

# ROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING

Elaine Pugh - Clerk to Council – 01692 402998

Raynham house, 10 new road, north Walsham, Norfolk, NR28 9DF

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

Held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2013 @ Roughton Village Hall @ 7.30pm

29/04/2013 13:47

**Present:** Mr Richard Seaward, Mr Paddy Bennett, Mrs Chloe Bennett  
Mr Roy MacDonald and Mr Tim Hunt

**Apologies:** None

**Others:** PCSO Nathan Jonas (partial) and Sue Arnold - NNDC  
3 members of the public

ACTION

- 1. To receive declaration of interest in items on the Agenda**  
Councillors Chloe Bennett and Paddy Bennett declared their Pecuniary interest in item 9.2 and completed their forms relating to a donation to Roughton Play Group.

All Councillors had previously signed their pecuniary declaration forms in connection with the re-setting of the Precept.

Roy MacDonald - personal interest - Roughton Land Trust and  
Mr Paddy Bennett - personal interest - Roughton Village Hall

- 2. To consider apologies for absence**  
There were no apologies necessary.
- 3. Approve Ordinary Parish Council - Minutes 19th November 2012**  
It was resolved that these be approved.
- 4 Yearly review of Unreasonably Persistent Complainer Status - period January 2012 - January 2013**  
The Council discussed the volume of contacts and complaints raised by the Unreasonably Persistent Complainer together with a letter received from the person on 28th December 2012. There was currently 1 outstanding Code of Conduct complaint against the Chair which as yet had not been closed. Members were concerned that the cost being incurred by the electorate was high and that it was unfair that one person could absorb so much time and expense to both the Parish and the District Councils.

After careful consideration regarding the number of contacts and complaints made by the Unreasonably Persistent Complainer it was resolved that they remain on the list for a further year.

Clerk to write to inform.

EP

- 5. To receive Councillor requests under the Pecuniary Dispensation Policy to allow 2 Members to participate and vote on item 9.2 donation to Roughton Play Group**  
The Clerk had received the Pecuniary Dispensation forms from Councillors Chloe Bennett and Paddy Bennett relating to Roughton

Playgroup. The Clerk authorised the dispensation as this request was in the interest of the whole village.

**6. Resolution to adjourn the meeting for public participation and Norfolk Police, Norfolk District and County Councillor Reports - 10 minutes maximum**

PCSO Nathan Jonas - informed that no crimes had been reported from 18th November to 7th January 2013. 13 calls to the Police had been made in connection with various issues.

Annie Shakesheff - Roughton Play Group - spoke about the issues and the need for funding of the group, there was concern with regard to its future sustainability. It was estimated that a donation of approximately £1000 was necessary to see it through the next 6 months. There was a short question and answer session relating to numbers and costs together with information given to which villages the children came from. It was emphasised that the Parish Council needs to ensure that the public's money is well spent within the community it serves. The Play Group were urged to undertake funding initiatives themselves in order to show that they were helping themselves. Sue Arnold outlined that it would be prudent for the group to contact the press to promote the Play Group. The Clerk and Sue Arnold would follow this through. EP/SA

Sue Arnold - NNDC - informed on general matters concerning the area and additional information relating to the Council Tax which as yet had not been set; this was dependant on the Government grant. The Big Society Fund is open for grant requests. NNDC were encouraging owners to bring back empty homes which are not being utilised into the system. The policy for Barn conversions had been reviewed and it was hoped that this would be more favourable to the applicant in the future. The Housing allocation exception schemes would be more biased towards local people with housing needs. There was to be a new initiative of buying electricity and gas through the purchasing power of NNDC for the community.

A member of the public requested a copy of the Minutes relating to 19th November meeting - they were advised that this information would be available on the website.

**7. To report on Matters Arising (updates and for information)**

- 7.1 Police Report if not in attendance - See 6.
- 7.2 Speeding along Thorpe Market Road - Slow signs will be painted by Highways in due course.
- 7.3 Hedge at Carr Lane - Clerk written to land owner again and will now request Highways to write a letter EP
- 7.4 Bin at bus stop - ordered and will be installed by the Rangers
- 7.5 Parking along Old Turnpike - need to monitor this situation
- 7.6 Footpath which leads from Back Lane to Chapel Road  
- Rangers informed (376925 & 376926)

**8. Correspondence**

NCC - Gritting routes  
NALC information  
NPLAW - re complaint from Persistent Complainer  
St Mary's Church - thank you for donation of £200  
Digley Associates - play report  
NCC - regarding partnership working within Parishes (match funding)  
NNDC - regarding Precept and Grant distribution  
Roughton Play Group regarding donation request  
Email letter 28 December 2012 from the Persistent Complainer

## 9. Finance

### 9.1 To agree revised Precept as advised by NNDC - re Local Council Tax Support Scheme impact

In accordance with a new revised request from NNDC the Precept needed to be reviewed due to the impact of the Local Government Grant. It was resolved that the new Precept of £7,430 be agreed and forwarded to NNDC. The total amount received annually from NNDC would remain the same at £8,500.

### 9.2 To consider donation to Roughton Play Group

Information had been received from Roughton Play Group during Agenda item 6, with regard to their financial situation. Paddy Bennett outlined the costs involved in running the group and when items were due for payment. Members discussed this matter at length and all agreed that the Play Group was a valuable asset and service to the community.

The Council considered that the Play Group was a vital link to the school and should be supported by the Council to assist its sustainability as a community facility.

It was resolved that £500 be donated to the Play Group with a review for additional funds if necessary.

### 9.3 To approve payments - schedule provided to Members

Payments	Amount	Cheque
Thorpe Market Parish Council - training (replacement cheque)	£22.75	101
Elaine Pugh (Clerk)	£366.30	102
ICO registration	£35.00	103
Secret Gardens - grounds maintenance (September 2012)	£198.00	104
Roughton Village Hall (Hall Hire)	£78.00	105
Roughton Playgroup - donation	£500.00	106
Mr Cheer (Village website yearly charge)	£75.00	107

**Resolved to pay enbloc.**

## 10. Planning Applications

12/1422	McColls Service Station	Display of illuminated advertisement	No comment from Council
12/1421	McColls Service Station	Installation of ATM	No comment from Council
12/1311	Grove Barn, Back Lane	Installation of Flue for woodburner	No comment from Council
12/1306	Grove Barn, Back Lane	Listed building consent for Installation of Flue for woodburner	No comment from Council
12/1076	Land Rear of Hill Top - Thorpe Market	Change of use of land from agricultural to garden	<b>PERMITTED</b>

## 11. To adopt Model Publication Scheme

The Clerk had circulated the Scheme and this was approved by the Council.

**12. To Receive Reports from Councillors**

Roy MacDonald outlined his vision for a footpath from the School up to the Recreation Ground along the A140. The Clerk would contact Highways in connection with this and find out if this would be possible and the cost impact.

EP

**13. To Confirm the Date of the next meeting -  
Ordinary Parish Council Meeting Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm

DATE: 4th March 2013

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RICHARD SEAWARD - CHAIR