



Rushmere St. Andrew Parish Council

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"Seek The Common Good"



Minutes of the extra-ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 13th February 2020 at TOWER HALL at 7.00pm

CHAIRMAN: P Richings

PRESENT: Mrs A Bridger, Mrs M Brown, Miss A Cracknell, Mr C Griggs, Mr M Newton, Mr R Nunn, Mrs B Richardson-Todd, Mr P Richings, Mrs S Todd, Mr R Whiting, Mr Wright, Mr B Ward, Mr D Francis, Mr J Westrup, Ms C Evans

APOLOGIES: None.

CLERK: Mrs S Stannard – Clerk; Mrs S Jenkins – Assistant Clerk. Minutes taken by Mrs Stannard

ALSO PRESENT: Members of the public = 1

1. APOLOGIES, APPROVAL OF ABSENCE, PROTOCOL & CONDUCT REMINDERS

The Chairman read out the statement on the Code of Conduct, protocol for debate and statutory rights to film, record, photograph or otherwise report on the proceedings of the meeting.

No apologies, all councillors present.

2. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9th January 2020

Mr Richings reminded Councillors to note the list of cheques issued. Ms Cracknell proposed acceptance of the minutes. This was seconded by Mr Whiting, with ALL in favour. The minutes were duly signed as a correct record with no amendments.

3. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLOR INTEREST

Mr Whiting declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of Suffolk County Council and also stated that he may be asked to reconsider any matter from this meeting at County Council and at any relevant Committee/Sub Committee and in so doing, shall take into account all relevant evidence and representations made at the County level before coming to a decision.

Mr Newton declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of East Suffolk Council and also stated that he may be asked to reconsider any matter from this meeting at District Council and at any relevant Committee/Sub Committee and in so doing, shall take into account all relevant evidence and representations made at the District level before coming to a decision.

No other declarations were made.

4. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FOR THE PARISH

a. To Consider and Agree the Creation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Rushmere St Andrew and to Determine the Neighbourhood Area Boundary

In November 2019 Parish Council agreed that a Neighbourhood Working Group be established to investigate whether a neighbourhood plan for the parish would be feasible and whether sufficient parishioners would be interested to join a working group and that the working group will make recommendations to Parish Council regarding such a Plan.

A number of Councillors are willing to be on a Neighbourhood Plan Working Group and a number of residents have volunteered to join the working group. This includes volunteers from the Beech Ward, the Tower Ward and from the Village Ward.

Mr Whiting informed Councillors that an informal working group meeting was held on 4th February 2020 to give volunteers a chance to meet councillors and the other volunteers and to provide them with more information about a neighbourhood plan. Most of the volunteers attended the meeting and indicated that they are keen to join the working group.

A discussion followed about the merits of a neighbourhood plan and the boundaries for the Neighbourhood Area.

Mr Richings proposed that a Neighbourhood plan be created for the Rushmere St Andrew Parish by the Parish Council and that the neighbourhood area include the whole of the Rushmere St Andrew parish, seconded by Mr Whiting. Resolved with a MAJORITY in favour. Mr Nunn voted against this.

b. To Agree the Submission of Funding Applications for the Completion of a Neighbourhood Plan

At the PA&S meeting in January 2020 it was agreed that the Parish Council will submit a funding proposal to Mr Whiting to fund part of a neighbourhood plan for the parish. It was agreed that this be ratified by Parish Council. There is also funding available from central government for the creation of a neighbourhood plan.

Mr Richings proposed that Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council submit funding applications for the creation of a neighbourhood plan and that any grants received be ringfenced for this purpose, seconded by Mr Wright. Resolved with a MAJORITY in favour. Mr Nunn voted against this.

c. To Establish and Agree the Scope of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

A draft term of reference for the Rushmere St Andrew Neighbourhood Plan Working Group had been distributed with the agenda for the meeting. A discussion followed about the draft terms of reference. Mr Wright proposed that delegated authority be given to the Chairman of the Council, the Vice-Chair of the Council, Mr Whiting, the Clerk and Assistant Clerk to agree a final term of reference, seconded by Mr Griggs and resolved with a MAJORITY in favour.

5. CLOSE OF MEETING

The chairman closed the meeting at 7.30pm.