

# Ryton and Grindle Parish Council

Chair:  
**Allan Amey**

Clerk:  
**Stephen de Launey**  
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## COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in St. Andrew's Church, Ryton, on Wednesday 13th December 2017 commencing at 7:30 pm.

**Present:** Cllr Allan Amey (Chair); Cllr Mark Dady; Cllr Sarah Williams, Cllr John Webb and (from item 33/17) Cllr Richard Holt.

**In attendance:** Stephen de Launey, Clerk to the Council, Penny Brasenell (future Clerk to the Council) and Tim Dukes, Treasurer St. Andrew's Church PCC

### **Public Forum**

No members of the public attended for the Forum

### **Council meeting**

#### **29/17 Welcome**

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and introduced Penny Brasenell, who will be taking over the duties of Clerk from the next meeting.

#### **30/17 Apologies**

All current members were present and therefore no apologies.

#### **31/17 Declarations of Interest**

None.

#### **32/17 To Approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

It was proposed by Cllr Dady, seconded by Cllr Amey and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 30th August 2017 be approved and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

#### **33/17 Matters arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes other than issues covered elsewhere within the agenda.

#### **34/17 Nominations for the councillor vacancy**

The Clerk reported that the vacancy had been advertised in the Parish Magazine and on the web site and a single expression of interest had been received from Richard Holt. Cllr Amey proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Richard Holt to the Ryton and Grindle Parish Council.

### **35/17 Election of Vice Chair**

Cllr Williams nominated Cllr Webb, seconded by Cllr Dady. There being no other nominations the Chair **DECLARED** Cllr Webb elected as Vice Chair.

### **36/17 St Andrews Churchyard Maintenance**

The Chair introduced Tim Dukes, Treasurer of St Andrews Parochial Church Council who explained the difficulties the church was experiencing with churchyard maintenance. For many years one family had generously paid for cutting the grass in the churchyard twice a month but now felt unable to continue to meet the cost. It was currently costing £80 a cut for around two hours work.

The PCC was unable to fund the cost of the work and was seeking assistance from the Parish Council to assist. The Chair thanked Tim Dukes for explaining the position and advised him that the Council would consider the issue later in the agenda.

### **37/17 Finance Report**

The Clerk/RFO presented the finance report to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017, which is attached to these minutes as Appendix 1.

The current balance amounted to £3,524.31 of which £953.13 was represented by 'ring fenced' funds relating to the Environmental Maintenance Grant and the Transparency Fund. The Clerk also reported that an application for Transparency Funding had been made for the current year – outcome awaited.

Cllr Dady proposed, Cllr Amey seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the Finance Report.

### **38/17 Approval of payments due**

The Clerk presented details of payments due:

SALC – 2017/18 Affiliation £121.55

Web Orchard – Web site hosting 30/11/17 to 30/11/18 £228.00

St Andrews PCC – Contribution for meeting costs 2017/18 £100.00

Cllr Dady proposed, Cllr Amey seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to approve payments.

### **39/17 Budget 2018/19**

The Clerk presented the draft budget for the year commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018. Although the budget included estimated income of £1,500 from the Shropshire Council Environmental Maintenance Grant, the Clerk advised members that given the continuing financial constraints being experienced by Shropshire Council it was possible that no grant would be made to parishes in 2018/19. Should that prove to be the case it would be necessary to curtail expenditure on the associated activities.

After much consideration, members felt that as the expenditure on Environmental Maintenance had brought benefits to the parish that should not be lost.

Cllr Dady proposed, Cllr Webb seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to amend the draft budget by increasing the proposed precept for 2018/19 by £1,200 to a total of £3620 to ensure that expenditure on Environmental Maintenance could be guaranteed.

### **40/17 Planning Matters**

New Application: 17/05682/TCA – Fell Sycamore at The Spinney, Ryton. Noted

Granted: 17/04275/FUL – Extension to March Hare House, Ryton. Noted

The Clerk was asked to obtain an update on the Grindle House Farm Enforcement proceedings.

### **41/17 Maintenance of Church Grounds**

After much discussion on the request from St Andrews PCC for the Parish Council to assist

with the costs of maintaining the churchyard, Cllr Holt proposed, Cllr Dady seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Council make a grant of £200 towards churchyard maintenance.

**42/17 Replacement of Ryton Bench**

The public bench in Ryton was now considered to be potentially unsafe and in need of replacement. Cllr Holt proposed, Cllr Dady seconded and it was RESOLVED to make up to £500 available for replacement and installation of a new bench, with Cllr Amey being given delegated authority to make appropriate arrangements.

**43/17 Appointment of New Clerk**

The Clerk reported that 3 applicants had applied for the post and had been interviewed by a panel consisting of Cllrs Amey and Dady with the Clerk. Penny Brasenell had been selected and had subsequently accepted the post. Arrangements would now be made for a handover to the new Clerk.

**44/17 Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018, at 7:30pm in St Andrews Church. Cllr Amey again committed to arrange for the church heating to be turned on earlier in the day, so that both members and the public could attend the meeting in some degree of comfort.

The meeting closed at 21.12 pm.

**Signed .....****Date.....**