**Minutes of Rodsley and Yeaveley Parish Council Meeting**

Held at 20.00 at Wyaston Village Hall

 **Thursday 17th July 2014**

**Present** Cllr Nuttall **(Chair)**

Cllr Wolfe (Vice Chair)

 Cllr Scotcher

 Cllr Williams

 Cllr Sills

**Members of the Public** PC J Bointon, Mr J Bates, Mrs M Foot

**Apologies** Cllr A Lewer

**Declaration of Members Interests** There were none

**Public Participation.** The Chair explained that this is the time when members of the public can state their reason for attendance and air their views on any item on the agenda, or, ask for an item to be placed on the agenda of the next meeting.The time allotted to public participation is 30 minutes and no one person may speak for more than 5 minutes. It was stressed that once the meeting is underway that members of the public must not interrupt.

There was no public participation

**57/14. Co-option of a New Councillor.**  The Chair explained that Cllr Chambers had resigned. Due to the increasing number of family activities he is unable to commit as much time as he would have liked to Parish duties. This created a Casual Vacancy which has been advertised on the notice boards. The closing date for receipt of requests for an election was 14th July. Since no requests were received the Council would like to ask Mr Denis Larmer if he is willing to be co-opted to fill this vacancy.

Mr Larmer agreed and was invited to join the meeting and sign the declaration of acceptance of office. The declaration was countersigned by the Clerk.

Cllr Larmer was asked to fill out a Register of Financial and Other Interest Form within 28 days.

**58/14 Minutes of the Last Meeting** were ratified and signed by the Chair. This was proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Sills.

**59/14. Neighbourhood Watch** Cllr Williams had nothing to report. PC Bointon also told the meeting that things had quietened down of late. He also said that the police were going to distribute new posters/stickers to any neighbourhood scheme that required them.

**60/14. Planning Application, Erection of Agricultural Workers’ Dwelling, Park House, Yeaveley (Also Item 43/14).** The decision re this application is still pending.

**61/14. Planning Application, Alterations to Listed Building, Stydd Hall, Darley Moor.** This application is for the installation of new ceilings. The plans for this application were circulated and the meeting unanimously agreed that there were no objections. The Clerk will report this.

**62/14. Local Flooding Issues.** Following Victoria Raiment’s very informative talk at the last meeting regarding local flooding issues this update was received from her on 24th June.

 The CCTV survey has been completed for the two sections of watercourse on Shirley Lane. The asset beneath the Highway is due to be cleansed so that a further survey can be completed. We have liaised with the relevant landowner for the other section. Maps and photos were sent to us.

A meeting has been arranged with the landowner above the highway culvert to discuss riparian responsibilities.

 A job has been raised (2nd June) for the culvert beneath Park Lane, Rodsley to be cleansed. The highways team has also been chased about Hales Green.

Victoria also raised the subject about a Flood Warden Scheme

As part of this the community would need to identify a couple of key contacts (flood wardens) that would lead on implementing a flood plan once this has been created (by the community/Parish and County Council). The idea of the scheme is to arm members of the community with appropriate resilience equipment and skills to be able to help mitigate the impacts of flooding before the emergency services or any other emergency responder/Risk Management Authority can attend. Obviously the County Council can’t be everywhere at once during a flood event so the idea of the schemes is to help local communities across Derbyshire to be more resilient.

A draft version of this scheme was attached - In summary would require

 Flood wardens (names, addresses, etc.)

Writing of the flood plan (by the Parish, community and the County Council)

 Identify key triggers for implementation of the plan (once written)

Whether a store facility exists or if one is needed, where it can be located

What equipment the community would like to receive (we can provide guidance)

 Any vulnerable members of the community.

Andy Capes has already contacted Victoria and Jacky saying that it would be useful for him to be involved in something like this if it was considered beneficial to the local area, flood signs would be useful to have to warn drivers, and any advice and experience for the issue that we have here are always good to know.

The meeting discussed this and unanimously agreed to defer making a decision about the need for a Flood Warden until the area has experienced heavy rain in order to see if the works carried out have solved the problem. The clerk will inform Victoria and Andy of this decision.

**63/14. Highways Issues (Also Item 50/14).** The Clerk sent an email on the 15th reminding Highways that the work on the road just outside Yeaveley going towards Wyaston still has not been done. There are no other issues at the moment.

