

ROOKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Rookley Parish Council held on Wednesday 1st Novembr 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Highwood Lane, Rookley, Isle of Wight, PO383NN.

PRESENT Chairman Cllr. E Wills

Cllrs. M Jones, A Watts & I RigaudBarrett.

Four members of the public.

152/23 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from IWC ward Councillor S Ellis.

In the absence of a Parish Clerk, it was agreed that the Minutes be taken by Cllr Rigaudbarrett.

153/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None.

154/23 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October were approved and signed.

155/23 MATTERS ARISING/UPDATES

1. **SWINGS.** No progress although a plea for help had been included in the latest newsletter.
2. **SKATE PARK.** Any outstanding documentation to be established once a replacement Clerk has been appointed.
3. **WEBSITE.** A few improvements are still to be implemented. It was noted that Standing Orders still show their original date some years ago and need to be reviewed to ensure that there have been no changes.
4. **TREE WORK.** No further progress although the contract has been agreed.
5. **ADDITIONAL COUNCILLORS.** Two members of the public expressed an interest in becoming Councillors. The chairman welcomed their interest and explained the formalities that were required. It was agreed that a resolution for their co-option be considered at the meeting in December.
6. **REPLACEMENT CLERK.** The chairman reported that options were still being considered.
7. **CHRISTMAS CAROLS ON THE GREEN.** The Chairman reported that Island Roads had been contacted to arrange for the lights to be switched on early in December. This would show the extent to which the lights had become obscured by the growth of foliage and whether the periodic repositioning could be delayed for a further year.

For several years a nearby house owner had supplied electricity for power for the Carols event and last year this had caused what was thought to be a blown fuse. However, it has recently come to light that that it was more than

a simple fuse and had caused considerable loss. Whilst the house owners had not made any claim against the Council, it was agreed that the Chairman contact them with a view to making an appropriate ex-gratia payment. For the current year's event a portable generator will be arranged.

8. **PARISH NEWSLETTER.** An appeal via the RVA Facebook had resulted in several new volunteers to distribute the newsletter, which has since been printed and distributed. A final supply will be placed in the post office and be available to non-residents.

156/23 REPORTS ETC

1. **WATER TREATMENT PLANT.** The Chairman reported that the recent extreme rainfall had resulted in increased tanker attendance.
2. **SPEED WATCH.** Cllr Jones reported that the volunteers had had initial training but were waiting for equipment to arrive. More volunteers still needed.

157/23 FINANCES

Movements in the bank accounts were as follows.

		Deposit	Current
Balance reported in minute 150/23			8,474.18
Balance 31 March 2023		1,021.50	
Interest	April to September	4.30	
interest	October	0.94	
E Reed	Grass cutting		170.00
Balance	End of October 2023	1,026.74	8,304.18

Payments made were approved and the Bank Reconciliation noted.

158/23 PLANNING

No planning applications were considered.

The meeting closed at 8.16 pm.

The Next meeting is scheduled to be held on 6th December at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Highwood Lane, Rookley, PO383NN.