

Parish Office, Sports Pavilion, Hundred Acre Way, Red Lodge, Suffolk, IP28 8FQ 01638 551257 clerk@redlodgeparishcouncil.gov.uk http://redlodgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Red Lodge Parish Council.

Date:	Tuesday 28 May 2024
Time:	19:00
Venue:	St. Christopher's Church, Boundary Road. Red Lodge. IP28 8JQ.
Present:	Cllr. Sandra Dwan (Chairman) Cllr. Angela Sewell (Vice-Chairman) Cllr. Michael Berry Cllr. Sue Houlder Cllr. Stewart Hobbs Cllr. Ian Thompson Cllr. Ioana Tofan
In Attendance:	D. Cllr. Dawn Dicker Clerk/RFO
Non-Attendee:	Cllr. Andy Drummond
Members of Public:	2

Date: 25.06.2024

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Minutes of Red Lodge Parish Council Meeting 28.05.2024

Signed:_____(Chairman)

	Item	Action		
1.	Councillor Sandra Dwan was elected as Chairman. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed. Resolved	Clerk		
2.	Councillor Angie Sewell was elected as Vice-Chairman. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed. Resolved	Clerk		
3.	Chair Person's welcome. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the leaving Chairman for all her hard work. Noted			
4.	All those present are reminded of The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 and that the meeting may be filmed or recorded by any members of the public. Noted			
5.	Apologies and acceptance for absence. None received Resolved			
6.	Declaration of pecuniary and local non-pecuniary interests (i) To receive declarations of pecuniary, local non-pecuniary interests and personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature including gifts of hospitality exceeding £50. Cllr. Houlder declared an interest on agenda items 12.12 and 14.2. Noted			
	(ii) To receive requests for dispensation None received. Noted			
7.	Members of the publicare invited to speak on any item on the agenda for up to 3 minutes. (Public session is maximum 15 minutes)			
7.1	A resident raised concerns of the conduct of the Red Lodge Allotment Association (RLAA). Plot holders are not informed of RLAA meetings and decisions are being made without prior consultation with plot holders. The plot holders have been in contact with the National Association of Allotments (NAA) and are due to attend a meeting with them to discuss the RLAA conduct. The Chairman informed the meeting that Red Lodge Parish Council have had no involvement with any decisions made by the RLAA. The residents were encouraged to attend the meeting with NAA and to report back to the Council if needed. Noted			

8.		considered the application received for co-option for 1 vacant seat. resolved to co-opt David Baynes.	Clerk
9.	Confirmat	ion of Minutes of the meetings held on 26 March 2024.	Clerk
		tes for the above meetings were agreed as accurate records and duly the Chairman.	
10.	A reminde Council's \	eany changes to Members Interests. er for Councillors to review their Register of Interests on West Suffolk Website. der informed the meeting that she had resigned as a Millennium Centre	Members
11.	To Appoin	t or Review the following: Responsible Finance Officer confirmed as the Clerk appointed as RFO, s.151 LGA 1972 Noted	Clerk
	(ii)	Internal Auditor confirmed as Suffolk Association of Local Councils Noted	
	(iii)	External Auditor confirmed as PKF Littlejohn Noted	
	(iv)	Data Protection Officer confirmed as Jayne Cole Noted	
	(v)	Current staff employed by the Parish Council reviewed as: Proper Officer and Responsible Finance Officer; Administrator; 1 Temporary Administrator; Supervisor; 1x Assistant Groundsmen; 1x Cleaner. Noted	
	(vi)	Members reviewed and approved the current Direct Debits. Noted	
	(vii)	Members reviewed and adopted Standing Orders (based on 2018 revised-April 2020). Resolved	
	(viii)	Members reviewed and adopted Financial Regulations (2024). Resolved	

(ix) Members reviewed and approved the Asset Register 280524 at a value of £279,018.

