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

Held at 7.30 at the Yeaveley Arms

 **Sunday 3rd November 2019**

**Present Councillors** J Bates (Chair)

 J Fitzakerley

 L Schroeter

 F Sills

 H Watson

 Clerk, J Bailey

 District Cllr, T Morley

 Member of the Public, Mr B Dias**, Professor D Walsh**

**Apologies:**  County Cllr Bull

**101/19 Co-option to fill a Casual Vacancy** On the 22nd September the Clerk received a letter of resignation from Cllr Robert Nuttall. This created a Casual Vacancy which was advertised on the website and on the notice boards requesting that any residents who wanted an election to fill the vacancy should contact the Returning Officer by 17th October. No contacts were made but the Clerk did receive two applications. One from Mr Anthony Higgins who decided to step aside in favour of the other applicant, Professor Dave Walsh. The meeting agreed unanimously to co-opt this applicant on to the Parish Council Professor Walsh signed a Declaration of Office form and was then invited to join in the rest of the meeting. He also completed a Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest form, which the Clerk will send to the Monitoring officer. The Clerk also gave him copies of Rules and Regulations adopted by the PC. **This item is closed**

**102/19** **Election of Vice Chair.**  Mr Nuttall had been the Vice Chair. As this position needed to be filled Cllr Bates proposed Cllr Fitzakerley this was seconded by Cllr Schroeter and agreed unanimously by the council. Cllr Fitzakerly accepted. **This item is closed.**

**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 put 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 and that once the meeting is underway members of the public must not interrupt.

Cllr Morley informed the meeting that he had been unable to attend meetings since April because he had been ill, but was now recovered and intended to help the PC wherever he could.

**103/19 Minutes of the Last Meeting** were ratified and signed by the Chair. This was proposed by Cllr Sills and seconded by Cllr Bates.

**104/19 Neighbourhood Watch** Nothing to report.

**105/19 Planning Application Stydd Hall Farm Agricultural Workers’ Dwelling. (Also Item 86/19).** No decision yet.

**106/19 Planning Application, The Cottage, Hales Green, Extension to Garage to form First Floor and Workshop. (Also Item 93/19).** Permission was granted on condition that the work is begun within the next three years. **This item is closed.**

**107/19 Planning Application Honeysuckle Farm, Agricultural Worker’s Cottage (resubmission). (Also Item 94/19).**This application was discussed in depth at the last meeting of the Parish Council. The following questions were raised and the Clerk asked Andrew Stock, the case officer - ‘Has the condition applied in the past with regard to the viability of the chicken farm been addressed? If so should this evidence be published on the Planning Authorities website for public scrutiny? If not for public scrutiny are any accounts produced by the applicant screened by a financial expert? Should profits made by the kennels – which is not an agricultural business - operated on the site be included in these accounts?’ In principle the PC have no objections to the applications as long as the above questions have been addressed. Andrew replied – ‘I can confirm that the Local Planning Authority is using a private independent agricultural consultant (Kernon Countryside Consultants Ltd) to fully appraise the application, including the applicants’ accounts. Their response will be published online once produced. The application will be purely based on the agricultural aspects of the business only.’ This report has recently been forwarded to the Clerk and concludes that the business is viable and sustainable but it has taken into account the income from the boarding kennels. Andrew has asked for PC’s comments on the report. After studying the report the meeting concluded that it should be pointed out that the boarding kennels are not an agricultural business and therefore should not have been taken into consideration in these accounts? Also the understanding by the PC was that accounts of the previous 4 years had to be considered. Cllr Morley advised the meeting that the Clerk should send an email to Andrew Stock pointing this out. He would also talk to Andrew. At this point it was decided not to ask for the decision to be made by committee.

**108/19 Waste Bin in Yeaveley**. (**Also Item 95/19**). The Clerk had asked Helen Dennis if Yeaveley could be provided with a waste bin and was advised that they aren’t installing any further litter bins in the District following a review in 2016. However it is possible to put dual dog fouling/littering signs in the area that is effected? These have now been provided and installed on Rodsley Lane. The Clerk asked if our request for a bin in Yeaveley would be considered the next time a review is conducted. Helen agreed that it would. Cllr Morley agreed to query this decision asking if the problem was to do with the bin being purchased or being emptied on a regular basis.

**109/19 Footpath Issues. (Also Item 96/19)** The missing post next to stile on Hales Green road has still not been replaced. This was first reported 17th April – acknowledged and advised that it was ‘on a list’. The Clerk will pursue this.

