

# RISELEY

## PARISH COUNCIL

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
ON THURSDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 AT 7:15 PM

<b>PRESENT</b>	Chairman Mr D Jowett (DJ), Vice Chairman Mr C Felce (CF), Mr A Gell (AG), Mr William Wallis (WW), Mrs Heather Jones (HJ), Mr R Toseland (RT), Mr G Davies (GD)	
<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>	The meeting was well attended at the Village Hall by members of the public.	
Chairman's Welcome The Chairman Welcomed everyone to the Meeting.		
	<b>OPEN FORUM</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
	<p>A resident raised concerns about a straw from a stack on Lowsden Lane, that is causing road drain grill blockages during periods of exceptionally high rainfall. The Chairman will liaise with Bedfordia who manage the site.</p> <p>A developer, on behalf of Wells and Co, spoke about their early plans for developing the Old White Horse field on the high street, comprising 16 affordable homes as a Rural Exception site. This was prior to a pre-application to BBC. The Chairman asked the developer to attend the March meeting for an official presentation.</p> <p>A resident asked if the development of the White Horse field would come under the NP objectives and rules that have now been set. It was pointed out that this field had been designated an Important Open Space, but this was removed in 2002 after an application through the High Court.</p> <p>A resident asked if Dag Lane was going to be discussed. The Chairman said that this would be brought up under the rights of way update.</p>	
<b>2402.01</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES</b>	
	Cllr Ron Cooper (RC) & Cllr Paul Brown (PB)	
<b>2402.02</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
	DJ declared an interest in a planning application 24/00105/FUL due it being a neighbouring property.	Clerk
<b>2402.03</b>	<b>TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING on January 18<sup>th</sup> 2024</b>	
	It was proposed and <b>AGREED</b> that the minutes were a true and accurate record.	ALL PCs
	<b>To approve the minutes of the extra Meeting held on 30th November 2023.</b>	
	It was proposed and <b>AGREED</b> that the minutes were a true and accurate record.	
	<b>To approve the minutes of the 2024/25 Precept Meeting held on 4th January 2024</b>	
	It was proposed and <b>AGREED</b> that the minutes were a true and accurate record.	
<b>2402.04</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE – any important items received after agenda published</b>	
	<p>There was an email received regarding the reimbursement to the Village Hall for the fire extinguisher that was used in the recent fire at the Playing field.</p> <p>There were emails and correspondence about the recent issues on Dag Lane which will be brought up under the rights of way update.</p> <p>An email had been received questioning the use of the nissen huts at The Lodge, Carriage Drive, against granted planning permission. It was noted that the parish council does not have any enforcement powers and any concerns should be addressed directly to BBC Planning Department.</p>	
<b>2402.05</b>	<b>PLANNING</b>	

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(a)	<p><b>24/00139/FUL</b> 4 And 4A Rotten Row Riseley It was proposed and <b>AGREED</b> to support this planning application.</p> <p><b>24/00093/FUL</b> 151 High Street Riseley It was proposed and <b>AGREED</b> to support this planning application.</p> <p><b>24/00105/FUL</b> 4 High Street Riseley It was proposed and <b>AGREED</b> to support this planning application.</p>	CF
(b)	One decision on Scania house, which was <b>Granted</b> .	
(c)	No Appeals	
<b>2402.06</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE</b>	
(a)	<p><b>To agree monthly report and Invoices to be paid</b> It was proposed and <b>AGREED</b> to accept the monthly report and invoices as presented.</p>	Clerk/All PCs
<b>2402.07</b>	<b>RISELEY VILLAGE</b>	
(a)	<p><b>Christmas 2024</b> After some discussion it was suggested to use the lights mounted in the ground. HJ will ask Mr Rogers what costs would be involved. The lights have been taken down and are currently in storage.</p>	RT
(b)	<p><b>Email received from a Planning Consultant regarding Potential Affordable Housing Site</b> The Chairman opened the meeting to the developer who had spoken in the open forum. The Council asked the developer to attend the March meeting when he can answer questions although there will still be a time limit of 10mins. GD reminded the Parish Council that this will be the first development put forward since the Neighbourhood Plan has been in place and asked that it be rigorously followed.</p>	
(c)	<p><b>To discuss the 3 quotes received for the Catherine Stone plaque.</b> It was proposed and <b>AGREED</b> to contact the Sign Makers and go ahead with the middle quote of £397.60, allowing the surplus to be used for the wood and materials required for the redesign of the flowerbed. Ward funding of £500.00 has been received for this.</p>	
<b>2402.08</b>	<b>RISELEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GROUP (RNPG)</b>	
(a)	<p><b>Result of referendum</b> The Chairman read out the results of the referendum: 42% turnout and 86% in favour of adopting the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	

