

ROYDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 27th July 2023 at 7.00pm at Pott Row Village Hall

In Attendance: Councillors: Suzi Pimlott, Michael Rae, Neville Fletcher, Colin Manning, Colin Nichols, Marc Starling
Clerk: Pippa Winson

25/23 To consider apologies for absence.

Apologies received from T Tilbrook.

26/23 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.

27/23 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 25th May 2023

Having been circulated prior to the meeting, the minutes were agreed and signed.

28/23 To record Councillors' declarations of interest on Agenda Items.

None.

29/23 Public Speaking.

(a) Borough/County Councillor Report: None.

(b) Member of the Public: None.

30/23 Matters arising.

None.

31/23 Correspondence received (for info only).

Parish Partnership Scheme 2024/25 applications need to be submitted by 8th December 2023.

Various – via email.

32/23 Highways

Note any issues and matters to be reported to highways.

Clerk read out update email re the Rangers visit: '30 MPH signs on Church Lane west of Rectory Close - hedging (ivy) on the approach to 30 MPH zone obscures southbound sign on 60 MPH stretch until you are right there/on top of the junction. Also, that sign is poorly placed behind a telegraph post! *Work has been programmed to cut back the hedges obstructing visibility of the signs. This has been added to our works ordering programme and will be completed in due course.*

30 MPH signs on Station Road north of St Andrews Lane - signs are green and need cleaning. Also hedging on the 60 MPH approach to the 30 MPH zone obscures signs until they are reached – hedging needs cutting back on the approach route. *Work has been programmed to cut back the hedges obstructing visibility of the signs and also for the signs to be cleaned. This has been added to our works ordering programme and will be completed in due course.*

Triangle Bend sign on Station Road south of St Andrews Lane, almost opposite Church Lane - this is on a very high post and it's obscured in hedging, plus hedging on the approach to the sign obscures it. Can the post be lowered? Also, it seems a long way from the actual bend – could it be moved nearer the bend? *Work has been programmed to cut back the hedges obstructing visibility of the sign, we have no plans to move this sign at present. This has been added to our works ordering programme and will be completed in due course.*

New white single 'gate' on Station Road south of St Andrews Lane, almost opposite Church Lane - partially obscured by hedging. *Work has been programmed to cut back the hedges obstructing visibility of the gateway. This has been added to our works ordering programme and will be completed in due course.*

Surface water road drain in front of 101 Station Road, just north of Church Lane – this remains blocked with silt. *Work has been programmed to clean out this drain in due course.*

Surface water road drain in front of 64 Station Road, on bend – *This has since been repaired. The drain will be cleaned out in due course too.*

Sand/soil and loose stone chippings accumulated on Hall Lane (Church Lane) just North West of Hall Farm *Nothing found at intervention level at time of visit.*

Grips and back-drains along all of Hall Lane and Church Lane from A148 to Station Road – *All the drainage grips in the parish will be cleaned out over the next coming months. This order has been instructed to contractor.*

Soil/mud on Church Lane in front of 29 – due to damaged roadside verge. *Nothing found at intervention level at time of visit.'*

Nothing further from the Local Highway Officer regarding the gateways location further to S Pimlott's email to him, clerk will contact him again.

We have made enquiries with NCC about changing the speed limit to 30MPH on Lynn Road and Chapel Road, so traffic approaching the crossroads is slowed. However, this is a NCC Highways decision and they advised "Unfortunately this section of public highway does not meet the criteria set out in the NCC Speed Strategy policy. If you look at page 9 you can see that Roydon does not meet the requirements to have the speed limit dropped to 30mph so would likely be unsuccessful in getting the TRO (Traffic Regulation Order) changed." NCC advise us there are no recorded personal liability incidents at the crossroads by Norfolk Constabulary. We could still pursue this, but would require a feasibility study, payable up front by us (approx. £3-5k). If the feasibility study finds that actually this does meet the criteria (NCC state it doesn't) we would then need to pay approx. £10k up front for the legal process to start. There is an 18-month delay with the studies and the legal process can take up to another 18 months. It can still be rejected via public consultation and NCC County Hall speed strategy review, and no money is refundable. It is not felt that this can be pursued at this time.

33/23 Bus Shelter

It is scheduled to be painted on 31st July 2023.

34/23 Hudson Fen Leisure

The car boots are progressing. Football goals have been erected and new basketball hoops and a spider's web nest.

35/23 Neighbourhood Plan

The consultation has been extended for a further 6 weeks and this now closes on 16th August 2023. N Fletcher contacted the Borough Council officer and he has advised that the timetable would not be affected.

36/23 Roydon Common

This is due to be cut next week. Arisings are to be placed near to the telegraph pole. Can ask the Borough Council if there is any capacity for them to cut the Common in the future.

37/23 Crossroads

This was previously raised under highways.

38/23 Village Litter Pick

Next litter pick is on 30th September.

39/23 C.I.L – Potential Applications

Nothing to consider at this time.

40/23 Parish Walks Project

Will ask Grimston PC for update.

41/23 Defibrillator

Waiting for confirmation from IFS. Need to check whether there is a light on the building.

42/23 Kings Coronation Tree

Clerk will chase re Tree Guard. Tree has been planted but it has died so will be replaced.

43/23 Finance

- (a) Update. Cheques: Internal Audit - £75.00.
- (b) Annual Return 22/23:
 - (i) Annual Governance Statement on Annual Return agreed and signed.
 - (ii) Annual Return Accounting Statements agreed and signed.

44/23 Planning

Nothing to discuss.

45/23 To receive Councillors Concerns and items for next meeting agenda.

None.

46/23 The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 7th September 2023.

Meeting closed 7.33pm

Chairman Date

DRAFT