**64/14. Traffic Assessment** At the last meeting Cllr Williams expressed the need for a mirror at the cross roads in Rodsley and a member of the public complained about the speed of traffic past her house on Rodsley Lane, Rodsley, therefore it was agreed that the Clerk should ask again if a traffic survey could be conducted at this site. Consequently a letter was received by email from Paul Jameson (Economy, Transport and Environment at County Council) stating that, ‘There is a considerable cost element involved in carrying out a traffic survey and we receive many more requests than our finite resources allow.  In the current financial climate, with ever reducing budgets, there needs to be clear road safety or congestion concerns at any requested location to justify the deployment of survey equipment.  I have carried out a check of the collision database over the last 8 years, to the end of 2013 (latest available data), which indicates that there have been no recorded personal injury collisions in Rodsley during that period.  Given the very good road safety record, I am afraid that the Parish Council’s request for a traffic survey cannot be supported at this time.

I note that the resident’s concerns relate to the volume and speed of heavy goods vehicles travelling through Rodsley.  A traffic survey on Rodsley Lane might establish the level of use by HGV’s but, this being an unrestricted public highway, there is little we can do to prevent such vehicles from using the route.  Rodsley is not subject to an environmental weight restriction and, aside from this, I suspect that the majority of HGV’s travelling through the area require legitimate access to premises in the locality anyway (restrictions of this nature carry an exemption for access).

You will no doubt appreciate that the enforcement of speed limits is the responsibility of the police and therefore the resident is advised to report any incident of excess speed to their local police office, via the 101 telephone number.

With regard to the request for a mirror at the crossroads, the Department for Transport no longer authorises the use of mirrors on the highway other than in exceptional circumstances – i.e. where there has been a proven history of serious injury collisions and other measures have proved unsuccessful; this is because they have been found to be unreliable.  Drivers find them confusing as distances and speeds viewed through a mirror are difficult to judge.  There is also a tendency for drivers to rely too heavily on the mirror image, leading them to ignore their immediate surroundings which can include, for example, cyclists and pedestrians.  All of these elements can have a detrimental effect on safety.  As stated above, there have been no recorded injury collisions at the crossroads in the past 8 years and, as such, I am afraid that a mirror cannot be provided here.

I am sorry that I cannot offer a more positive response to the Parish Council’s requests, but trust that the above explains why no measures are proposed at this time.’

The Clerk had also written to John Bointon about the traffic survey and received a reply stating that in order for the police to initiate a survey there has to have been a collision within the last three years. He added that the resident should obtain registration numbers of vehicles considered to be driving inappropriately and he will pay them a visit. **This item is closed.**

**65/14. Shirley Village Parish Plan. (Also Item 52/14).** It was decided at the last meeting to defer discussing this due to diminished numbers attending.

A sub-committee meeting was held on May 1st and Cllr Fletcher and Taylor from Shirley were invited to attend. The minutes of this meeting are attached to the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on May 20th.

Cllr Wolfe suggested that it would be easier and more beneficial to establish a Conservation Area. This would protect against future development, design etc. and give the parish council more power over planning decisions – such as only providing affordable housing rather that social housing.

Following a discussion about this, the meeting unanimously agreed that at the moment it was not felt that our Parish would benefit from a Plan and we would await the conclusion of Shirley’s Plan before committing to anything. **This item is temporarily closed.**

**66/14. Defibrillator in the Information Centre (Old BT Kiosk) (Also Item 28/14).** The Clerk approached Western Power Distribution about getting the electricity supply restored to the kiosk and was given an estimate of £952.39 for the work.

Cllr Nuttall has made further enquiries and found that if the ambulance service and the British Heart Foundation are involved they would provide a defibrillator for £400.

The vicar has agreed that it can be housed in the church and so Cllr Nuttall will organise this

Cllr Lewer has arranged for the Parish Council to be given a donation of £400.00, from Democratic Services scheme, for first aid training in the use of the defibrillator – any funds not used for this purpose will have to be returned.

Therefore we can concentrate on getting local maps etc. and get the kiosk up and running as an Information Centre as was originally planned. The Clerk will action this.

**67/14. Social Event (Also Item 54/14).** Unfortunately the Hog Roast which was going to be organised at Rodsleywood Farm will not now be going ahead due to a very poor response for tickets to the event. Only 25 residents responded. **This item is closed.**

**68/14. Report on Footpath Workshop.** This was attended by Cllr Nuttall on 10th June who found it very informative. The Parish Council have the same powers as County Council to enforce the upkeep of footpaths but do not have to bear the cost of maintenance. New footpaths can be created but established ones cannot be closed and landowners can place polite notices asking users to circumnavigate fields rather than walk across them.

