

REDBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council meeting held on Thursday 18th JANUARY 2018 at 7.30 pm, Conference Room, Parish Centre

PRESENT: Cllrs. D Mitchell (Chair), C O'Donovan (V Chair), I Caldwell, T Finnigan, I Hickmott, P Schofield, D Bigham, S Kidd, V Mead and A Gardner

IN ATTENDANCE: N Khanna (Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs M Maynard (Health) and R Gray (Family)

2. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

None

3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 21st December 2017 were approved as a true record.

5. **ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

None.

6. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

7. **MATTERS TO REPORT**

7.1 Sunday buses.

7.2 HCC library consultation

7.3 Falcon Motor Club March Hare Classic Trial

7.4 Parish store repairs

8. **COUNTY REPORT**

Cllr Brewster sent a report, summarised below, that was read out by Cllr Mitchell:

1. I acknowledge the desire to install more sockets for the Speed 'Smiley Face' detectors around the village. Sounds very sensible and Herts Highways are looking into this.

2. Fire Station/Library development - I am pushing for a 'Toucan' crossing that is hand controlled by lights! The technical work for the proposed crossing is still underway so we might find the planning application is heard in advance of the final solution but planning conditions will dictate that no works can commence until an approved crossing is installed. Will keep you updated on progress.

3. Identifying solutions to the unnecessary 'mound' in the car park where the Nickey Line meets the Redbourn Lane/roundabout are being costed. Will bring back ideas for discussion. Sight lines need improving here and Ringway are looking into this.

4. *The new Katherine Warrington School planning application is not being heard this month but it is hoped it will be considered at a special February committee meeting at County Hall. If it does not go ahead, this could have knock on issues for school places in Harpenden.*

5. *Although not a County issue, it was interesting to listen to views at the Local Plan Consultation event this week. County infrastructure cohesion between Districts is being sort by the Leader of the County Council as the whole County is under pressure to build.*

Cllr Caldwell asked if there were still plans to have two crossings providing access to the library.

Cllr Hickmott requested clarification on the impact on school places for Redbourn children if the new school planning application fails.

Cllr Mitchell said that he would feed the above questions back to Cllr Brewster.

Action: Cllr Mitchell

9. DISTRICT REPORT

District Cllr provided the following report:

1. **AWAITING REPORT FROM VICTORIA**

10. BUSINESS ITEMS

10.1 SADC Local Plan

Cllr Mitchell reported that the SADC Local Plan Regulation 18 Consultation ends on 21st February 2018 and that an exhibition was held at the Parish Centre on 16th January 2018. Cllr Mitchell reported that SADC had issued a call for more sites in the district to be considered for development and that he understood the Crown Estate were keen to offer up more land locally.

Cllr Mitchell said that he would be drafting RPC's response to SADC's Reg 18 Consultation and would be seeking input Troy Planning input. Cllr Mitchell said that this was good preparation for the more detailed Regulation 19 consultation to follow.

Cllrs felt that the SADC exhibition was disappointing regarding the minimal detail it offered residents to help them understand the proposals and to be able to comment on them. The maps used on the display boards were quite small and did not meaningfully convey the impact and proximity of the developments to Redbourn. Cllr Finnigan said she thought that she had better maps and would promote them via social media to help residents understand the threat to Redbourn green belt and encourage them to respond to the Consultation.

Action: Cllr Finnigan

Cllr Mitchell said that he felt SADC had demonstrated an inconsistent approach to development of the green belt on its borders, when responding to Hertsmere and Dacorum Council's consultations on their development proposals.

Cllr Mitchell said that he would be attending a Crown Estate meeting on 19th January 2018 with Cllrs Mead and Hickmott where he hoped to learn more about their proposals to develop land in and around Redbourn.

Cllrs Bigham and Hickmott said that they felt that SADC were not sharing a clear vision of their plans for development in and around Redbourn to engage with residents.

10.2 Response to SADC's Regulation 18 Consultation

Cllr Mitchell said that Troy Planning had offered to review his response to the SADC Reg 18 Consultation and add any relevant information they felt may help at a cost of £300 +VAT.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

Troy Planning should review Cllr Mitchell's response to SADC's Reg 18 Consultation and add any relevant information as required at a cost of £300 +VAT.

10.3 Redbourn Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Mitchell reported that the Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Consultation was underway and would run until 16th February 2018.

Cllr Mitchell reported that an exhibition for residents was being held at the Parish Centre on Saturday 27th January 2018.

10.4 Herts Highways

Cllrs received the minutes for the Herts Highways meeting held 9th November 2017.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

The minutes of the Herts Highways meeting held on 9th November 2017 are noted by the meeting.

Cllr Finnigan reported that she was in ongoing correspondence with Highways regarding alleyway ownership.

Cllr Finnigan asked if we had received any further information regarding additional cycle racks in the High Street. The Clerk said that we had not and would seek an update.

Action: Clerk

10.5 General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Clerk reported that he had received an update from SLCC on the support and advice they would be offering Council's to help them become compliant by 25th May 2018. SLCC reported they were currently preparing template documents and advice notes to support Councils and that the ICO were expected to issue specific guidance for Parish Councils late in January 2018.

