

RENNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Deb Still, c/o 26 Swansfield Park Road, Alnwick, NE66 1AT

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MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of the Rennington Parish Council meeting held at 7pm on Thursday 9th February 2023 at Rennington Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Robert Dixon (Chair), Fred Bosanquet, Lalage Bosanquet, Phil Green, Andy Sisson, Alan Tremlett.

In attendance: Deb Still (Parish Clerk), County Cllr Pattison and 1 member of the public.

The meeting opened at 7pm.

26/23 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Katie Robertson, Ian Woods.

27/23 Declarations of Interest

None

28/23 Public Participation Time

No issues were raised by members of the public.

29/23 Minutes of the Meetings 12th January 2023

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of 12th January be accepted and signed as a correct and true record.

30/23 Matters Arising from previous meeting

A grant application is being put forward by Norman Hughes for a Petanque Surface for a proposed club in Rock. A Petanque Taster Day is being organised on a temporary gravel surface in Rock on 14th April 2023. The Clerk advised that the Council has the power to fundraise and the power to spend in accordance with the discharge of any of their functions.

31/23 Review of Policies & Procedures:

- i) Standing Orders – AGREED to defer this review to the next meeting.
- ii) Financial Regulations – AGREED to defer this review to the next meeting.
- iii) The Clerk had circulated a draft Policy & Procedure for Public Participation at RPC Meetings which was ADOPTED by the Council.

32/23 RPC Communications & Engagement Strategy (Draft)

A brief discussion about the Strategy ensued. Cllr Baggott expressed concerns that the Strategy may lead to delays in decision making, was too ambitious and might raise expectations that could not be met due to capacity issues and costs. Other councillors expressed broad support for the Strategy. It was AGREED that the draft Strategy would be put out for consultation with the community by way of

a Drop In. Cllrs Dixon, Green & Sisson will arrange the date and for a printed promotional leaflet to be delivered to every household in the Parish.

33/23 Councillor Roles & Responsibilities

The Clerk had circulated an updated paper to show current roles and responsibilities and identify gaps that needed filling by Councillors. Following offers made at the meeting, the Clerk will recirculate the list.

34/23 Planning Matters

22/04025/FUL Detached stone garage with slate roof on site of old stable. (Retrospective) **Location** 2 Rennington Village, Rennington, Northumberland NE66 3RS. It was NOTED that the application has been granted by NCC.

35/23 Parish Community Resilience & Emergency Plan

Cllr Green has consulted with the NCC Civil Contingencies Officer who has commented on the CRE Plan and Implementation Plan. Cllr Green circulated the revised CRE Plan which was REVIEWED and AGREED. Cllr Green also circulated the Implementation Plan that was also AGREED.

36/23 Awards for All Grant

- a) The reporting requirements had been circulated and were NOTED.
- b) It was NOTED that the second Scams Awareness Talk would be given by Age UK Northumberland at RVH on Wednesday 19th April at 2pm

37/23 Neighbourhood Development Plan

AECOM has sent the final version of the Housing Needs Assessment for the Parish. It will be circulated to all Councillors and published on the website.

The RPC meeting with a single item on the agenda (Affordable Housing) will likely take place in May 2023. An Affordable Housing Officer will attend from NCC and Standing Orders will be suspended for the meeting to allow full discussion.

38/23 RPC Planning Application 22/03766/VARYCO to remove/turn off the five street lights

The Clerk received an email from NCC today apologising for the delay in dealing with the application due to “unprecedented volumes of applications”.

39/23 Rennington Village Hall

i) Update on lease

RVH has replied to the letter from RPC of 19th December 2022. The RVH Management Committee welcomed RPC’s “assurance of continued support for the work of RVHMC”.

ii) Other updates

Northumberland Estates has agreed in principle to the Solar Panel installation.

40/23 Training

The Clerk attended a planning training session led by Rob Murfin.

ii) Current payments were AGREED:

Clerk's Mileage to RPC and return 29.1.23 & 9.2.23	£8.10
NDP Invoice Ludman Planning Jan 2023 Stage 1	£2000.00
Leaflet to publicise Engagement Strategy Consultation	£120
Sally Roberts Invoice for 21-22 audit 8.2.23	£100

iii) To note amended payments

It was NOTED that the minimum data allowance for the mobile phone was £10.00 rather than £5.00. It was also NOTED that there was no cost of £15.00 for the mobile phone as the Clerk donated an old i-phone to RPC.

A4E payments to date were NOTED:

Date	Description	Net	VAT	Gross
10.10.22	2 Glasdon Benches	1482.84	296.57	1779.41
14.10.22	Installation	200.00	0.00	200.00
2.11.22	Scams hire RVH	20.00	0.00	20.00
10.11.22	CREP hire of RVH	20.00	0.00	20.00
5.12.22	High Viz x 36	178.08	35.62	213.70
5.12.22	Crep form and Card	196.80	39.36	236.16
16.1.23	100 Magnets	33.70	6.74	40.44
16.1.23	50 ID Cds & Lanyards	40.00	8.00	48.00
16.1.23	3 x Nboards & install	4627.70	925.54	5553.24
16.1.23	Shredder Bags	16.24	3.25	19.49
16.1.23	Encrypted Hard Drive	58.48	11.70	70.18
16.1.23	Shredder Sheets	20.16	4.05	24.21
17.1.23	Shredder Oil	6.33	1.27	7.60
17.1.23	Wolverine Shredder	166.66	33.33	199.99
19.1.23	Torches x 30	249.90	49.95	299.85

iv) To RECEIVE report on spend against grant award (circulated in advance)
The report was RECEIVED.

v) To AGREE further spend (proposals circulated in advance).

Proposals were discussed and it was AGREED that the Clerk would:

- source and pay for additional larger magnets for the noticeboards and
- check with the National Lottery Community Fund if they will agree to any balance of the grant being donated to another organisation.

vi) Bank Reconciliation by Councillor

Cllr Green has checked the Bank Reconciliations of the two Council bank accounts pursuant to Financial Regulations 2.2 and confirmed that the accounts reconcile.

vii) Online Banking & HMRC Basic

Cllr Baggott has been able to authorise online bank payments. The Clerk has the log in credentials for the HMRC Basic account and should be able to start salary payments from March 2023. This should be quicker, more accurate, cheaper and less time consuming than the current arrangement with NCC.

46/23 Northumberland Town, Parish & Community Council Charter
The Council NOTED the revised Charter published in January 2023

47/23 NCC Neighbourhood and Technical Services
The Clerk has a digital copy of the NCC Who's Who for Neighbourhood & Technical Services and Business Support.

48/23 NE Devolution Consultation
It was NOTED that the deadline for the consultation is 23rd March 2023, and it was AGREED that RPC will not make any comments.

49/23 Correspondence
It was NOTED that an email has been received from Rock Cricket Club seeking support from the Parish Council for a Defibrillator. The defibrillator will be accessible to the community close to the Pavilion. RCC is seeking funding from an ECB supported charity for installation and running costs. The Clerk will request that RCC keeps RPC informed about the outcomes of funding applications made.

The Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Date of Next Meeting – 9th March 2023

Future Meeting Dates

13th April 2023

27th April 2023 (Annual Parish Meeting)

11th May 2023 (and Annual General Meeting)

8th June 2023

13th July 2023

14th September 2023

12th October 2023

9th November 2023

14th December 2023

11th January 2024

8th February 2024

14th March 2024