

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RODE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT RODE & DISTRICT MEMORIAL HALL ON  
TUESDAY 3 JANUARY 2019 AT 7.30pm**

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**UNCONFIRMED**

**Present:**

Cllr T Morrow - Chair (TM)	Cllr P Travis (PT)	Cllr A Cllr A Edney (AE)
Cllr P Restorick (PR)	Cllr P Banwell (PB)	

**In attendance:** Joy Book - Clerk 2 members of the public

**1. Parishioners' Participation:**

- i. Resident felt that some issues (30mph sign on Rode bridge and vehicles turning into Churchfields) were being discussed month after month when the issues were really the fault of drivers not taking sufficient notice of the signage.
  - ii. **No Through Road Sign – Farthing Row:** The sign was noted as being rather large for its location.
  - iii. **Church Farm development:** Large wooden posts have been installed around the edge of the site in the past few days. As the posts are quite substantial, there were concerns that a fence would be replacing the stone wall that Autograph Homes have stated they would be re-instating. The PC will monitor although it is likely that the fence is temporary to secure the site whilst the building works take place.
  - iv. **Gullies – Rode Hill:** All the gullies down Rode Hill need to be cleared of debris. The gutters on Rode Bridge are full of leaves and are forcing people to walk in the road. Clerk to contact Highways.
  - v. **Pedestrian crossing – Rode Hill:** SCC would only install such a crossing under a Small Improvement Scheme (SIS). New SIS applications are currently not being considered.
  - vi. **Christchurch House, Rode Hill – large tree:** The matter is ongoing.
- 2. Apologies for absence:** Cllr E Butler (email received from EB with her comments on various agenda items which were read out by TM), Cllr Linda Oliver – County and District Councillor (LO)
- 3. Councillor's Declarations of Interests in Items on Agenda:** None
- 4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2018:** The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair as a true record.
- 5. Co-option of Councillor:** One application had been received. Andrew Hooker explained that he had been a parish councillor previously and wished to support the PC to ensure numbers were maintained. All were in favour of Andrew joining the PC and TM welcomed him. Declaration of Acceptance Forms and Register of Members' Interests forms will be completed.
- 6. County and District Councillors reports:** (Email report submitted)
- i. **STOP sign - Bradford Road:** The visibility splays at both approaches (A361 and Rode Hill) are to be improved by taking some land from the plot on the east of Bradford Road. SCC advise that it would therefore be prudent to wait until this work is completed before consideration is given to a STOP sign. In light of the accident record at the junction, SCC will look at what other improvements can be made on this junction.
  - ii. **Rode Speed-readings – 20mph zone:** The readings were taken in late November over a couple of weeks. The mean speed readings were virtually all in the region of 20mph and under on all of the roads where the radars were deployed (Lower Street, High Street, Church Lane and Marsh Road). There is currently no strong case for SCC to support the funding of 20mph zones within Rode. However, should

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the Parish Council wish for the zones to be installed, the cost would be at least £5,000. PC would like to revisit the matter in the summer when there is likely to be more traffic on the roads. PC would also like to receive TAG's comments on the results.

- iii. **Bradford Road - 'missing' TRO:** It has recently been discovered that the TRO on this road is 'missing' which means that the Police/Speedwatch team cannot currently carry out any speed checks until the TRO is in place. This is being actioned by SCC. Some additional road roundels (repeaters) will be required due to the road not being fully street lit.
- iv. **Rode bridge 30mph repeater sign:** SCC acknowledge that there may be some confusion with regard to speeds and will assess whether there is somewhere more suitable for the 30mph repeater sign to be located.
- v. **1 The Sportsman – planning application:** LO has recommended refusal on the grounds of lack of parking and overdevelopment.

## **7. Traffic calming - Bradford Road/Rode Hill junction:**

- i. **Update on Small Improvement Scheme:** No further information.
- ii. **STOP sign on Bradford Road / A361:** As 6. i.