The Clerk said that he would try and devote some time to understand more about what the Council would need to do in the lead up to 25th May 2018.

11. FINANCE

11.1 Finance Report

The Clerk presented Cllrs with the Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet reports, clarifying that they reflected transactions reconciled to 31st October 2017.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

The Income and Expenditure report dated 15th January 2018 reflecting reconciled accounts to the end of October 2017 be received.

The Clerk also summarised the Balance sheet showing the ear marked reserve totals.

The Clerk reminded Cllrs that the Internal Audit report had recommended Cllrs have sight of the 'Bank – Cash and Investment Reconciliation' at least at the 6 monthly and full year points. The Clerk presented Cllrs with this report dated 11th January 2018.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

The Bank – Cash and Investment Reconciliation report dated 11th January 2018 reflecting reconciled accounts to the end of October 2017 be received.

11.2 Invoices for payment

The Clerk presented Cllrs with the list of payments for October 2017.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

The List of Payments report dated 15th January 2018 showing payments for October 2017 be received.

11.3 Receipts

The Clerk presented Cllrs with the list of receipts for October 2017.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

The List of Receipts report dated 15th January 2018 showing receipts for October 2017 be received.

12 COMMITTEES

12.1 Commons Committee

Cllr O'Donovan requested two appendices be added to the minutes to provide more details on the items relating to a new easement request and the cricket club pavilion proposals.

Action: Clerk

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

The minutes of the Commons Committee meeting held on 4th January 2018 are adopted by the meeting, subject to the above amendments.

12.2 Planning Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2018 were not available in time for the meeting – Carried Forward.

12.3 Management and Communications Committee

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

The minutes of the Management and Communications Committee meeting held on 14th November 2017 be received.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

***The minutes of the Management and Communications Committee meeting
held on 10th January 2018 be received.***

12.4 Finance and Policy Committee

None.

13 WORKING PARTIES

13.1 Green Belt Defence Working Party (RAGE)

None

13.2 Neighbourhood Plan Working Party

None.

13.3 Common car park Working Party

None

13.4 High Street Working Party

Cllr Hickmott reported that the Working Party had met on the 10th January 2018 and a local historian had attended. They were currently compiling lots of local information and it was clear that this would be beneficial in recording local history and generating interest, including in the High Street. The Working Party were very supportive of the work being undertaken and would maintain dialogue going forward.

Cllr Hickmott said they discussed how to engage with all High Street businesses and were considering visiting each and putting on a workshop. The meeting also discussed how to engage with other community organisations that could support the High street.

Cllr Mitchell suggested that we should outline a clear vision for the High Street.

Cllr Finnigan said that she was having ongoing discussions with the Leader of SADC with regard to 'Article 4' to help reduce the number of High Street business premises being converted to residential use.

Cllr Finnigan said that parking in the High Street continued to be challenging.

14 MATTERS TO REPORT

14.1 HCC library consultation – Cllr Caldwell reminded Cllrs that an 'Inspiring Libraries' consultation was currently underway by HCC and encouraged them to promote it and to respond.

14.2 Falcon Motor Club March Hare Classic Trial – The Clerk reported that he had received information of the 2018 'March Hare Classic Trial' – an event organised by the Falcon Motor Club. The event will start and end in Redbourn and the Clerk had been informed that all relevant bodies had been notified and approvals requested. The Clerk said that he would be responding that RPC had no objection to the event. Cllrs agreed and asked the Clerk to thank the organisers for their courtesy and to convey their best wishes for the event.

14.3 Parish store repairs – The Clerk reported that following further investigation, additional work was required as part of the planned repairs and the Facilities Officer had received a quote from the nominated builders. The additional work involves providing two sections of timber stud work walls with double layers of plaster board along with some blockwork, instead of the original plan to do the whole wall in blockwork. The additional cost is £900 +VAT.

Cllrs were supportive of getting the work done and asked the Clerk to proceed, but to also add this to the next Management and Communications Committee agenda for formal sign off.

Action: Clerk

14.4 **Sunday bus services**– Cllr Mead reported that she had attended a meeting at Sandridge Parish Council with representatives from Sandridge and Wheathampstead Councils, to discuss the reducing Sunday bus services. Cllr Mead stated that Sunday services were under further threat from April 2019, but that SADC had said they would consider any comments from this group.

The meeting members are planning to meet with the bus service providers (Uno, Arriva and Tiger) as well as our MP, to see if anything can be done to retain a regular Sunday bus service.

The meeting also discussed the possibility of Sandridge, Wheathampstead and Redbourn funding or subsidising the service.

Cllr Mitchell reported that a £60k bus subsidy from St Albans District Council had recently been axed.

Cllr Gardner said that she was aware of effective taxi sharing initiatives that had proved successful and maybe this should be considered locally.

Cllr Mead said that she would let Cllrs know when the meeting was and that she would appreciate some fellow Cllr support.

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
Thursday 15th February 2018, 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.04pm

Chair Date