**110/19 Highways and Flooding Issues**. **(Also Item 97/19).** On the 14th September a resident of Yeaveley copied the PC into an email to a Mr Vincent Wilde regarding the flooding that still occurs near his home on Rodsley Lane. He quoted Ref F409752 which had been given to him when he first reported the problem back in February 2018. The Clerk forwarded this to Cllr Bull asking if he could help. On the 1st November the resident rang DCC about this because he had not received any response from Mr Wilde. He was told that the problem had been created by Severn Trent and therefore it was their responsibility to do any repair. The resident is concerned that he only has DCC’s word for it that it is ST’s responsibility to carry out any necessary repair work and has no idea whether ST have ever formally accepted that it is indeed their responsibility. He has not seen any communications or documentation which may have passed between DCC and ST or if any steps DCC have been taken to chase up ST to acknowledge and fulfil their responsibilities. It is almost two years since the problem was first reported to DCC (February 2018 when the above reference number was allocated), and the problem has never been fully solved. If he doesn’t get satisfaction very soon he is considering lodging a formal complaint through the local Ombudsman. Cllr Bull has agreed to look into the problem.

Other problems that need addressing are - White lines at several junctions have almost been obliterated. Overhead branches are causing a problem with telephone wires near Rodsley. Potholes appearing again. The Clerk will action these.

**111/19 Parish Plan.** The Clerk has been approached by a company offering their services to produce a Parish Plan. They have provided leaflets explaining the advantages of such a plan. In the past the view of the Parish Council has been that since we do not own any land or buildings and are a very small PC with minimal assets that a Parish Plan is not necessary. Leaflets were distributed and once again Cllr Morley’s advice was sought. He suggested that it would be better to consider adopting a Neighbourhood Plan and suggested that the Clerk approach Cllr Mike Ratcliffe for guidance on this.

**112/19 Change of Broker in connection with PC insurance.** Came and Co, our insurers, have notified the Clerk of intra group reorganisation which will take place on the 4th November. They are now part of the Arthur J Gallagher group of companies and this will be the name of our broker in the future. However communications will still reflect the usual logo. They emphasise that the account will continue to be serviced by the same team and contact details remain unchanged. **This item is closed.**

**113/19 Affordable Housing Communication**. A letter has been received from the Peak District Rural Housing Association giving the PC the opportunity to discuss their work and investigate the potential to provide more affordable homes. In the past it has proved very difficult to sell the affordable housing that exists in the parish. The PC does not own land therefore there is no point in liaising over the matter.

**114/19 Clerk’s Report. (Also Item 99/19).** On the 4th October I attended a lecture on Cyber Security hosted by Rural Action Derbyshire. It was mainly aimed at PC’s that own a village hall but it was useful in reminding me of who to report suspicious emails to. A list of contact details has been posted on both noticeboards and handed out to councillors. I will also get these details put on the website. Also given a ‘Cyber Security Toolkit’ booklet which outlines procedures that should be adopted.

**115/19 Financial Matters. (Also Item 100/19).** The Clerk is in the process of trying to find out from HMRC why our VAT claim has not yet been met. A claim for repayment of VAT was submitted in early April and is usually dealt with very quickly. A letter has been sent with a copy of the claim to HMRC on the 8th October but to date not received a response. Cllr Fitzakerley agreed to become a signatory to replace Mr Nuttall. The Clerk will organise this. Bank statements and summary of accounts to end October were circulated and signed Cllr Fitzakerley.

**Summary of Accounts 2019 to 2020 to End October 2019**

**Receipts**

Precept £2,900.00

 Interest £ 1.11 £2,901.11

**Payments**

DALC £ 164.14

 Insurance £ 218.00

 HMRC £ 215.00

 PAT Test £ 40.00

 Clerk’s Salary end August £ 1,004.36

 Petty Cash £ 49.42

Cost of Election £ 135.84 £ 1,851.75

**Excess of Receipts over Payments** £1,049.36

**Funds in Hand 1st April 2019 £**5,143.44 **£6,192.80**

**Funds in Account 00117946** £2,274.88

**Funds in Account 00054278** £3,871.23

**Petty Cash in Hand** £ 46.69 **£6,192.80**

**Signed………………………………………………………………Date……………………………..**

**Date of Next Meeting will be Sunday 5th January.**

**Signed…………………………………………………………………Date……………………………..**