Rob Greatorex is no longer in charge at County Council. The Clerk will ask who to contact now and again ask why the footpath signs that were requested still have not been erected. **This Item is closed.**

**69/14. Rural Housing Policy Review**. A questionnaire for Parish Councils has been sent for us to complete. This was completed on paper and the Clerk will complete online and send it in. **This item is closed.**

**70/14. Rodsley Bus Shelter.** The meeting agreed to form a working party in October to demolish the shelter and remove the debris to The Ostrich. The Clerk will action this. **This item is temporarily closed.**

**71/14. Clerk’s Report**

Cllr Andrew Lewer was elected to European Parliament in May. I received a letter from him stating that he would not be officially resigning from his post of County Councillor until May 2015 to avoid the cost of an election, but would no longer receive any councillor allowances.

One County Council item he wished to draw attention to is the Mobile Library Service ‘Stage Two’ consultation. We have until 9th August to make our concerns known. Please contact Mr Roger Jones for detailed information at roger.jones@derbyshire.gov.uk . Also see website [**www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/have\_your\_say/consultation\_search/allconsultations**](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/have_your_say/consultation_search/allconsultations).

The PC has also been asked to participate in a review of its polling districts.

 The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 requires a review of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places to be completed between 1 October 2013 and 31 January 2015. The Review for the Derbyshire Dales Parliamentary Constituency will take place between 30 June and 1 December 2014.

The Returning Officer for the Constituency of Derbyshire Dales will be consulted to make formal comments on the existing Polling Stations and on any suggested changes resulting from the initial consultation stage of the Review. No changes to the existing arrangements are being put forward by the District Council at present.

Representations and comments are invited from electors within the District, elected Members (MEPs, MPs, county, district and parish councillors) and local political parties. Representations from organisations that have particular expertise in relation to access to premises for people with different forms of disability, in relation to the authority’s proposals or any other relevant matter, are particularly welcome.

Persons or bodies making comment may propose alternatives to the Polling Stations proposed by the Authority.

Representations should be submitted in writing to the Head of Corporate Services, Derbyshire Dales District Council, Town Hall, Matlock DE4 3NN or by email to electoral@derbyshiredales.gov.uk by **15 August 2014.**

Details of the existing polling districts and polling places and a list of polling stations can be viewed in person at Derbyshire Dales District Council’s Offices at The Town Hall, Matlock DE4 3NN or on the Council’s website: www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/your-council/consultation

The Returning Officer’s comments and proposals on the polling districts, places and stations will be available for inspection at the above address and on the Council’s website from **30 September 2014**. Any representations on these comments and proposals must be sent to the above address by **7 November 2014.**

Finally **Big Energy Saving Network 2014-15 is open for applications**

Householders up and down the country are set to benefit from an extensive programme of energy saving advice, thanks to further Government funding made available through the Big Energy Saving Network. £1million is available for charity and community organisations so they can reach vulnerable consumers and advise them on how to save money on their bills. This will include advice on switching tariffs, the different bill payment methods available, and information on the various Government schemes that help lower bills - such as the Energy Company Obligation. Organisations including parish councils, community energy groups, charities, faith groups and registered social landlords are invited to bid for funding to help run projects that run this autumn and winter

Eligible organisations are invited to make an application for funding by using this link - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/big-energy-saving-network-grant-offer-fund> by no later than Friday 8th August. Each grant is worth up to £5,000 and will be payable to deliver energy saving advice projects to vulnerable consumers (those consumers who have difficulty accessing information or understanding how to save money on their bills) and the frontline workers, such as health professionals and care workers, who support them.

The meeting concluded that we are too small to avail ourselves of this.

**Financial Matters**

The Annual Return has been successfully audited by Grant Thornton – again because there are no issues there is no charge for this service.

Cheque no.000316 was signed by Cllrs Nuttall and Williams for petty cash – value £50- this was retrospectively agreed.

The Clerk requires reimbursement of £94.80 for the purchase of Microsoft Office Home and Student 2013, Licence card – this can be done online – this was agreed

Bank Statements were signed by the Chair.

Summary of Accounts were circulated approved and signed by Cllr Wolfe.

**Date of the Next Meeting is Tuesday 9th September.**