**RIBCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 9 December 2024**

**PRESENT:**

**Parish Councillors:** Cromie, Dickinson, Mason & Yates

**Borough Councillor:** Barnsley

**Residents:** One

**Apologies:** Cllrs Caunce, Ellis and Finch**,**  A McLoughlin (Knowle Green).

**39 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

**40 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None

**41 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**: The Minutes of the meeting on 18 November were confirmed and duly signed.

**42 MATTERS ARISING**:

42.1 – It was reported that, despite regular requests, the new Allotment Lease was not yet forthcoming from RVBC. The information was given that the CMT – the body responsible had not yet considered the revised document (due since September). The Clerk had requested information as to whom a complaint should be addressed and was advised that the only source was to make the complaint to the Administrative Officer who had been repeatedly trying to get the lease agreed and actioned. (To be pursued further).

42.2 – Life-saving Ring on the riverside. A suitable position on the riverside had been identified and the installation was expected imminently.

42.3 – Position of new Village Notice Board proposed on Potters Barn wall. Owners to confirm permission will be given.

42.4 – Stolen Post Box. It was reported that there had been no progress with this issue, despite efforts being made to get assistance from the Royal Mail. Will continue to pursue.

42.5 – CCTV and Traffic Calming. It was confirmed (again) that, whilst not higher priority than other issues it was a matter of some importance to the village centre and also to Knowle Green, where there were additional problems. (Chair and Vice-Chair to continue to pursue)

**43 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

At the time of the meeting, there were no decisions which had been made in respect of the three current applications being made.

44 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

A summary of expenditure to date was provided (in an amended format) which demonstrated that all heads were within budget.

The customary approval form was not presented for consideration, as a decision about funding figures for four applicant bodies (Knowle Green, St Wilfrid’s School garden, the PTFA and Field Day) were still to be determined.

**45– REPORT ON PRINCIPAL COMMITTEES**

Borough Councillor Barnsley outlined for the meeting the current thinking within the County and Borough Councils in respect of devolution. It was deemed probable that there would be three unitary councils created across Lancashire.

The general ‘view’ across RVBC is the preservation of the character of the Ribble Valley. There had also been a view expressed that there should be more power devolved to Town and Parish Councils. It was noted that a White Paper was due for publication, in due course.

**46 VILLAGE MATTERS**:

46.1 The continuing issue of the need for flood defences for Greenside was debated further. The need for public consultation exercise was identified and the probable need for match funding for any project identified.

46.2 The Parish Clerk offered her grateful thanks for assistance from Cllr Cromie, who had updated the Parish Council Website, at a time when the Clerk had been somewhat ‘overstretched’.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.28pm