

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
RISLEY WITH HOPWELL PARISH COUNCIL**
held at the Village Hall on Monday, 15 July 2024

Present: Parish Cllrs P Ancliff, J Croft, J Hitchcock, S Jarratt, J Lowrie, P McKeown,
R Monk and M O'Neill

County Councillor W Major
S Dunkley, Clerk

Part 1 – Non confidential information

24-034 Apologies

No apologies were received.

24-035 Declaration of Interest

None.

24-036 Variation of order of business

None required.

24-037 Dispensations

None.

24-038 Public session

1) Members of the Public

No members of the public were in attendance.

2) Report from Councillors

- Risley Educational Foundation – changes are being made to its original charter to allow a review of the portfolio and allow better control of its land.
- A verbal update on the future of the Risley Hall Hotel was given and the parish council was asked to be aware of a potential planning application. The spa building is now in a very poor state of repair and its roof has now collapsed.

3) Police report

The crime reports from PCSO Coggins and from the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator had been circulated to members. It was noted that PCSO Coggins will be moving out of the area but the Police Constable will still be responsible for our rural area and will be forwarding reports as usual.

24-039 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17 June 2024

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 17 June 2024 were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Croft, seconded by Cllr Ancliff, unanimously agreed and signed by the Chairman.

24-040 Exempt items

None.

24-041 Chairman's announcements/report

- The portrait of King Charles III is now displayed in the Village Hall.
- A screening opinion report for a proposal for a new development comprising of a solar farm and associated infrastructure at land in the two parishes of Dale Abbey and Ockbrook and Borrowash has been submitted to the planning authority
- Clarification has been sought for the extended ongoing work being carried out at the Stables at The Nook
- The Derbyshire Wildlife Trust had removed the fence and gate at The City which is allowing vehicles to access the footpath causing considerable damage. The Clerk was asked to request that these are reinstated as they are responsible. The Clerk also to get in touch with the Derby Diocese which owns the land and to contact the Environment Health Department regarding a possible public nuisance.
- The Chair and Vice-Chair had carried out the staff appraisal and it was proposed by Cllr Ancliff, seconded by Cllr Croft that the Clerk's hours should be increased from 28 to 32 for those months when it was necessary. This was approved.
- The Clerk was asked to obtain quotes for new Christmas lights for the trees running along the footpath at Rush Meadow.

24-042 Clerk's report

- Four oak half planters have been sourced and will be delivered shortly.
- Certain policies will need to be reviewed over the next few months.
- The defibrillator has been taken out of action for battery replacement. It is hoped to be back in action by Wednesday.
- Concern has been expressed over the damage to the footpath at Lodge Farm. This to be reported to the County Council.

24-043 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

- The July newsletter had been circulated prior to the meeting. This was noted.

24-044 Matters for Determination

- a) The information received on the Great Grid Upgrade was circulated to all members with feedback requested by 17 September. Cllr Major informed the meeting that objections to the proposals had been raised with preference being expressed for underground cabling rather than pylons. There are several public consultations, the nearest being at the Ashbrook Community Centre in Borrowash on 24 July between the hours of 2pm and 7pm.
- b) The Erewash Walking Month will be held in May 2025 and the Borough Council was asking for volunteers to lead a parish walk. Cllr Ancliff volunteered the Conservation Group to lead such a walk as previously carried out.
- c) It was AGREED to take part in the Derbyshire Heartwoods Community Project and for an application to be made for the free trees from the Wild Harvest pack.
- d) A verbal update was given on the Biodiversity working party. Cllr Croft had reviewed the previously approved policy and action plan with Tara Brasil. The revised policy is to

be forwarded to all councillors. It was agreed that the action plan should be the work of the 'biodiversity community group supported by Risley with Hopwell Parish Council' and that the group should consist of residents with support of two parish councillors. Copies of the draft minutes, action plan and policy to be distributed to all residents who attended the meeting. The next meeting to be called for some time in September when the Village Hall was available.

- e) Repair to verge outside of hotel – the Chair confirmed that he had left a message with Fox to discuss the quote for the grassing of the verge but had not heard back. It was therefore agreed to apply top soil and plant clover seeds. Clerk to source three tonnes of top soil for the damaged verges and planters and to ask handyman for his availability.
- f) Following the staff appraisal when the Clerk confirmed that it was difficult to access the noticeboard at the Church, it was AGREED to resite this on the piece of land to the right hand side of Rush Meadow gates.

24-045 Finance

(a) Accounts for payment

It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

Payee		Total cost	VAT
Fox Grounds Maintenance Ltd	Mowing contract (June, invoice 11125)	£450.50	£75.08
Salary and expenses	June 2024	£384.98	
HMRC	PAYE – June 2024	£79.40	
Risley Memorial Hall	Room Hire (July)	£25.00	
Cuttlefish Multimedia Ltd	Website and email	£372.00	£62.00

(b) Receipts

Bank Interest:

£0.13 Liquidity Manager Account

£26.37 Reserve Account

(c) Financial Regulations

Following review by the parish council, this document has been APPROVED.

24-046 Playground inspections

- Monthly report noted with only the usual litter and dog mess.

24-047 Planning

87 Derby Road, Risley (Construct new front boundary wall and entrance gates). No objection from the parish council but would like confirmation that the height of the wall would not impede visibility of exiting vehicles and passing pedestrians.

24/048 Matters for information

- The Derbyshire County Council (Derby Road, Risley) (No Stopping School Entrance Marking) Traffic Regulation Order 2024 (Z3340) from 1 July – noted.

- Screening Opinion Report – proposal for a new development comprising of a solar farm and associated infrastructure at land in the two parishes of Dale Abbey and also Ockbrook/Borrowash – noted.
- Annual Accounts 2023/24 completed and forwarded to the external auditor – noted.

24-049 Future agenda items

- Grants (play area and other projects) - ongoing
- Christmas Lights – 7 December 2024
- Bus services
- Review of policies
- Flooding update
- Biodiversity action plan – ongoing. Proposed meeting in September
- NGET Consultation - ongoing

Dates of future meetings: 16 September, 21 October, 18 November, 16 December, 20 January 2025, 17 February, 17 March, 21 April and 19 May (AGM and Annual Parish Meeting).

Part 2 – Confidential items

None

Signed Chairman 16 September 2024