Resolved

- (x) Members reviewed and approved the Risk assessment. **Resolved**
- (xi) Members reviewed and approved GDPR policies: CCTV Policy; Contact Privacy Statement; Data Protection Policy; GDPR Compliance; GDPR Risk Assessment; Information Protection Policy; Information Security Incident Policy; Removable Media Policy; Social Media and Electronic Communication Policy.

Resolved

- (xii) Members reviewed and approved the Dignity at Work Policy **Resolved**
- (xiii) Members reviewed the Parish Council's Insurance cover, Clear Council's. **Resolved**
- (xiv) Review of Working Parties and Terms of references. All working parties will exist for 1 year, reporting to the full council for the approval of decisions and purchases.

Working Party	Task	Members
Pavilion Extension	Extension of the kitchen and future proofing the pavilion	None. Members agreed to disband the Workig Party.
Events	Plan future events for raising funds for the pavilion.	Cllrs. Berry; Dwan; Hobbs; Sewell and Thompson.
Pitch Maintenance	Economise pitch maintenance costs.	None Members agreed to disband the Working Party.
Lightwave	The future of and the transfer of Lightwave to a new building or Northern Land.	Cllrs. Drummond; Dwan; Hobbs and Thompson.
Millennium Centre	Resolve any issues and clarify agreements.	Cllrs. Dwan; Sewell and Thompson.
Finance	Setting the budget and monitoring expenditure.	Cllrs. Berry; Sewell and Thompson.

Date: 25.06.2024

Resolved

(xv)	Members reviewed and agreed the time and place of the meetings of the Council for 2024/25: 07/05/2024 (APM); 28/05/2024 (AM); 25/06/2024; 30/07/2024; 24/09/2024; 26/11/2024, 28/01/2025 and 25/03/2025. Resolved	
(xvi)	Members reviewed and adopted the Reserves Policy 2024/25 for Red Lodge Parish Council. Resolved	
(xvii)	Members reviewed and adopted the Investment and Strategy Policy 2024/25. Resolved	
(xviii)	Members reviewed and approved the Small Grants application and Awarding Policy. Resolved	
(xix)	Members reviewed and adopted the Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020 as produced by the Local Government Association (LGA) Resolved	
(xx)	Members reviewed and confirmed that each BACS payment is authorised by two bank signatories, evidence retained and any such payments reported to the council as made, in accordance to Financial Regulation 6. Resolved	
(xxi)	Members reviewed and confirmed the bank signatories as Cllrs. Dwan; Houlder; Tofan and the Clerk (not a cheque signatory). Resolved	
(xxii)	Members assigned Cllr. Thompson for Internal Controls, Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, Reg.6. Resolved	
(xxiii)	Members noted the current pension enrolments: Local Government Pension Scheme x1 employee; Nest Pension Scheme x1 employee. Noted	
(xxiv)	Members reviewed and approved the safeguarding policy. Resolved	
(xxv)	Members reviewed and approved the Bank Accounts held at Lloyds Bank and the amounts as per agenda item 13.4. Resolved	
(xxvi)	Members reviewed and approved the Website Accessibility. Resolved	
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12. **Reports and Invited Speakers** 12.1 **County Councillor** C.Cllr. Drummond had circulated a newsletter to all members. 12.2 **District Councillors** D.Cllr.Dawn Dicker informed the meeting that The Thriving Communities Fund is now available with grants available from £2K-8K for small local communities and £8K-£20K for the larger towns across the whole of West Suffolk. The Citizens Advice Bureau have been allocated a fixed grant of £20K for 3 years. The Decarbonisation fund is available; this can be used to upgrade floodlights. There is also funding towards; solar panels, the provision of air source heat pumps and insulation for community buildings. The locality budget is available for any grant applications. The Parliamentary General Elections will take place on 4th July 2024. **Noted** 12.3 **Police Newsletter** None Noted 12.4 Representative of Millennium Centre None Noted 12.5 Representative of Red Lodge Youth FC (RLYFC) RLYFC raised concerns about the condition of the sports pitches and the amount of Clerk dog mess that they are having to clear prior to the use of the pitch. RLYFC requested cordoning of the pitch to preserve the condition of the pitch. Members agreed to provide metal stakes and rope for RLYFC to cordon off the pitch, however, the monitoring of the cordoning off will be the responsibility of RLYFC.

