

Minutes of **RYARSH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**
Held virtually on **Monday 12th April 2021** at **8.00pm**

Councillors Present:

Cllr M McKinlay (Chairman)
Cllr I Emson (Vice Chairman)
Cllr M Barton
Cllr C Martin
Cllr D Storey

Also in attendance:

L Mackie (Clerk)
County Councillor Hohler (left at 8.05pm)
1 member of public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr J Sutton.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes arising from the Parish Council Meeting on 8th March 2021 were agreed by all Councillors and will be signed by Cllr McKinlay at the next available opportunity.

4. EXTERNAL REPORTS

(a) County Councillor Hohler

- o A full report was provided at the APM.
- o The top of Woodgate Road at Addington is being closed for repairs. Details have been circulated.
- o Cllr McKinlay reported that the repairs to prevent flooding at the junction of Woodgate Road and Roughetts Road have not worked. On the first day of rain there was flooding although it did drain away.

(b) Borough Councillors

There was no report.

(c) Police

The monthly police report has been circulated.

5. PLANNING

(a) Plans Received for Comment

There were no plans received.

(b) Approvals

There were no approvals to report.

(c) Refusals

There were no refusals to report.

(d) Any other Planning Matters

There were no other planning matters.

6. MATTERS ARISING

- (a) Parish Councillor Vacancy
It was reported that Tim Butler has resigned from the Parish Council. The vacancy is being advertised.

- (b) To consider return to face to face meetings, agree change of date of May meeting to Wednesday 5th May 2021 and approve cancellation of monthly Parish Council meeting on 14th June 2021
Cllrs approved a return to meetings in the Davison Room, which is large enough to allow for social distancing and has doors which can be opened for ventilation.
It was agreed to change the date of the May meeting to Wednesday 5th May 2021 to enable this to be carried out virtually.
There will be no monthly meeting in June but there will be an end of year finance meeting at the end of June.

- (c) To consider Environmental Stations to tackle dog fouling and littering
Cllrs considered details provided by a company who supply environmental stations supplying litter bags. Cllrs felt that if members of public did not use the existing bins, they would not bag and take to a litter bin. It was agreed not to progress this further.

- (d) Notice of Elections 6th May – Kent County Councillors and Kent Police and Crime Commissioner
This was noted.

- (e) Parish Council Projects:
 - i. Beacons
Cllr McKinlay continues to make enquiries into a suitable location for a beacon.

 - ii. Verge at Workhouse Road/The Street junction
Cllr McKinlay has spoken to Gallagher who will sort the verge out and prepare it for the Parish Council to sow seeds.

 - iii. Replacement children’s picnic table in play area
There was a discussion and Councillors agreed to look at repairing the existing children’s picnic table. Cllr Emson will provide photos of a possible table from a play area in Snodland.

7. OPEN FORUM – Public Participation Session

8. PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

To receive updates and reports:

- (a) KALC Strategic Meeting with Matthew Scott PCC and Kent Police – 18th March 2021 (MM)
Cllr McKinlay explained to the Police the problems in the village, with the increase in certain crimes but the only Police action seeming to be a crime number and a letter from victim support. She made the Police aware of the strength of public feeling. The Police understood this, and as a result in the last month there has been an increase in Police activity in the village and Councillors have noticed a greater Police presence. The Police should respond now in a better way to crime reports.

- (b) To note actions from last meeting, ongoing projects and any urgent actions taken
There were no further actions to report.

9. MONTHLY CHECK LIST

- (a) General Data Protection Regulations
There were no matters to report.

Minutes of Ryarsh Parish Council Meeting

- (b) To note any problems and receive reports about
- i. Highways
There were no issues to report.
 - ii. Footpaths and Footways
There were no issues to report.
 - iii. Street lights
There were no issues to report.
 - iv. Trees
There were no issues to report.
- (c) Play Area and Recreation Ground
Cllr Storey is completing regular play area inspections.
- (d) Ryarsh Village Hall
Cllr Storey will arrange a date for a general tidy up of the Recreation Ground and area outside the Village Hall and volunteers are asked to help. The fencing around the John Brookes garden is being replaced. The cost is £1590 +VAT and the Parish Council was asked for a donation. This will be considered at the next meeting. It was also reported that the bench in the garden had been vandalised.

10. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (a) To receive bank statements, consider and approve financial statements (to be physically signed at the next available opportunity)
These have been circulated and considered by Cllrs. The statement was approved and will be signed by Cllr McKinlay at the next available opportunity.
- (b) To consider and approve invoice payments
The following invoice was approved and paid since the last meeting by Cllrs Martin and Barton:

Payee	Description	Total £
Viking	Office Equipment	£238.80

The following invoices were APPROVED and the payments will be authorised by Cllrs Martin and Barton:

Payee	Description	Total £
PSR Lighting	Streetlight Maintenance March 2021	£116.40
Clerk	April 2021 Salary, expenses, allowance	£857.69
HMRC	April 2021 PAYE and NI	£65.16
KALC	Annual Membership 2021-2022	£387.67
Ryarsh PCC	Annual Contribution Churchyard Gardening	£1,200.00
Unity Trust	Quarterly Service Charge	£18.00

A payment to Eon for Electricity for March 2021 of £131.81 will be paid by Direct Debit.

- (c) To consider End of Year Financial Statement for 2020-2021, to note internal audit on 18th May and to agree Date for Finance Meeting in June
Paperwork will be circulated to Councillors and the Internal Audit is booked. A meeting on Monday 28th June at 2pm was agreed to consider, approve and sign the Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

- (d) To consider any other financial matters
There were no other financial matters.

11. MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING

There were no matters.

The Meeting concluded at 8.30pm

Date of the Annual parish Council Meeting is **Wednesday 5th May** at 8pm

Date of the next Parish Council meeting is **Wednesday 5th May**, following the APCM

Signed

Dated