

# Rocester Parish Council

4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Present – Cllr Mellor, Cllr Atkins, Cllr Gregory, Cllr Twigge, Cllr M Pierzchalla, Cllr N Pierzchalla, Cllr Sankey, Cllr Atkins, Cllr Twigge

Clerk – Victoria Whittington-Parry

1 Member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence – None
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting – Approval of minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023  
Proposed by Cllr Gregory, seconded by Cllr Mellor .
3. Actions From Last Meeting –
  - a. **Action: VWP to contact Ian Turner re. Gas for Pre-school – done**
  - b. **VWP to send comments to Denstone. [Mark.parkinson@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Mark.parkinson@staffordshire.gov.uk)  
[James.bailey@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:James.bailey@staffordshire.gov.uk) & planning – done**
  - c. **Action: VWP to update Procurement Policy – ongoing. Cllr Atkins has sent an example document to Clerk to use as a template.**
4. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations – None
5. Public Participation – Tomorrow night is first session of 23/24 Rocester & District Camera Club, who will be staying at Rocester Village hall. They are part way through the work in the meeting room. The Parish Council need to move the black cupboard/or relocate the files in the cupboard. Proposal to paint back wall dark green, and leave lightbox on wall. The Brownies cupboard is moving into the hall. Lights are being replaced too (approx. £40-£45 each). The Parish Council appreciate the work of the Camera Club and D Yorke. Rent to Camera Club will remain the same for the next year at £10ph.
6. Heating of village hall – Still waiting for access to Village Hall Account.
7. Village Hall Account – Cllr Atkins has sent the form off, but there's no access yet.
8. King George V Trust – Money is in Leek United. Relevant forms have been sent in by Cllr Atkins. £15000 is sitting in a temporary account but needs to be moved to a 5 year bond once Bank of England sets the new interest rate.
9. Rocester War Memorial Playing Field – Cllr Atkins has got to fill in an enquiry form. The resignations aren't dated. There are no accounts, they are 4 years out of date. **Action: Cllr Atkins to complete.**
10. Natwest Saver Account – Most of the money has moved over to Unity Banking, left £1800 in to keep the account open.
11. Leek United Long Term Bond – £15k in Land sale account
12. Planning
  - a. Planning Applications Received – P/2023/00916 - Erection of a single storey rear/side extension. Location: 23 Dovefields, Rocester, Staffordshire, ST14 5LT – no comment.  
  
P/2023/00860 Change of use of storage area to form cafe including the installation of mezzanine floor, internal and external alterations including the installation of mezzanine floor to enlarge existing dwellinghouse and installation of rooflights to

existing roof - Methodist Church High Street Rocester Staffordshire ST14 5JU – **Parish Council to object to this – not viable based on parking and waste management. Could cause a planning precedent.**

P/2023/00791 - Installation of solar panels on south and west roof elevations Location: Decimus, 10 Castrum Court, Rocester, Staffordshire, ST14 5PL – No. 1 got permission despite being in conservation area. **Decimus is not in the conservation area, no comment.**

P/2023/00865 - Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of paddock as garden land. Location: Septimus, 7 Castrum Court, Rocester, Staffordshire, ST14 5PL – **Parish Council to object.**

P/2023/00752 - Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for the retention of a wooden lean to storage shelter Location: Septimus, 7 Castrum Court, Rocester, Staffordshire, ST14 5PL – **Parish Council to object.**

- b. Planning Decisions Received
- c. Planning Appeals -

13. County Councillor Report – Cllr Atkins – A lot of roadworks underway in area. Bridge walls have been reinstated opposite the academy. Some sewer pipes are blocked in village. There was a fatal accident on B5030, cannot discuss full incident. A review underway due to safety of road. It's a busy road with JCB & Alton Towers.
14. Borough Council report – Maltings been delayed another 6 months. Local Groups can apply for money through Borough Council.
15. Chairman reports – ongoing with toilet repairs. Should be open in next couple of week. Cllr Gregory has booked fireworks for this year.
16. Councillor Reports – Cllr M Pierzchalla still has Nigel Green's death certificate. Cllr Atkins suggests keeping it until Village Hall account is sorted.

Cllr N Pierzchalla wrote to Kate Kniveton MP to raise issues re. flooding. Kate Kniveton MP is going to write to chief exec of staffs county council and chief exec of severn trent.

17. Clerk Reports –

- Defibrillators need new batteries and pads
- Some applicants have applied for Parish Clerk role. Need to organise interviews.
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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

- New clerk recruitment
- Spending for next year
- Village Hall Account
- King George V

Meeting closed 20:45

**Next Meeting – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023**

Appendix

Date	Payee	Net	VAT	Gross	Cheque No
	Village Hall Caretaker Salary	£450.48	-	£450.48	
	Clerk Salary	£359.74	-	£359.74	
	Groundsperson pay	726.80		726.80	
	Clerk expenses:	<u>6.85</u>	-	6.85	
	HMRC	£98	-	£98	
	Music licence for village hall	71.27		71.27	
	Defibrillator parts	494.99	99	593.99	
	Money repaid for flags	164.69	32.74	197.63	
	Flowers for bingo lady	15		15	
	<b>Total Payments</b>				

Breakdown of Clerk Expenses	Net	VAT	Gross
Postage of signed lease	6.85	-	6.85