RLYFC representatives were satisfied with this solution.

RLYFC were reminded that the pitch is not exclusively for their use.

Resolved

12.6 Update on Sunnica

The Secretary of State has reset the statutory deadline for this application to 20 June 2024.

Noted

12.7 Update on Allotments

Crest Nicholson were contacted again in March 2024 requesting an update on the transfer of the allotment land to the Parish Council. As of yet no response has been received.

Noted

12.8 Update on Pavilion Extension.

Members agreed to disband this project.

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Resolved 12.9 Update on the waiting restrictions for Hundred Acre Way. A public consultation has been conducted, Suffolk Highways will consult with the SCC Passenger Transport and WSC Parking Services prior to providing an update. Noted 12.10 **Update on the Events Working Party.** Community D-Day celebrations ae being organised with Rev. Butcher on the 6th June **EWP** 2024. A service will be held at the war memorial, followed by refreshments at the Sports Pavilion. St. Christopher's school may write poems. Posters for the event will be published soon on Facebook. The Big Top event on 22nd June 2024, will include circus skills; magic show; fairground rides; food trucks; face-painting and more. Several items have been purchased, including; egg and spoon, rope; sacks and wrist bands. EWP will provide a summary of the costs. Bingo had no attendance. A lot of Bingo prizes have been purchased, some with expiration dates, EWP will consider whether or not to continue Bingo in the summer. Resolved 12.11 Update on the Pitch Maintenance Working Party. Members agreed to disband this working party. Resolved 12.12 **Update on the Lightwave Working Party.** Members agreed to carry out a feasibility study on Lightwave's hire of the Sports Pavilion facilities. Members of the working party will then hold a meeting with Lightwave to discuss the feasibility and the potential transfer to the Northern Land. Resolved 12.13 Update on the Millennium Centre Working Party. **MCWP** The Millennium Centre Working Party will be meeting on Thursday evening. Noted 12.14 **Update on the Thermal Imaging Survey.** The thermal imaging surveys went well and were well received by residents. Cold spots were identified in some cases. Cllr. Thompson expressed that he would like to participate in this project again. Noted 12.15 **Update on Parish Council Surgeries.** The final surgery will be held on the 5th June 2024, these have not been well attended Members by the public. Members discussed the possibility of going out into the community wearing Hi-Vis so that they are more visible to the public. Noted **Financial and Clerk Reports**

Date: 25.06.2024

13.1 Members noted the bank reconciliation statements for March 2024 and April 2024 hoted 13.2 Members approved all payments in March 2024 and April 2024. Resolved 13.3 Members approved the Receipts and Payments in March 2024 and April 2024 for the following: (i) Parish Bank Account (ii) Deposit Bank Account (iii) Petty Cash Coundl (iv) Petty Cash Pavilion (v) Credit Card Resolved 13.4 Members noted the Bank Balances as of 22/05/24 for the following accounts: • Parish Bank Account £464,929.68 • Deposit Account £108,451.28 Noted 13.5 Members noted the Ear Marked Reserves as of 30/04/24. Noted 13.6 Members noted the receipt of the precept £225,650 on 25/04/24, from West Suffolk Council. Noted 13.7 Members noted the transfer of £12000 grant on 07/05/24 from the Parish Council precept to Ear Marked Reserves for Red Lodge Sports Pavilion. Noted 13.8 Members noted a VAT return for 01.02.24 to 30.04.24 for a claim of £3739.43 was submitted on 14/05/24 and received on 20/05/2024. Noted 13.9 Members reviewed and approved the Internal Audit Report for the year ending 31 March 2024, prepared by SALC. Resolved 13.10 Members reviewed and approved the Annual Internal Audit Report 2023/24, of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023/24 Part 3. Resolved 13.11 Members reviewed and approved Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2023/24, of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023/24 Part 3. Resolved 13.12 Members reviewed and approved Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2023/24, of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023/24 Part 3. Resolved			
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	13.12	the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023/24 Part 3.	/17

