

Rocester Parish Council

6th November 2023

Present : Cllr Atkins, Cllr Gregory, Cllr M Pierzchalla,
Cllr N Pierzchalla

RPC Clerk: Nisa Khan
1 Member of Public

1. Apologies for Absence – Cllr S Sankey, Cllr Mellor, Cllr Twigge – Apologies accepted by all councillors.
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting – Approval of minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd October 2023 Proposed by Cllr Gregory, seconded by Cllr Atkins.
3. Actions From Last Meeting –
 - a. **Cllr Atkins to complete an enquiry form for the Rocester War Memorial Playing Field, Cllr Atkins advised that an enquiry form requires completion. Named Trustees cannot be contacted and according to the Charity commission no funds are held by the charity. The Charity number is 522714. Nisa Khan to ask the charity commission if this charity could be dissolved as its functions are now run by the parish council.**
 - b. **Cllr Gregory to follow up on the tidying up of the field with the highways department. Cllr Gregory reported that she has asked for further information and has been advised to keep off the field till spring to let it dry.**
 - c. **Cllr Gregory to look into the 3 trees cut down in Chuch Lane. Cllr Gregory has asked local residents but still is unaware of who authorised and carried out the tree removal.**
 - d. **Clerk to request rent arrears for the children's centre for September and October. Invoices have been sent by Nisa waiting to receive payment.**
 - e. **Clerk to Speak to Zurich Insurance and request insurance documentation for Agar value purposes- Nisa Advised she is waiting for a response from Zurich.**
4. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations – None
5. Public Participation – Rocester Camera Club –Mr Yorke reported that an invoice has been submitted to Cllr Mellor for the new cupboards and that this payment is still pending. The lighting is now also completed and a further invoice submitted. Cllr Atkins suggested that additional funding for the meeting room may be available as climate change funding could be used for insulation purposes.
6. Leek United Long-term Bond – Cllr Atkins advised we have two accounts one has £15k which is from the historic sale of a plot of land on the fields. The second has £3k which is the

King George V account (1933) from the sale of the allotments at the back of the school in Ashbourne Road.

7. Spending for next year
8. Village Hall Account –Cllr Atkins advised that the Village Hall Business account (Charity Commission No. 701618), for which we have a paying in book, is at the NatWest but access to that account is still not available. Nisa to try and contact Natwest for access to the account and to ask the Charity Commission for the annual return due date. Nisa agreed to complete the annual return form in due course.
9. King George V –Cllr Atkins advised Nisa to fill a form in for the Charity Commission for the account presently holding £3.5K and to check the annual return due date (probably around January 2024).
10. AGAR – Nisa advised Nisa and Cllr Sankey to meet up with the Denstone Parish Clerk to complete Agar.
11. Christmas Lights – Cllr M Pierzchalla reported that as the Parish Council will be funding the Christmas Party again this year residents should be made aware of the source of funding on all advertising material. The parish council is prepared to spend up to 20% more than the invoice amount from last year's Christmas Lighting as long as this is confirmed by the Chair (Cllr Mellor).
12. Men's Shed – This was not discussed as Cllr Sankey was not present (see apologies above).
13. Fire Document – Bonfire night – Cllr Pierzchalla asked the parish council to give a formal vote of thanks to Cllr Gregory for all her work preparing for this year's highly successful fireworks event. The invoice for the fireworks amounted to £1800 and Cllr Gregory reported a profit of £210 on the raffle.
14. Community Speed Watch – Cllr Atkins advised all speed surveys have shown there is no evidence of speeding around the approaches to Ryecroft Middle and Dove First Schools.
15. Trustees of Rocester Charities –Cllr M. Pierzchalla asked if the parish council had the right to appoint trustees for the Rocester Charities. Cllr M. Pierzchalla to contact the vicar and ask for further information.

16. Planning

- a. Planning Applications Received – P/2023/00916 –Erection of a single storey rear/side extension. 23 Dovefields, Rocester ST14 5LT
- b. P/2023/01080 – Erection of single-storey rear extension, 27 Riversfield Drive, Rocester ST14 5HL – **No Issue, Recommendations – Parish Council has no Objections to the proposal as submitted but consider that the applicant is advised the location of the proposal may not be permit the continued use of the existing manhole.**
- c. Pavement Licences? 23 Station Street Pavement Licence – this is outside the remit of Rocester Parish Council
- d. Planning Decisions Received - none
- e. Planning Appeals – none

17. County Councillor Report – nothing to report.

18. Borough Councillor Report - apologies sent by Borough Cllr Sankey.

19. Chairman reports – although unable to attend personally (see apologies - Item 1) Cllr Mellor requested that the Remembrance Day poppies should be displayed around the village in good time for Armistice Day and the Remembrance Day events.

20. Councillor Reports - none

21. Clerk Reports –

c. Finance and Administration

- a. To agree on payments to be made as listed in appendix A
- d. To discuss items for the next agenda - precept for next year
- e. Difficulties are still being reported about the risk of flooding in discrete areas around the village. The problem is exacerbated by gullies being blocked and not being regularly jetted along with new properties contributing to additional water run - off. The Parish Council will continue a 'watching brief' on the situation and advise the County and Borough councils of difficulties as they arise.
- f. To contact East Staffordshire Borough Council dog Warden as we have continued reports of dogs fouling in the playing fields.

Next Meeting – Monday 4th December 2023

Date	Payee	Net	VAT	Gross	Cheque No
1/11/23	Clerk Wages + expenses	723.01	-	723.01	Bank Transfer
1/11/23	Village Hall Caretaker wages	450.48	-	450.48	Bank Transfer
1/11/23	HMRC	8.00	-	8.00	Bank Transfer
	Maintenance of Churchyard and Cemetery – St Michaels Church for 1 year	600	-	600	
28/10/2	Clr Mellor for Beer Gifted	13.95		13.95	
31/10/2	Gardening 40x Hours	195		195	
3/11/23	Pyrotex Fireworks display	1500	300	1800	
2/10/23	David Yorke	737.47			
	Total Payments				
Breakdown of Clerk Expenses		Net	VAT	Gross	
Microsoft office 365		59.99		59.99	
Phone Bill		6.00		6.00	

Appendix A