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	<p>The Steering group will shortly be winding down as their work is now complete. All documents will be loaded onto a USB stick and given to the Clerk. The Chairman will write an official statement of thanks to all involved.</p>	
<b>2402.09</b>	<b>RISELEY RECREATION ASSOCIATION (RRA)</b>	
	<p>There has been an act of vandalism which destroyed one of the plastic picnic tables by fire. Thanks were expressed to the Parish Councillors who cleared the area and debris. The ground has been made good although it could do with a couple of bags of topsoil.</p> <p>This will be an agenda item for March meeting to discuss replacement; a report will be made to the police to allow for an insurance claim if required.</p> <p>Reimbursement of the Village Hall fire extinguisher would also be on the next months agenda.</p>	HJ/AG
<b>2402.10</b>	<b>RIGHTS OF WAY</b>	
(a)	<p>The push along strimmer is in for a warranty repair. The Volunteer group is not active this month due to the wet weather.</p> <p>Dag Lane (Restricted Byway 71) has been cleared voluntarily by a resident(s). This has caused a dispute with an adjoining landowner. Bedford Borough Council has been informed and their legal team is now involved. Any interested parties should contact BBC directly.</p> <p>It was requested that they should be aware of possible claims of ownership to the Land Registry.</p>	DJ
<b>2402.11</b>	<b>TREE WARDEN, ROSS MEADOW &amp; ALLOTMENTS</b>	
	<p><b>Tree report action items planning</b></p> <p>RT read out his tree report, following the Tree Survey. He would like to carry out most of the suggested works himself, apart from those requiring a professional tree surgeon. The Parish Council thanked him for this kind offer, which will substantially reduce the costs.</p> <p>WW will liaise with the BBC officer about responsibilities for trees on highways land that require attention.</p> <p>WW reported on the voluntary work carried out by Mr Wady, who has cleared the perimeter areas on Ross Meadow, which will allow the grass cutting to move closer to the edges. GD will liaise with the contractors to arrange.</p> <p>The Clerk advised that there is now a waiting list for the Allotments. A councillor asked if it would be worth limiting the number of allotments for each resident. The Clerk recommended that this should be discussed with RC, as councillor responsible and that the rules would need to be abided by as set out by the Allotment Association.</p>	RC/WW
<b>2402.12</b>	<b>CHILDREN AND YOUTH</b>	
(a)	<p>Nill report</p>	RT/CF
<b>2402.13</b>	<b>BROOK</b>	
	<p>There have been 11 flood warnings in 2024 already.</p>	
<b>2402.14</b>	<b>HIGHWAYS &amp; FOOTWAYS</b>	
	<b>Update on Speed Data and SIDs</b>	

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	<p>The relocating of two SIDs has taken place with the third to be set up next week on the Swinsehead Road.</p> <p>The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile is now between 28-33mph depending on which way you come into the village.</p> <p>It was noted that the SIDs are being used as educational rather than data devices and that it is not uncommon to be overtaken on the way out of the village at the southern end.</p> <p>The wall opposite the Fox &amp; Hounds is being assessed by BBC, along with the railing opposite the Old Five Bells and the highways trees.</p> <p>There has been no update on the footbridge by the police post.</p>	WW
<b>2402.15</b>	<b>LIGHTING</b>	
	Nothing to report.	
<b>2402.16</b>	<b>VILLAGE HALL</b>	
	Nothing to report	Clerk
<b>2402.17</b>	<b>GRASS CUTTING</b>	
	<p>GD will contact Graingers and remind them that there are now 3 extra pieces of land to include and to discuss the first cut. There are marker posts erected in Ross Meadow to show the outside safe cutting area.</p> <p>It was suggested to arrange a litter pick before the first cut and to put this on the next agenda for a date to be set.</p>	PB
<b>2402.18</b>	<b>NEWSLETTER</b>	
	22 <sup>nd</sup> March is the deadline for the Village newsletter.	PB
<b>2402.19</b>	<b>WEBSITE</b>	
	Work is still in progress	
<b>2402.20</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENT &amp; VILLAGE APPREANCE</b>	
(a)	<p><b>Dog bins.</b></p> <p>Following the overloaded dog bin at the bottom of Ross meadow, RT emptied the bin and cleared the area and by the next morning the bin was covered up and marked as out of use by Bedford Borough. This has since been rectified as the Dog Bin collector thought the bin lid was broken but it is not, only it's a little stiff so should continue to be emptied.</p> <p>The Gold Street &amp; Dag Lane Street signs are due to come back shortly.</p>	
<b>2402.21</b>	<b>BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL</b>	
	<p>There was no report from Borough Councillor Martin Towler, who sent his apologies.</p> <p><b>Response to Bedford Borough Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy</b></p> <p>If anyone would like to read the new Strategy it is available on the BBC website. The Chairman will ask the Fox &amp; Hounds if a hard copy could be left at the pub for anyone to read. The Chairman would also ask PB if it is possible to put a link on the website.</p>	
<b>2402.22</b>	<b>OUTSTANDING ITEMS/WORK IN PROGRESS</b>	

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Minute No	Description	Action By	Waiting For	Notes
02/22	CIL Payment	All Pcs		GD will investigate what CIL money can be used for.
	Redesign stone flower bed			To commence when weather allows
	Field by old Lower School	Mayor		Awaiting confirmation of email sent 29/11
	Crest stickers for Riseley sign	BBC	MT	Awaiting confirmation from BBC
	Repainting street name signs	RT		Ongoing
	Footbridge by the Police Station			Due to commence in March 2024
	Procedures & Protocols	DJ/CF/Clerk		Ongoing
<p>Closing Open Forum</p> <p>A resident asked if there was any progress on the 40mph zone agreed by BBC. The Parish Council hopes that BBC should be commencing the work soon.</p> <p>A resident enquired why the Land Registry had referred been to in regards to Restricted Byway 71. It was explained that the Land Registry have not always been accurate in allowing claimed ownership of land and that BBC needed to be aware of possible spurious claims of ownership of Dag Lane.</p> <p>The resident also asked if the alleged damage to Dag Lane would be reinstated and that if the resident responsible could dig a ditch this big then he should not be on benefits and the resident would happily report this to the relevant authorities. The Chairman explained that this is now with the legal department at Bedford Borough Council, and it is not a Parish Council matter.</p> <p>The resident organising the over 60s Christmas dinner has fixed a date for Wednesday 11th December</p>				
2412.23	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March at Riseley Village Hall.</b>			
	The Chairman DJ closed the meeting at 20.27			





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