13.13	Members noted the Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance & Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2024 commences on Monday 3 June 2024 to Friday 12 July 2024. Noted	
13.14	Members reviewed and approved the year end cash and investment reconciliation and the Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended as at 31 March 2024. Resolved	
13.15	Members noted that the Pension Annual Return for 2023/2024, has been submitted for audit. Noted	
13.16	Members reviewed and approved the quarter 4 budget for 2023/24. Resolved	
13.17	Members reviewed and approved the bar stock report for 31 March 2024. Resolved	
13.18	Members discuss the completion of employee timesheets and agreed that these were no longer necessary as the employee salaries are annualised. Resolved	Clerk
13.19	Members noted the award for Employment Allowance 2024/25. Noted	
14.	Discuss and approve any purchase	
14.1	Members considered a donation request from the Red Lodge Millennium Centre. Members agreed that they were unable to grant this request, the latest accounts for the centre had not been received, in addition the grant policy does not support building works. The parish Councildid not want to incur any liability for any building works carried out by the Millennium Centre. Millennium Centre have been advised to register with ACAS and CAS and apply for grants and were reminded again that the Centre is responsible for a full repairing lease. Resolved	Clerk
14.2	Members considered a donation requests from Red Lodge Lightwave for the community. Members agreed to a donation of £3000. Resolved	Clerk
14.3	Members considered a donation request from Red Lodge Brownies/Rainbows. Members agreed to a donation of £100. Resolved	Clerk
14.4	Members ratified the recruitment of a Part-time Administrator, for 3 months, commencing 13 May 2024. Resolved	

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14.5	Members ratified a 1 year contract for the Assistant Groundsman, commencing 2^{nd} May 2024. Resolved				
14.6	_	he payment of the s ection, test and cer	• .	ninvoice, MDP, DB/2 install and 00 + VAT.	Clerk
14.7	Members agreed p	ayment of the invoi	ice for decking	grepairs, Dave Norman, £500	Clerk
14.8	Members agreed to Council, £7500 + VA Resolved		nvoice for CCT	V April 24-April 25, West Suffolk	Clerk
14.9	Memhers consider	ed the quotes for re	newal of card	terminal on 05/09/2024:	
14.3	Wichiber 3 consider	Standard Cards	Premium	£Contract/Length	Clerk
		%	Cards %		
	TakePayments	0.245-1.53	0.59	£10 + VAT/18 months	
	Lloyds Cardnet	0.54-0.96	-	£18.50 + VAT/18 months	
	Getlopay	0.79-1.79	1	£15 + VAT/12 months	
14.10	Members agreed to proceed with the quote with Takepayments. Resolved Members considered the quotes for the installation of 2x 32A 3 phase sockets for the Sports Pavilion Building (i) AB Electrical £1800 + VAT (ii) Edson Electrical Services £2080 + VAT				
	(iii) Whittree Ltd. £2800 + VAT. Members agreed not to proceed with this quote, as this service was no longer required. Resolved				
14.11	Members agreed to proceed with the payment of the invoice for Year End Closure 2024, Rialtas, £868 + VAT. Resolved				Clerk
14.12	Members agreed the payment of SALC membership subscription 2024/25, SALC, £1134.45. Resolved				Clerk
14.13	Members discussed the newsletter for Red Lodge, there was not enough content to justify the publication and the associated costs for the magazine. Cllr. Dwan agreed to look into delivery costs for the distribution of the newsletter. Deferred				SD

