

REDBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council meeting held on Thursday, 17th February 2022 at 7.30pm, held in the Conference Room, Parish Centre

PRESENT: Cllrs D Mitchell (Chair), D Bigham, D Smith, T Finnigan, V Mead, I Caldwell and P Schofield

IN ATTENDANCE: C Kenny (Clerk)

Cllr D Mitchell opened the meeting by expressing the Council's sadness at the death of Cllr Maria Maynard. Cllr Maynard had served on the Parish Council for nearly 27 years, having being elected on to the Council in May 1995. Councillors recognised the work and commitment she gave to the Redbourn, the Council and her involvement in many of the community activities and organisations.

A minutes silence was held.

1 APOLOGIES: Cllrs S Vegro, S Kidd, C O'Donovan, R Gray
Apologies were noted and accepted by members.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS
Nothing new

3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
None

4 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING
To receive the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 20th January 2022

It proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

***The minutes of the Full Council meeting
held on 20th January 2022 were approved as a true record***

5 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

3 - The Facilities Officer has met with a member of Redbourn Community Group to discuss how to move the litter picking initiative forward. Areas that require attention were identified. Cllr Schofield confirmed that Redbourn In Bloom are happy to be involved.

ACTION: Clerk to give Community Group Cllr Schofield's contact details.

11.3 - The Clerk confirmed that she had responded to the Community Governance Review.

11.4 - There will be a meeting on 10th March to talk about the Jubilee Celebrations. The Group will be a mix of residents, officers and Cllrs. The Clerk will feedback to Full Council.

13 - There were no updates on the Mound at Kane Haulage. Having contacted HCC, the Highways Officer has committed to investigating what action can be taken with the cleaning of the drain, even though it is outside of the cleaning schedule.

6 CHAIR'S ANNOUCEMENTS

Nothing to report

7 MATTERS TO REPORT

None

8 COUNTY REPORT

A5183 will be closed from 1st – 20th March in order to resurface and reconstruct the existing carriageway, adjust ironwork covers and frames, reinstall and refresh road markings /road studs, clean gullies, install a new anti-skid panel, resurface the footways, replace damaged signs, clean existing signs, and repair the existing drainage system. There will be a full road closure whilst the work is being completed and as such, the Batchwood Drive road closure will be suspended during this time. The A5183 will be closed again on 11th and 12th April to complete the anti-skid panel.

Cllr Brewster has received a request from the Repair Shed organisation seeking some money from her locality budget. Cllr Brewster wanted to check that RPC were happy for her to grant this as technically they fall under Dacorum, although all their work and involvement is in Redbourn. Cllrs were in agreement for the locality budget to be used.

9 DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Mead reported:

Covid update for Hertfordshire – at a Herts Covid webinar for Councillors held on 10th February, Prof Jim McManus, Herts Public Health Director, gave an update. The key issues going forward will be planning for business as usual, whilst also planning for a surge. Hospital visits will be 4 weeks away but nationally estimated hospital covid infections from visitors, is still running at around 9%. Hospitalisations and deaths have risen with 12,000 hospital admissions in Hertfordshire but the hospitalisations are decreasing. Over the last few weeks 49 Hertfordshire residents died. A best estimate of patients with Covid infected whilst in hospital is around 22% but varied by hospital as Omicron is very infection. Whether a fourth booster will be needed to maintain immunity levels, on present thinking, will depend on the next variant. If no new variant, fourth boosters will likely be for over 55s, people with both underlying medical and immune suppression conditions. If a new variant does not positively react to vaccines and for which there is a low immunity within the population, there would most likely be a universal booster for everyone.

Update on land at Luton Lane/A5183 – in respect of the present interim injunction on the Land at Luton Lane/A5183, the hearing due to be held on 16th February has been postponed. This is the third time the hearing has been postponed with the original one set for 30th July 2021, then October 2021. The Counsel for the District Council being unavailable was the reason for previous postponements. I am contacting the District Council to find out the reason for the latest postpone and how long it is likely to be for the Court to set a new hearing date.

St Albans District Tree planting launched – the District Council has launched it's planting of 3,000 new tree target, with its first tree funded by the Queens' Green Canopy initiative set up to commemorate the Queen's 2022 Platinum Jubilee. This launch forms part of the District Council's aim to make the district carbon neutral by 2030. All the planting will take place this year on Council owned land. Hopefully Redbourn will benefit from this.

St Albans Charter Market update – at the Council’s Regeneration and Business Committee on 2nd February 2022 it was unanimously approved that the core of St Albans Charter Market is to become a mix of traditional stalls and gazebos, all in the City’s traditional blue and yellow colours. The District Council, who manage the market, will provide the equipment as well as hiring a contractor to set up and dismantle the structures. The Council will also look at the implications of outsourcing the operation of the market to a charity or private operator. There will also be further consultation with all interested parties, including the traders.

Former Redbourn Mayor and District Councillor – at St Albans full district council, next 23rd February former Redbourn Mayor and District Councillor, Councillor Maxine Crawley will be made an Honorary Alderman in recognition of her service to the Council. This is the custom for a past Mayor and former District Councillor having served a certain number of years. Her appointment is being proposed by Cllr Roma Mills and seconded by Cllr David Mitchell.

Cllr Mitchell reported that the SADC lottery had now been launched and encouraged organisations to apply to be part of the lottery as it is a good way of raising money.

The precept for RPC was confirmed as £106. The council tax, for band D, is therefore made up as follows:

• RPC	£ 106
• SADC	£ 180
• HCC	£1,833
• Police & Crime	£ 223
TOTAL	£2,009 per annum

10 COMMITTEES

10.1 Commons and Green Spaces

Nothing to receive. Next meeting is scheduled for 3rd March 2022

10.2 Planning

The minutes were presented to Councillors

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 1st February 2022 be approved.

