RINGSHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Ringshall Parish Council held on Thursday August 8th 2017 in St Catherine's Church, Ringshall

Present: Mrs C Free (chairman), Mrs L Hitchcock, Mr J Phoenix, Mr D Kemp, Mrs A Jones, Mrs K Benton,

Mr M Snowling (Chairman RVHMC), Cllr D Whybrow, Cllr A Whybrow Mrs H Nunn (Clerk)

1. To discuss the repercussions of the blocked ditch adjacent to Ringshall Playing Field

The background to this item was explained to all by the Chairman and the letter received in June from Gotelee solicitors was read out. The Clerk had been investigating who actually owns, or is responsible for maintaining the ditch in question and County Cllr Whybrow is making further enquires at SCC. After some discussion it was agreed by all present that a letter is sent to Gotelee solicitors refuting all allegations as no evidence had been presented to the Parish Council to support the claims made by their clients.

Public Forum

County Councillor Whybrow had circulated her report prior to the meeting and confirmed that the public's greatest concerns are highways matters including speeding and hedgerows. The county's quality of life budget is available to help with these matters and Cllr Whybrow agreed to look into the various highways issues including road signs and water on Ringshall hill which have been outstanding for almost two years.

District Councillor Whybrow's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and he highlighted the Local Boundary Review, the Locality Budget which could be utilised by the VHMC for funding towards a new mower and also the draft Local Plan which is due to be published very shortly.

The report from the VHMC had been circulated to councillors, Mr Snowling the chairman confirmed that hirings of the hall are currently very low with the majority being for children's parties.

2. Apologies for absence

Mr N Last

3. Declarations of Interest

There were none

4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on May 30th 2017

The minutes were approved and duly signed and dated by the chairman.

5. <u>To receive a financial report, approve payments, grant and donation requests and discuss</u> the purchase of a new mower for the VHMC

The Clerk reported the following balances:

Community Account £1340.19
Business Saver Account: £8132.71

A request had been received from Ringshall PCC for payment of the maintenance grant for St Catherine's church together with the reimbursement for grass cutting in the churchyard, totalling £1050. Councillors approved payment. Since the last meeting the following bills had been paid:

SALC Planning workshop £252.00 MSDC Bin emptying £192.00 Mr Snowling explained why a new mower is required and the steps taken so far in securing funding. The emails regarding the parish council being a joint applicant for the Football Association small grants scheme had been circulated to councillors. After some discussion it was agreed that councillors be furnished with the terms and conditions before making a decision. Mr Snowling will forward these to the clerk. District Cllr Whybrow suggested the VHMC apply for funding through MSDC's Locality Budget.

6. To discuss the electoral review of Mid Suffolk

Councillors had received the information prior to the meeting and following some discussion it was agreed that the parish council would support the proposals as it groups Ringshall with neighbouring parishes with common interests and issues.

7. To discuss planning matters

Planning application DC/17/03031 full planning application 4 detached bungalows on Lower Farm Road. The parish council reiterated the comments made earlier as they were still relevant. District Cllr Whybrow recommended the parish council supports the five conditions put forward by SCC Highways.

8. To discuss the Speed Watch Scheme

Mr Kemp reported that the site at Stocks Farm had been checked by the police and that the speed limit signs along Lower Farm Road were clear and clean. The volunteers' applications had gone through and have now been vetted and approved. The training for camera use will take place on August 17th and Mr Kemp had been to Great Bricett to witness their speed checks. Mr Peter Watson has been designated Official Co-ordinator and the speed camera will be available from mid-September.

9. To discuss highways matters

These had been covered in County Cllr Whybrow's report.

10. To discuss the maintenance of the village sign and telephone box

Mrs Hitchcock reminded councillors that both the village sign and telephone box were in need of some maintenance. Mrs Jones and Mr Kemp volunteered to clean and tidy the telephone box and Mr Kemp will paint the village sign post if the correct paint can be supplied.

11. Items for the next meeting

Mrs Free asked that a residents' survey be discussed. Mr Snowling asked regarding a crossing at the school. This has been raised with Highways before but costs were deemed prohibitive. Can be raised with them again, and potentially if identified as a priority for the village, future CIL receipts may be able to be used as contribution

12. To confirm the date of the next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 19th September ay 7.30pm in Ringshall village hall.