

# WYCK RISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 9th September 2019 at the Village Hall.

**Present:** Tim Simon (Chairman), James Ross, Andrew Fifield, Brian Finnimore, Louise Fifield (Clerk), Councillor Dr Nigel Moor and 2 residents.

- **There were apologies** from Robert Montague and District Councillor Andrew Maclean.
- **Declarations of interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
- **Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting on 10th June 2019:** were approved and signed.
- **Matters arising:** dealt with below
- **Maintenance of the Green and Pond**

Green: (TS) The haycrop was taken in July. Some of the dock leaves were removed in advance by TS and BB, but these should really be dug out. There followed a discussion about whether to pay to have this done, or continue cutting them. It was agreed to get a quote for digging them out in the Spring and decide this at the next meeting. Another collapsed manhole (over a disused cesspit) was discovered outside no 5 which was repaired by Pyments. At the last meeting it was suggested that we might undertake a full survey, but it was now agreed that we would repair them on an ad hoc basis as it becomes necessary, as a survey would be costly. TS reminded us that there is an old copy of a plan of the manhole covers, which would need updating to take into account the new ones (Thames Water and Gigaclear) in the last two years.

With regard to the Oak tree gifted by the Ransoms to the PC we have learned about the destructive oak processionary moth. All oak trees from every nursery in the country have been inspected by DEFRA, and following this inspection, we are pleased to report that our oak does not have the moth.

There will be a further cut of the Green in October. TS to contact BB.

Pond: (RM). A report by RM was read out in his absence: Essentially, the water primrose has returned with a vengeance. RM will meet the Environment Agency (EA) in the next few days to establish what eradication methods they recommend, whilst making it clear that funds were limited. He has agreed with Jack Smith to give a further dose of Round-Up, as previously recommended by the EA. Raking the weeds only results in the plants breaking and the roots remaining. Going forward, there will be further spraying. RM feels that there could be additional weedkiller required – at further cost.

- **County Council News: report by Councillor Dr Nigel Moor**

The proposed weight restriction on Burford High Street: alternative route for HGVs will be via A40 to Northleach, then the A429 to Stow. There is concern that the potential extra traffic will have a detrimental effect on Stow in terms of congestion and poor air quality. GCC have proposed a corresponding weight restriction on the Adlestrop bridge to help encourage lorries to use alternative routes thereby reducing the number travelling through this area. The experimental period will last for 18 months, the first six months being used as a consultation period when comments either for or against the scheme can be made. Councillor Moor is pressing for a scheme at the Unicorn junction to synchronise lights and increase capacity at the junction. We could support by writing to GCC. TS asked for better signage to encourage motorists to use both lanes all the way up Stow hill and merging in turn at the top.

GCC are consulting on their strategy for Climate Change. The final date for comments is 23 September 2019. The following link will take you to the survey.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2091674/gloucestershire-climate-change-consultation-2019.pdf>

A417 Missing Link: The preferred route has been approved. The work will begin in 2021 and finish in 2025

Household recycling centres: Winter opening hours (10am-4pm) will operated from 27<sup>th</sup> October. NB Fosse Cross will be closed on Tuesdays. A mobile compactor will be operating in Fosse Cross in the new year, which will be very useful.

Structural Road Maintenance programme 2020/21 affecting Wyck Rissington will include A424 at Wyck Hill, C137 (drainpipe) at Wyck Rissington, Leaslow Lane at Little Rissington and the Follies at Great Rissington

Councillor Moor has granted aid for Stow Art week (end of September) from the community fund. There are currently 10 galleries in Stow.

Councillor Moor asked if we needed anything doing on the Lengthman's scheme? TS felt there wasn't anything at the moment.

- **Dog Bins:**

Since the previous meeting Andrew Maclean has confirmed that there are no grants for Dog Bins. It would cost £210.00 + VAT to have one supplied and installed. Ubico would empty it on a regular basis. It was agreed that one bin in the village would be a good idea, although the location remains undecided. It was agreed to pursue this issue before the next meeting.

