by the Chairman at the next available meeting.

**4 Chairman's Announcements**

- The Chairman has received a message from the Mayor of Bussy St Georges who is twinned with Radcliffe on Trent, sending their condolences regarding the passing of Michael Bedford and Graham Leigh-Browne. The Chair will reply in French.
- It is with sadness that the Carnival has been cancelled this year due to the uncertainty of the Covid restrictions. It will hopefully go-ahead next year, 2022.
- A52 Junction - The Chairman is delighted that MP Ruth Edwards has challenged Highways England in their decision regarding the junction of Bingham Road/Carter Avenue. Highways England will now be conducting another traffic survey.

**5 Clerks Report on Previous Minutes**

- M14b. Parachute Drop – the parachute drop on the football pitch, Wharf Lane has been delayed for a couple of months.
- M14a Zip Wire – there still has not been any progress with the manufacturer even though the equipment is under warranty. The Clerk to take advise from NALC for a way forward.

**6 Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business, Limited to 15 Minutes**

**7 Standing Orders were suspended at 7.07pm**

- **Josh Wells, Trent Rivers Trust** answered questions about the 300 trees that are proposed to be planted down at the Lily Ponds. These trees will not be planted on or near pathways. They will be planted along the riverbank. There are different types of tree to include Willow, Elder and Oak. They will be in varying sizes from whips, 30/40 cm to 1meter high. The success rate is usually weather dependant, but it is normally 80-90%.
- **Cemetery** - A member of the public has requested an interment at a weekend in the cemetery. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

**8 Standing Orders resumed at 7.18pm**

**Amenities****9 Grange and Hall Managers Report and Pricing Review**

The Hall is now taking bookings inline with Covid restrictions. Presently, it is just children's activities with a view to a variety of bookings in the next stage from 17<sup>th</sup> May. The diary has bookings in for larger parties and events from June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**It was Resolved:** That if restrictions mean that the capacity of the Hall for the existing bookings cannot be fulfilled then the previously approved discount will continue to apply. This will be continually reviewed.

**10 To Reconsider Decision for an External Survey, Tender Process and Project Admin of Grange Exterior Refurbishment (Cllrs Spencer, Thomas, Tomlinson)**

**It was Resolved:** Not to proceed with obtaining quotations for a full external survey but in the first instance to invite Heritage Preservation company back to The Grange to look at the work they carried out 10 years ago in the stores under warranty and to ask for another quote regarding any other damp issues found. Cllr Thomas to meet the contractors when they do a site visit.

**11 Grooms Cottage Development: Street Naming Consultation**

**It was Resolved:** That after a discussion about various names it was decided that 'Elvin Close' should be put forward to the developers for approval via RBC.

**12 To Consider Results of Site Meeting for Benches in Rockley Park and Proposals**

**It was Resolved:** That the two existing applications for benches within Rockley Park, should be situated around the periphery of the grounds.

Cllr Thomas suggested again in putting a working group together to ascertain areas in the Village that would benefit from a bench to create a pre-approved site listing. Cllr Spencer, Thomas and Graham to lead on this issue. There are still current requests for benches outstanding the Clerk will respond with the Councils recommendations when plots are mapped.

**13 Benches and Bins Considerations (Cllr Kirk)**

There was discussion on the opportunities of having additional seating in the village as a neighbouring council had this in place, however it was noted that restrictions are now easing and for future reference licences would be required.

**14 Tree Surveys 2021: To Receive a Recommendation from the Working Group to Carry Out Works from Sept Onwards (F&GP to Finance)**

The total works arising from the recent surveys equates to approx. £6,500, noting that there is only £4,000 in the 21/22 budget inclusive of emergencies:

**It was Resolved:** To approve that the works be carried out from September 2021 onwards (with the exception of one Grange tree (deadwood) to be carried out now) with a recommendation that Finance and General Purposes allocate additional funds of £4,000.

**15 The Fountain: To Receive a Recommendation from Full Council to Carry Out Full Restoration Subject to LBC (F&GP to Finance)**

**It was Resolved:** Cllr Deavin is to make contact with a local contractor for the full specifications and a quote for the restoration of The Fountain in writing. This will then be sent to RBC Planning to gain consent for the works to go ahead. Recommendation to Finance and General Purposes to allocate funds of £3,000.

**16 Nature Reserves: To Receive and Consider Recommendations from the Working Group Meeting Held 8.4.21 inclusive of Acceptance of Trees from the Trent Rivers Trust for Lily Ponds**

**It was Resolved:** To accept the recommendations from the Working Group notes inclusive of the 300 new trees from the Trent Rivers Trust for the Lily Ponds. These will be planted by the Conservation Volunteer Group. Cllr Thomas would like to thank all the volunteers involved for all their hard work.

**Other updates:**

- Dewberry Hill Boundary: It is not a priority for the Golf Club to update their fencing.
- Ongoing maintenance expenses of mowing pathways
- Lily Ponds Handrail: Still not repaired by N.C.C
- Lifebuoys: Require checks to see if still in place

**17 Cemetery Update & Fees**

Members noted that the Cemetery fees document had been updated to reflect that the interment costs for children under 18 years are now covered under the Government Child Funeral Fund. It also notes that interments are Mon-Fri due to required Sexton duties and the fact that there are many visitors at the weekends.

Due to issues with poor workmanship in the past the office is requesting that stone masons working in the Cemetery are either BRAMM or NAAM accredited to ensure quality installations in the future.