## **8. Application for naming and numbering 8 new residential dwellings at 14 Lower Street:** Applicant had suggested Aisling Court (due to Irish connections), St Clares Court (late mother's name) or Willow Court (no specific reason). PC would prefer to see the development to have a connection with the adjacent cottage eg. Providence Court/Close (TM noted that there is a Providence Court in Frome so this may not be acceptable). PC were surprised to receive site plans for the development which had not previously been seen. Clerk to follow up with LO.

## **9. Actions from the previous meeting:**

- i. **Snow clearance and changes to SCC gritting service:** Clerk has not heard back from SCC regarding the qualifications the gritting contractor requires despite several approaches. *Post meeting note: Due to the lack of confirmation from SCC it was agreed that a gritting service would not be pursued at this time.* LO will try to obtain the relevant details in the meantime.
- iii. **Playing Field – Adoption of gifted S106 land:** The land has been planted and the crop will be harvested next October. The transfer has to be completed before any of the houses can be occupied. The broken drainage pipe that goes across the field also needs to be fixed by SCC before the transfer. It was agreed to progress the transfer as soon as possible despite the land being farmed until the autumn.
- iv. **PC owned land – identifying and registering:** No further information.
- iv. **The Bell – deterioration of site:** PT has spoken to the agent and they are despairing at the state the property is currently in. They are making no progress with the current leaseholders. PT will write directly to the owners, Wellington to raise the issue. It is the intention of the owners to continue the business as a pub although the business rates and lease are believed to be £90k plus per year.
- v. **Beckington Medical Practice – quality of service:** PT is putting together a report on the matters discussed.
- vi. **Pediments repair:** The builder should begin the works in the next few weeks.

## **10. Planning matters:**

### New applications:

**2018/2922/TCA:** Fell damson tree - 3 8 High Street. No objections

Mendip decisions - none

### Other planning matters:

#### **Church Farm development:**

- i. **30mph/40mph zone:** No further information.
- ii. **Drainage issues:** It is believed that Autograph Homes has found a resolution to the drainage issue on the site.

**11. Highway issues:**

- i. **Speeding vehicles - High Street/Straight Lane – extension of 20mph/30mph zone:** Clerk to ask TAG for the results of their investigations with the SID in the autumn. It was suggested that placing the SID further along Straight Lane (on the crossroads with Parkgate Lane) would be helpful to establish what speeds are recorded at that point. The visibility on the right for drivers emerging from Parkgate Lane is hampered by the bank and weeds that have grown up around the fence.
- ii. **30mph/20mph signage - Rode bridge:** See 6. vi.
- iii. **Rode 20mph zone:** See 6. ii.
- iv. **Pedestrian crossing on Rode Hill from High Street junction to Langham Place:** See 1. v.

**12. Correspondence:** None

**13. Financial matters / Financial Position at 24 December 2018**

i. **NatWest Reserve Account – £38,320.90 NatWest Current Account £10.00**

Clerk's salary (December)	£223.16
HMRC PAYE (Period 10)	£52.00
Memorial Hall – replacement fire doors donation	£1,500.00
Mendip Community Transport – donation	£150.00
Hardington Vale PCC – donation	£450.00
Rode Chapel – donation	£160.00
Frome Area Building Supplies Ltd – 8 bags of rock salt	£33.50
Eagle Grounds Maintenance Ltd – village grass cutting	£256.00
Tim Lynch – electricity for Christmas tree	£25.00

ii. **Receipts:** Interest: £6.61.

- iii. **Confirmation of budget and precept for 2019/2020:** After discussion it was decided that there would be no increase in the precept this year as the PC holds a healthy balance. Precept was therefore set again at £17,600.

**14. Items for next agenda / Items to report:**

- i. **Fly tipping:** This is on the increase again, especially along Straight Lane. Some of it is on private land and is therefore the responsibility of the land owner. items left on the highway are the responsibility of Mendip DC.

The Meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Joy Book

Clerk to Rode Parish Council

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print: \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7.30pm