

**MINUTES OF THE NORTH RODE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE
DAINTRY HALL ON MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2019 AT 7.30PM**

Present:

Mr John Narraway – Chairman

Councillor Lesley Smetham

Mrs Jaqui Lea

Mrs Janet Hughes

Mr Mark Bullock – Clerk

Mrs Brenda Lomas – Trainee Clerk

1. Apologies for absence

Mrs Georgina Bayley – Vice Chairman

Mr John Narraway welcomed everyone present including Janet Hughes who has expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor.

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 19th November 2018 and 10th January 2019 will be carried forward as there were insufficient members of the Parish Council to form a quorum to sign the said minutes. They will be carried forward to the next meeting to be held on Friday 12th April 2019.

4. Matters arising from the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were briefly reviewed - there were no matters arising.

5. Ladera - Update on the compliance with Ladera Planning conditions

Councillor Lesley Smetham advised that she was pleased to hear from North Rode Parish Council that an amicable meeting between the new owners and the site occupiers/residents had been held at The Plough Inn, Eaton just before Christmas 2018. Councillor Smetham advised that she was unable to provide any update from Cheshire East Council as regards planning enforcement issues. The situation is a difficult one to resolve. The Clerk advised that a new residential unit had recently been delivered to the site.

6. Councillor Smetham wished to address the meeting of the following matters as she had to leave early to attend another Parish Council meeting :-

- a) Eaton Parish Council are working with Gawsworth Parish Council regarding issues with the A536 highway. They would like North Rode Council to join them in this action. John Narraway, Chairman, advised that the Parish Council would be amenable to support the other two Parish Councils. The person to advise at Eaton Parish Council is Dorothy Waite.
- b) Councillor Smetham advised of a Planning Application which Mr & Mrs Platt of New Pastures Farm, Congleton Road, Gawsworth had recently submitted for a dwelling house to be constructed on a field owned by the family on Bramhall Hill Lane in North Rode. The Platt family are to lose their Council-owned farm due to coming to the end of their tenancy period. They had been granted an extension of time until 2020 but the farm was classed as a starter unit for young farmers and Cheshire East Council's policy was that established farmers should move on after their tenancy period came to an end. Councillor Smetham advised that she and Councillor Hilda Gaddum recognised that the Platt family were an established local family who had lived in the area for many years and that Mrs Platt was a teacher at Gawsworth Primary School. They were therefore supportive of the application to allow the family to remain in the area and were hoping that North Rode Parish Council might also support the planning application for a new residential dwelling. The Clerk advised that whilst the Parish Council were aware that the Platts had been given planning permission for an agricultural building on the field at Bramhall Hill Lane some time ago – the Clerk and Parish Council were unaware of the application for a new dwelling house. Councillor Smetham advised that it was listed under a 'C' (Congleton) planning application number as opposed to the normal 'M' (Macclesfield) planning application number and hence the reason that the Parish Council may not have seen it. It was discussed that the Platts rent and own a number of fields in the North Rode and Eaton locality. It was decided that the Parish Council will need to obtain the application number and to view the proposal.

7. Planning matters

The static caravan on Bramhall Hill Lane was discussed and the fact that laurel hedging had been planted along the bank adjacent to the road. The Clerk advised that enquiries had been made with the Cheshire East Council and that there were no restrictions on the planting of hedging in that location. Planning Enforcement are continuing to keep an eye on the situation and perhaps need to be regularly updated by the Parish Council of concerns that the static caravan may become a residential home.

The Chairman enquired if planning consent had been given to the recently erected agricultural building in a field off Station Road which belongs to Mr Fitham of Wheatsheaf Farm, North Rode. The Clerk advised that the agricultural building had been granted planning approval some time ago.

8. Highways issues

The Highways Officer (Mr Denwood / Mr Simpson) had confirmed that seven road name signs had been ordered for North Rode and that they were now in stock. The signs will be erected as soon as possible in 2019.

9. Parish Council Website

The Chairman made a recommendation that the contents of the Parish Council website should be reviewed.

10. Finance

The Clerk advised of an outstanding debt of £83.25 of monies which had already been personally paid by him on behalf of the Parish Council. The expenditure incurred was as follows :-

Advert for the Clerk to the Parish Council position - £36.00

25 second class stamps - £14.50

A box of window envelopes and a notepad - £6.96

Ink cartridges for the printer - £25.79

The monies were agreed to be paid to the Clerk from the Parish Council funds. Jacqui Lea proposed the motion and it was seconded by John Narraway.

The Parish Clerk wages were discussed. Mark Bullock and Brenda Lomas were asked to leave the hall during the discussion. It was agreed that £1000 was to be paid to Mark Bullock, Clerk for a 12 month period as Clerk and that Brenda Lomas would be paid £250 for her 3 month period as Assistant Clerk.

A charge of £70 for the hire of Daintry Hall for meetings was also outstanding.

The finances were approved to be paid by John Narraway, Jacqui Lea and Janet Hughes.

11. Training

It was agreed that Brenda Lomas be signed onto a training scheme for Parish Clerks when such course becomes available through CHALC. Janet Hughes advised that she would also be interested in attending a course for Parish Councillors.

12. Councillor Vacancy

Georgina Bailey had proposed that Janet Hughes be nominated as a Parish Councillor and this was seconded by Jacqui Lea.

13. Parish Councillor Elections

Nomination papers were completed for all Councillors who were present at the meeting and also for Mark Bullock, Clerk to become a Councillor. The papers have to be submitted to Cheshire East Council Offices at Westfields, Sandbach by Wednesday 3rd April 2019. Contact will be made Parish Councillors who were absent from the meeting to confirm the date for completed forms to be submitted.

14. Dates of the next meeting

The proposed dates of the next meetings are Thursday 9th May 2019 which will be the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council and Monday 8th July 2019.

Following sight of the planning application for the residential dwelling on Bramhall Hill Lane for Mr & Mrs Platt – it may be necessary to hold an additional meeting to discuss the application and any comments which the Parish Council may consider to be necessary.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm