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Mrs Lacey Luther,
Parish Clerk,
Ringshall Parish Council,
Broad View Farm,
Ringshall, Stowmarket,
Suffolk IP14 2JF.
(Letter emailed and posted)

26th July 2023.

Dear Lacey,

I am writing to inform you of my decision to resign as Chair of Ringshall Parish Council and also as a Ringshall Parish Councillor, with immediate effect.

I have thoroughly considered this decision and it is not one that I have taken lightly.

Last night's (25/07/23) shambles at the RPC meeting where some councillors had not read important planning documents was the final straw.

This was played out in full view of our county and district representatives and members of the public and those who had a specific interest in the Agenda items.

This, combined with councillors not engaging in open debate, especially when making an important decision not to progress with the speed extension plan, is completely at odds with my understanding of openness and local democracy. If a Council decision is made that is contrary to the wishes of the community, especially following a public meeting, the community does at the very least deserve an explanation through meaningful debate from elected parish representatives.

Thank you for your support as Parish Clerk and for the support of members of the community who have engaged with us over time on many issues.

Yours Sincerely,



Chris Payne.

Chestnuts Farmhouse West
Charles Tye
Ringshall
IP14 2HU

18th August 2023

Dear Lacey

With great regret, I am writing to inform you that I am resigning as a Parish Councillor, with immediate effect.

I was hugely disappointed to hear of Chris' resignation a couple of weeks ago, and have been considering my own position since then. As you know, I chaired the public meeting regarding the possible extension of the 30 mph speed limit. This was very well attended, and showed overwhelming support for the extension of the limit. In light of this, I was appalled that other councillors didn't even discuss the matter, and that no one seconded any of the motions to pursue it. Whilst I am aware that achieving the extension might not be easy, to not even try seems to me to be a failure of leadership on the part of the Council. It took three attempts to get the children's play area established but, in the end, it happened.

I think that many people in the village will be very unhappy with the Parish Council for not even trying to take the matter further. This is a matter of public safety, and of enhancing the quality of life for people who live in the Parish. If the Council is not prepared to even discuss such things then I feel that I can no longer be part of it.

On a personal note, I would like to thank you for all your help and support over the past few years. Since your arrival, the administration of the Council, and the atmosphere of meetings, has improved immeasurably.

Regards

Adrian.

Chestnuts Farmhouse West

Charles Tye

Ringshall

IP14 2HU

20th August 2023

Dear Lacey,

I am writing to inform you of my resignation from Ringshall Parish Council, with immediate effect.

I had not planned to do this, but recent events have highlighted to me a gap between what local residents need, and the Council's unwillingness to be proactive. We finally managed to get a play area built, at the third attempt, and I know that this has been welcomed by local families. There is, I think, a strong feeling in the village that the Council should try to pursue the extension of the 30 mph zone to reflect the fact that the village has grown and the current limit does not cover all the houses. To my mind, this is a matter of safety for all our residents, but particularly the children. I was disappointed, and surprised, that other Council members did not even discuss the matter at the last meeting. Had I been there, I would have seconded the motion which would at least have meant there was a discussion. The issue of speed and the extension has been raised many times, and I am not aware, that any Councillor, at any stage, spoke against it.

As with both Chris and Adrian, I now find myself unable to be part of a Council that does not want to try to improve the lives of our residents.

On a personal note, I would like to thank you all for your help and support, particularly during development of the play area. This has been a huge success. We will need to speak about the practical arrangement of removing my name as a signatory of the bank account. Perhaps you could contact me once the Council has decided who should replace me as signatory.

Kind Regards

Heather Williams