**It was Resolved:** To accept the report.

**18 Skatepark Update and Site Considerations**

Members considered a report outlining the current issues with the Skatepark:

- Litter is still a major problem at the skate park. More large bins are required.
- Vandalism – continues to persist.
- Steps are in need of repair.
- Additional platform needed near the Kerb
- Western bank eroding, barriers, soil or shrubs needed
- Lighting columns staying on past 9pm (contractors asked to sort)
- Landscaping on southern side (in hand as final part of project funded via retention)

It was noted that the Skatepark Committee have available funds of £1500 and there is £3,285 left in project contingency.

**It was Resolved:** To make a recommendation to F&GP to allocate additional funds of £3,500 with a view to dealing with some of the issues raised. The order for large 'anti vandal' litter bins would be placed immediately within a budget of £2,500. A Working Group site meeting would be held to consider the other matters in the first instance lead by Cllr Graham.

**19 To Reconsider Proposals to Growth Board for Grange Grounds Improvements (All Cllrs on Working Group)**

- Grange Grounds Landscaping and Gazebo – Cllr Thomas recommended professional expertise be sourced to create a specification for tender, however, this consideration was not progressed.

**Resolved** The Clerk to obtain 3 quotations for the following:

- 1) Remove and dispose of triple notice board and fill holes with soil and seed
- 2) Remove and dispose of community notice board and fill holes with soil and seed (To be replaced with digital notice board in the Hall facing out of window).
- 3) Re-locate triple planter to the left of drive entrance (behind volunteer bench) inclusive of new concrete base pad to accommodate. (Remove internal electric sockets)
- 4) Install low retaining walls (bricks to match existing boundary wall as much as possible) on either side of northern pathway and fill with tarmac to smooth out pathway entrance gradient (length and height of retaining walls to be advised by contractors in order to achieve required result.)
- 5) Install circular paved area (same as the back of Grange) in the corner of grounds (where triple notice board is/was) allowing space for 2 benches to be installed at a later date around the pavers.
- 6) Land to the left of northern pathway – address tree roots and cracked cement path, regrade, soil and seed (exact area measurements to be determined at contractor site visit)
- 7) Repair cracks in pathway around Pine Tree – contractor to advise if need to be filled in or a screed of tarmac placed on top of the whole corner area to smooth bumps
- 8) Landscaping middle lawn – electricity cable move to outer area in first instance  
Install level concrete pad of approx. 5.5m over existing small pad (to accommodate 5m Octagonal 'Commercial' Wooden Gazebo.

Block paved pathway to match existing block paved areas (DDA compliant) from west of pad (facing Totem Pole) to adjoin pathway to the South (facing Grange Hall)

NB: Either contractor to arrange new enclosed Commando socket for electricity on outer edge or separate contractor to be arranged by ROTPC

- 9) Excavate the bank at the back of the Trent Room approx. 12mx8m, build retaining wall either brick or sleepers (contractor to advise) Standard pavers for base (NOTED THIS WILL NOT BE MATCH FUNDED VIA GROWTH BOARD)

## **20 Play Area Inspection/Action Report**

Members were provided with the latest quarterly inspection report and all the necessary maintenance work to be carried out. It was noted.

## **21 Correspondence**

- a) Resident A: Air Handling Advice for Grange Hall – it was noted.
- b) Resident B: Bins Cliff Top

**It was Resolved** – to replace the broken bin on the Cliff Top outside Grandfield Crescent.

## **Finance and General Purposes**

## **22 Income/Expenditure Figures and Payments – March 2021 Net Budget Results**

**It was Resolved:** The Income/Expenditure Figures and Payments were approved.

## **23 Net Budget March 2021 Accruals: To Consider Additional £3k for Fountain and £4k for Tree Survey Work & Any Agreed Skatepark Expenditure**

**It was Resolved:** To accrue and allocate funds from the 2020/2021 Year End Net Budget excess for the following:

Tree Survey Work 4,000  
Fountain Restoration £3,000  
Skatepark Project £3,500

## **24 Aspirations for CIL Funding Allocations: To Consider (Noting 4 Year Plan)**

**It was Resolved:** To set up a Working Group to consider an aspirations listing to send to RBC so they are fully aware of the village needs when allocating S106/CIL funding.

## **25 CCTV: To Consider Addition to the 4 Year Plan**

**It was Resolved:** CCTV for various areas is to be added to the 4-year plan for future consideration.

## **26 Annual Parish Meeting: 19 May – To Consider**

**It was Resolved:** to hold the Annual Parish Meeting in Grange Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm. Cllrs Spencer and Graham to mark out the hall with socially distanced chairs.

## **27 Councillors and Outside Organisations Reports**

- **Cllr Thomas** – is wanting Cllrs to join the Train Working Group.
- **Cllr Spencer** – requested Cllr Kirk to reconvene the working groups for social media.

## **28 Reports from Borough and County Councillors**

### **NCC Kay Cutts**

- The Covid figures are now down quite substantially in Rushcliffe.
- Cllr Cutts is due to retire at the beginning of May. Cllr Cutts wished to thank everyone for their support in the Village over the many years. She has made many friends within the parish over the years of serving the community.
- Cllr Spencer extended her thanks and wished Cllr Cutts a happy retirement.

### **RBC Cllr Brennan RBC**

- Cllrs Brennan, Clarke, and Upton have had their first outside meeting of the year. 20 plus issues have been brought forward by parishioners. Including speeding, litter, the Manvers Arms, and dog bins.

- The street bench outside Lesley Cree Opticians will be levelled off by Streetwise.
- Cllrs Spencer and Brennan to meet to review the issues.

*The Chairman moved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of item 26 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960."*

**29 To Accept the Minutes of the Personnel and Wages Sub Committee Meeting Held 29 March 2021**  
**Resolved** "To accept the minutes and refer back to the subcommittee."

**30 Date of Next Finance and General Purposes Committee inclusive of Amenities**  
 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – 7pm. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm

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