14.14	Members considered the quotes for the inspection of the Sports Pavilion decking by a structural engineer, for advice on repairs: (i) Morrish, £371.70 + VAT (ii) David Gelling – unable to quote (iii) BSC Subsidence Consultants – unable to quote. Members agreed to proceed with the available option (i) Morrish £371.70 + VAT.	Clerk
	Resolved	
14.15	Members considered the Councillors Training with SALC. Option 1 - Online 2 x sessions, held online via Zoom. start at 7pm, some start at 1.30pm. Cost is £32 + VAT per delegate per session. 9 councillor's x £64 = £576 +VAT	
	Option 2 - Whole Council training delivered on-site face to face 2 x sessions, held face-to-face.	
	Weekday/evening £300 +VAT per session plus the trainer's mileage plus postage of materials total for cllr basic (session 1 & 2) £600+VAT plus the trainer's mileage plus postage of materials.	
	Saturday £320 +VAT per session plus the trainer's mileage plus postage of materials total for cllr basic (session 1 & 2) £640 +VAT plus the trainer's mileage plus postage of materials.	
	Members agreed that the Clerk will deliver training for the Councillors. Resolved	Clerk
14.16	Members considered the quote for PPL/PRS Music licence: (i) PPL Background Music Tariff Miscellaneous £174.63 (ii) PRS Fitness & Dance £91.56 (iii) PRS Local Authorities £296.17	Clerk
	Members agreed to proceed with options (i), (ii) and (iii) for a total of £562.36 + VAT Resolved	
14.17	Members agreed the payment of the invoice for Combined Litter and Dog Waste, West Suffolk Council, £454.80 + VAT.	Clerk
	Resolved	Clerk
14.18	Members agreed the payment of invoice for Internal Audit Service 2024, SALC, £476 + VAT. Resolved	Clerk
14.19	Members agreed the renewal of IT services with Community Action Suffolk:	

	Product	Unit Price	Amount	Total (£)	Clerk
	IT Support - Gold Plus Package - 1 Year	£52.00	12	£624.00	
	Cloud Backup - 1 year	£120.00	1	£120.00	
	15 x Hosted Exchange Mailboxes	£71.88	15	£1078.20	
	Total			£1,822.20	
	Resolved				
15.	Planning Applications To Consider any Planning Applications:				
15.1	DC/24/0449/HH: Proposal: Householder Planning application – first floor Juliet balcony to side elevation of ga Location: 14 Poppy Close, Red Lodge Suffolk I Members agreed to ratify 'No Comment'. Resolved	arage	ht of exist	ting garage b.	
15.2	DC/24/0445/HH: Proposal: Householder Planning application - Location: 31 Bilberry Close, Red Lodge Suffolk Members agreed to ratify 'No Comment'. Resolved		garage to a	annexe.	
15.3	DC/24/0449/HH: Proposal: Householder Planning application – Location: 14 Poppy Close, Red Lodge Suffolk I Members agreed a 'No Comment'. Resolved	_	ht of exist	ting garage	Clerk
16.	Correspondence Received				
16.1	Members reviewed the Annual Play reports for West Suffolk Council. Details were provided oworks. Noted	•	-		
16.2	Members considered the correspondence fro the operation of the Red Lodge Allotment Ass Members agreed that this issue had been reso Resolved	ociation.			
16.3	Members considered the complaint from the maintenance of the football pitch. Members agreed that this issue had been resormed the complaint from the maintenance of the football pitch.	_			Clerk

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16.4	Members considered the request for football goal nets on the Sports Pavilion field. Members agreed that this request was not financially or practically viable. Resolved	Clerk
16.5	Members noted the Thriving Communities funding from West Suffolk Council. Noted	
16.6	Members noted the update from National Highways, regarding the A11 between Red Lodge and Five-ways roundabout safety improvement. Noted	
16.7	Members noted the New Homes available in Kennett. Members to provide any feedback for the Chair, Kennett Parish Council. Members noted that the affordable new homes were available to an extended part of Bury St. Edmunds. Concerns were raised of the potential increase in vehicular traffic through Red Lodge. Noted	Clerk
17.	To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday 25 June 2024 at 19:00, St. Christopher's Church, 2 Boundary Road, Red Lodge. IP28 8JQ. The next meeting was confirmed as above. Noted	Clerk
18.	Members resolved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the meeting, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.	
18.1	None advised Resolved	

Date: 25.06.2024

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:00