10.3 Management and Communications

To discuss items on the Management & Communications agenda due to be held on 11th February 2022

Format of the Annual Meeting of the Parish – this is schedule for 9th May 2022. The format of the meeting was discussed and it was agreed that the Community Champion should not be

awarded to an individual but that recognition should be given to all those that pulled together during Covid lockdowns.

ACTION: Add to M&C agenda for further discussion of logistics

Approve purchase of new software – currently using Publisher to produce the newsletter however, this has limitations and having explored more sophisticated and powerful design software, it was felt that using the Indesign package would be more the most cost effective solution. This is Adobe's desktop publishing software. This is the industry standard programme used for creating magazines, posters, social media posts, etc

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

RPC purchase Indesign software for the purposes of using it to publish Redbourn News and general use in producing notices, etc at a cost of £238.42 per annum.

10.4 Finance and Policy

Nothing to receive. Next meeting is scheduled for 24th March 2022

11 BUSINESS ITEMS

11.1 Spatial development/local plan

To receive an update on development and local plan

Cllr Mitchell updated the meeting on developments in the local plan process. SADC Planning Department is currently short staffed and an extra £180K has been agreed for staffing costs.

Surrounding local authorities have all amended their timelines as have SADC to submit their Local Plans so it appears all our struggling to meet the Government deadline.

With the submission of a planning application for development of land behind Mansdale Road and with the likelihood that other developers will do the same, it was felt that we needed to have a vehicle to inform residents of developments in Redbourn Ward.

ACTION: To add a link from RPC website to RAGE page which holds the most up to date information.

The Government is in the process of changing the formula to calculate how many houses per annum that local authorities have to deliver. Currently the figure is around 900 houses per year but this might be reduced. This being the case, there may not be the need to use as much green belt meaning that brown fields sites could accommodate much of the housing need.

11.2 Neighbourhood Plan

To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Finnigan reported that the consultation had finished and the planning consultant has

indicated that it will take approximately 6 months before we are in a position to go to referendum. The working party is pushing for the referendum to be ready as soon as possible bearing in mind the interest developers are showing in this area.

11.3 Objective Setting meeting

To receive a verbal update on the objective setting meeting held on 6th February 2022

Cllr Smith explained the format of the objective meeting. From this meeting, lots of ideas and key words were captured. With the help of the Clerk and the Community Officer, Cllr Smith has collated all of the information and using this, has created a Vision Statement which she presented to Cllrs.

It was proposed, seconded and resolved that:

RPC adopt the following vision statement:

As a progressive Parish Council our aim is to serve our residents; to boost quality of life, to be accessible and approachable, support the collaboration of our community groups, protect our environment, and promote our local business'

Cllr Mitchell thanked Cllr Smith for her work on this project.

11.4 Future LuToN 2022 consultation

To Consider RPC response to the Statutory Consultation for Future LuToN proposals for expanding Luton Airport passenger numbers

Luton Rising is the new trading name for London Luton Airport Ltd who own London Luton Airport. They wish to expand the airport and so are running a consultation giving people and organisations the opportunity to have input on the proposals. It is proposed to increase the capacity of the airport to 32 million passengers per annum, by building a second terminal and making best use of the existing runway.

Cllrs discussed the affect this would have on Redbourn, mainly congestion, pollution, flight paths and holding paths and what happens when things go wrong?

ACTION: Cllr Mitchell will complete the consultation on behalf of RPC. If Cllrs have anything else to add, please let Cllr Mitchell know.

ACTION: Advertise the Harpenden and St Albans venue dates and consultation details on social media.

11.5 S106 Leisure contributions

To consider request from SADC for assignment of S106 Leisure contributions relating to land at Gaddesden Lane

SADC have asked for ideas from RPC in relation to S106 money that would be generated by the potential development at Gaddesden Lane. As the developer has included open space and play areas, the only amount that can be asked for is for a Leisure and Cultural Centre.

ACTION: Clerk to forward following ideas to SADC:

- Museum and education centre/community hall
- Money to help develop the current Leisure Centre
- Building specifically for Scouts/Guide Groups

11.6 20's Plenty for Us campaign

To consider if RPC should support the '20's plenty for us' campaign

RPC have been contacted by an organisation '20's Plenty for Herts inviting attendance to a zoom presentation to explain how Parish Councils and Town Councils in Hertfordshire can vote in favour of 20mph speed limits in their communities. 20s Plenty for Us is asking Parish and Town Councils in Hertfordshire to pass a motion to support the campaign for 20mph where people live, work and play.

ACTION: Cllr Schofield to attend and report back to next Full Council

12 FINANCE

12.1 Finance Report

To receive the latest Income and Expenditure Report

The Clerk presented the latest income and expenditure report.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

The Income and Expenditure report dated 11th February 2022 reflecting accounts to 31st January 2022 be received

12.2 Invoices for payment

To receive the latest report on payments made

The Clerk presented Cllrs with the list of payments (Current account – Cash Book 1) for January 2022.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

The List of Payments (Current account – Cash Book 1) reports dated 11th February 2022 showing payments for January 2022 be received

12.3 Receipts

To receive the latest report on payments received

The Clerk presented Cllrs with the list of receipts (Current account – Cash Book 1) for January 2022.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

The List of Receipts (Current account – Cash Book 1) reports dated 11th January 2022 showing receipts for January 2022 be received

13. MATTERS TO REPORT

Cllr Mitchell said to be aware of the strong winds predicted for this weekend. The Clerk reported that she had asked the Grounds Maintenance Contractor to do a visual check on trees to ensure there is no obvious weaknesses.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 17th March 2022, 7.30pm, Conference Room, Parish Centre

The meeting closed at 9.36pm

Chair *Dated*