- **Planning:**

- 20 Wyck Rissington: Although the PC had concerns about the plans (but not the principle of extending), permission was granted. Now the property is on the market.
- Heythrop Cottage: Demolition of existing garage and replacement with new garden office with link to existing storage building. Tony Kitson explained that the timber garage had been built many years ago. His plan is to erect a building of a similar size to the next door (no 12) garden room, and to look as much like Heythrop Cottage as possible. TS pointed out that the proposed stone mullion windows were not the same as the sash windows of the house, but Tony Kitson assured him that there were several others constructed in a similar way. BB felt it would be an attractive building. The heating (asked by AF) will be underfloor. The Council were in agreement to support the application, and since the meeting a comment of support has been posted on the Planning Portal.

- Electronic Car Charging Station:

Councillor Moor told the meeting that a decision has taken a long time because the statutory consultees have had so many questions. The GCC recommends refusal on Highway grounds. The strategy for Electric Charging will be available. As a PC we can ask CDC for an update. TS commented that we do need electric charging stations soon, but at logical destinations.

- **Finance Report**

JR distributed the finance report. The first tranche of the precept (£2,400) has been received, along with wayleaves and bank interest, totalling £2732.90.. Payments – total £835 - were mostly routine to include pond maintenance (£210), annual Data protection registration (£35) Manhole repairs (£183.60), the clerks honorarium (£60) and insurance (£346.40). The next quarter will see some heavier expenses to include the cutting of the green. However we are on track to live within the agreed budget.

3 Items of expenditure were approved:

- hosting of the website: £130.00
- Pyments (new manhole cover) £204.00
- Clerks Honorarium (including tax of £12.00) £ 60.00

Since the last meeting, the procedure to switch to online banking has been started. This will mean that the PC will be more efficient between meetings, particularly when paying suppliers. The PC agreed that JR would have full signatory powers to be able to access the account, although we

will continue to need two other signatories for all payments. TS thanked JR for his efforts to bring this about.

- **Letters and Emails received by the Clerk**

- Email with information regarding new hybrid or electric library vehicle, replacing the mobile library.
- Email from Andrew Maclean asking if we would like to receive the Upper Rissington magazine – The Breeze. After discussion, it was decided that so many of the issues would not be of concern to Wyck Rissington and there would be distribution problems, therefore we would not be taking part, but it is good to know it is there.
- Email from Caroline Gibbs with an overview of a book that may be of interest to Wyck residents: Bob Whittingham has no living family, and had written his autobiography containing details of the time he was the farm manager for Mary Wicks of Olive Hill during WW2. There are good descriptions of the people, size and location of the farm. Caroline is happy to email us the sections of the book relevant to Wyck Rissington. It was agreed that LF will keep these for anyone who might like to read them.
- Email from CDC to advise us that the launch date for the new waste services has been delayed from November until end of March 2020. Details of these changes are on the website.
- Invitation from the North Cotswolds Rotary to an event at Stow Rugby Club on 8<sup>th</sup> October entitled 'Saving our Planet – One Step at a Time'. After careful consideration, it was decided that we would not accept.
- A letter from the Cotswolds Conservation Board informed us that following the recent ballot, Amanda Davis of Bourton on the Water PC has been appointed as a Member from Group 3

- **. A. O. B.**

- A resident has raised the issue of the new entrance to Phipps farm at the top of the drainpipe. The hedges are high and there is concern that the tractors and heavy vehicles cannot be seen until they are suddenly on the lane, increasing the risk of an accident. JR wondered if permission had been granted for altering of this entrance to facilitate large vehicles. Councillor Moor said he would look at it. BB wondered if the rationale was in order to avoid tractors entering the road at the top. AF wondered if they could operate a one-way system and come in from the drainpipe and out onto the top road. JR suggested a mirror.

**Next 2 Parish Council Meetings were confirmed: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 and Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 at 6.00 pm at the Village Hall**