**Minutes of RamsgreaveParish Council Meeting Held 22nd February 2022**

**at 7.00pm at Wilpshire Church.**

**Present** -.Kathryn Berzins, Lindsay Wright, Peter Ainsworth, Cllr Alan Schofield, PCSO Pemberton.

**In attendance** –R Greenwood, Clerk

**ITEM 1 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Pat Young, Kathryn Webster, Cllr Bibby, Cllr Hirst.

**ITEM 2 Declarations of interest.**

2.1 To complete the updated declaration of interest forms.

2.2 Kathryn Berzins declared an interest in Peak Northern Footpaths

**ITEM 3 Minutes of the last meeting Annual Parish Council Meeting**

3.1 The minutes of the meeting held 15th Novemberber 2021 were signed as a true record.

**ITEM 4 Accounts**

**4.1** The cashflow and bank reconciliation were accepted, the bank statement signed.

4.2 Invoices presented for payment.

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| Chq 451 | Sue Jefferies, consultant for allotment, lottery funded | £175.00 |
| Chq 452 | Ark Plastics Ltd – War Memorial | £402.00 |
| Chq 453 | Adam Pearson, allotment fence, lottery funded | £470.00 |
| Chq 454 | Adam Pearson, Allotment fencing, lottery funded | £470.00 |
| Chq 455 | Reissue of Audit PKF Littlejohn (chq 443) | £48.00 |
| Chq 456 | MAP Garden Furnishings, shed for allotment, lottery funded | £825.00 |
| Chq 457 | Website, via Transparency Funding | £120.00 |
| Chq 458  | void |  |
| Chq 459 | HMRC | £70.00 |
| Chq 460 | R Greenwood Clerk Salary Nov to Feb | £280.00 |
|  |  |  |

4.3 To accept the Queens Platinum Funding, via RVBC, of £500

4.4 To accept Network Rail Grant, for the allotment, of £250

**ITEM 5 Governance,**

5.1 There are 9 policies for review before the AGM in May 2022, these are to be divided between the 5 members of the parish council who will review the policies and feedback at the AGM. PY will take the Finance and Procurement Policy, PA the Complaints and Code of Conduct, Privacy and Communications will be taken by LW. KW will take Grants and Record Retention and KB the Standing Orders.

**ITEM 6 Planning**

3/2021/0963 Tanner House Farm,

3/2022/0033 Tanner House Farm,

6.2 It was resolved that the Chair will sign off all replies to the planning applications. Proposed KB and Seconded LW.

**ITEM 7 Highways, traffic issues, and Public Rights of Ways**

7.1 PCSO Pemberton advised that during a Community Speed Watch, two cars were sent warning letters for speeding during a 40 minute period of monitoring.

7.2 There are 5 outstanding repairs, reported to LCC but not actioned. Cllr Schofield will chase these. There are 2 outstanding repairs reported to RVBC but not actioned.

7.3 The parish council was successful in receiving a grant for £3,500 for the repair of footpath 4, to make this a more accessible walk and to replace the stile. The work shall start on 14/03/2022 and the footpath will be closed for two weeks for the works.

7.4 Speed reduction campaign for Higher Ramsgreave Road, case NE55970, continues. Cllr Shaun Turner said on 16th November in relation to the speed limit that he could ‘sort it’, it was clarified with him that he meant reduce it to which he agreed. After not responding to follow up emails he finally responded when Nigel Evans MP became involved in the issue. Cllr Turner now denies that he said he would“sort it”, despite this being said to KB and witnessed by Maggy Howells (Salesbury PC). Cllr Turner claims his words were misinterpreted and what he actually meant was “I am guided by the expertise of our highways officers on matters such as speed limits.  I can not simply tell them to go against their own advice and nor would I do so.” The parish council agree this incident has led to people’s hopes being raised and parish councillors’ time wasted. Cllr Schofield continues to support the need for speed reduction. Nigel Evans has passed the matter to Highways and we wait to see if this will lead to any change in response. KB is going to again try to get an answer from Highways as to why local discretion has led to Wilpshire Road to Rishton being 40mph but that Ramsgreave Road (with far more residents and pedestrians) cannot. This query has been made several times but never been answered.

KB will be meeting with representatives from Mellor and Balderstone PCs about the traffic issue more widely and will update them as to progress in Ramsgreave, or lack thereof.

7.5 Local walks

LW is compiling information to ultimately produce some local walks with photos and maps. Publication is planned for later in the year.

**ITEM 8 Public engagement, newsletter and website.**

8.1 The newsletter has been delivered to all homes in Ramsgreave, it was very well received and increased residents’ awareness of the parish council. Positive feedback was received regarding this and the increased information on the notice board.

**ITEM 9 Commemorations, Jubilee bench and War Memorial.**

9.1 The bench has been ordered for the Platinum Jubilee, the text for the plaque is needed. KB will email to ask for suggestions when the manufacturer gets in touch.

9.2 The War Memorial planter has been delivered, it will be put in situ in spring, when the gardening group will plant it. There is an A4 brass plaque that needs a form of words on. LW will investigate this as she knows an expert in the matter. KW will look at companies to get the brass plaque engraved.

**ITEM 10 Neighbourhood Watch**

10.1 The parish council will support any streets in the parish that wish to set up a neighbourhood watch area. The parish council cannot set up these but will publish guidelines with links to resources to support this process. .PY to prepare these for next meeting.

**ITEM 11 Volunteers, litter picking, gardening group**

11.1 Due to the weather there were no reports from the volunteer groups. Litter picking continues every month except on Ramsgreave Road due to the danger from 60mph traffic.

**ITEM 12 Allotment.**

12.1 The allotment is moving on at a good pace, this quarters goals have been achieved with the shed ordered, the path widened in order to be made more accessible, the areas cleared for the lawn and polytunnel. The parish council would like to thank the volunteers who have worked so hard, in some very difficult weather conditions, to make this possible.

12.2 There is a flooding issue on the allotment, this has not caused any damage.. Consultation has taken place with a local drainage company who have advised the action needed and will donate the required piping. This work can only be carried out when it is drier.

12.3 Cllr Schofield announced that LCC were offering a new grant called Local Nature and Biodiversity Scheme, which the allotment might benefit from.

**ITEM 13 Climate Emergency Activities**

13.1 This item has been deferred to the next meeting, with each of the parish councillors being asked to bring 3 priorities forward for the parish council to action.

**ITEM 14 Feedback from other meetings.**

14.1 There was no feedback from meetings.

14.2 KB will attend the LCC Highways meeting to be held on 19th March 2022

**ITEM 15 Date of the next meeting**

* May 17th 2022 at 7.00pm for AGM, 6.30pm for the allotment working group.
* September 6th 2022 at 7.30pm
* November 15th 2022 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 21.06hrs