**ROYDON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th March 2015 at 7.00pm at Pott Row Village Hall**

**Apologies: Michael Rae**

**In Attendance: Councillors: Suzi Pimlott (Chair), Sophie Archer, Jackie Fry, Colin Manning, Colin Nichols & 1 member of the public Clerk: Pippa Winson**

1. **To consider apologies for absence.**

Apologies received from Michael Rae.

1. **To consider Requests for Dispensations from the restriction on participating in the discussion or voting on a matter in which a member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest.**

None.

1. **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Thursday 8th January 2015.**

Having been circulated prior to the meeting, the minutes were accepted and signed as a true and accurate record by those present at the meeting.

1. **To record Councillors’ declarations of interest on Agenda Items.**

None.

1. **Public Speaking.**

A member of the public read out her letter which she has written in respect of the dog bin and her support for the bin. She advised that there had been a noticeable improvement in less dog waste on the paths.

1. **Matters arising.**

None.

1. **Correspondence received (for info only).**

TOP Garden Services – letter advising of ground maintenance services offered.

NPS Group – letter advising of fire risk management services offered.

1. **Highways- note any matters to be reported to highways.**

Some pot-holes have been filled.

1. **Village Green Bench**

Still pending quote from Colin Grimes.

1. **Hudson Fen Leisure**

Portacabin replacement pending. Play equipment from Churchill School now installed.

M Pitcher arrived

Audited accounts needed to consider donation request.

1. **Dog Waste Bin**

S Pimlott gave a brief summary of the Parish Council’s decisions and actions in relation to the dog waste bin. Advised why it was installed and consultation in respect of location.

3 members of public arrived

Clerk read out another letter of support in respect of the dog bin.

Meeting held with NCC and Mrs Bramham, but she was unable to stay very long to discuss. A new location was suggested which NCC agreed, however, due to health and safety

issues the Borough Council concluded that this location wasn’t suitable but they agreed to the current location. S Pimlott met with MP Henry Bellingham to discuss the matter, it was a lengthy meeting and she gave all the background information and advised that despite research another suitable location had not been identified. He suggested trying to help by contacting the BC to ask them to re-consider and he contacted the BC. The BC advised that the location was up to the PC, but that they could not collect from the proposed new site. The matter was then discussed further and Councillors commented that parishioners are not consulted when other street furniture is installed. On proposal from C Nichols and seconded by M Pitcher, all agreed that the bin is left as it is and that the matter is closed. Agreed to look at options to paint or disguise the bin with stickers.

As Colin Grimes was now in attendance, he was asked about the bench (Item 97/14). He said that the paint would be about £20 and that he would charge £12 per hour for labour. All agreed for him to undertake the work. The tree roots on the Common would be charged at £25 per hour. All agreed for him to undertake the work. He hopes to get the work done before Easter.

1. **Training**
2. S Pimlott attended Chairmanship Training, cost £70. Payment agreed.

Clerk attended Election Training, total cost £30, to be equally split with Runcton Holme and Wimbotsham Parish Councils.

1. S Pimlott mentioned future legislation change where draft minutes need to be displayed on website within a month, and agenda. Email service of agenda, all agreed to the service of the agenda to the email addresses currently used for PC business.
2. **Standing Orders**

Model Standing Orders to be circulated.

1. **Elections**

Clerk handed out nomination forms. Need to be taken in to Borough Council by 9th April 2015.

1. **Finance**

Cheques paid out: £78.00 – Village Hall Hire, £791.56 – Clerk expenses, £70.00 – Chair Training, £5 – Wimbotsham PC (S/O Training), £10 – Runcton Holme PC (Election Training), £500 – Parochial Church Council (Grass cutting Churchyard).

Mazars will be External Auditors.

1. **Roydon Common**

Poles need replacing; UK Power Networks have been given consent.

Cuckoo flowers mentioned, M Pitcher will stake the area so that they aren’t cut this year. Clerk to advise CGM this will be done.

1. **Planning**

Application 15/00264/F – not supported due to roof design.

Silica extraction consultation email received today, S Pimlott will check sites and respond.

1. **To receive Councillors Concerns and items for next meeting agenda.**

Standing Orders. Dog bin to be removed from agenda. Village Sign needs painting.

Thanks were given to Sophie Archer and Mike Pitcher for all their work given to the Parish Council during their term as Parish Councillors.

1. **To confirm the date and time of the next Parish Council meeting – the Annual Parish Council Meeting to follow the Annual Parish meeting on Thursday 14th May 2015 at 7.00pm.**

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Chairman ………………………………………. Date …………………………………