Rudford and Highleadon Parish Council Minutes 25th January 2016

1. Present: Parish Councillors: Chairman, Cllr Salisbury, Cllr Deane, Cllr Green, Cllr Turner, Cllr Wallace, Cllr Wolfson, Cllr Heigham, County Cllr Robinson, Cllr Horne and Hilary Lyons (4 members of the public.)

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest related to items in the agenda: Cllrs Salisbury, Wolfson, Heigham – Village Hall Committee.

3. To Approve Minutes:
The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23rd November were proposed by Cllr Heigham & seconded Cllr Wallace, amendments proposed by Cllr Wolfson, re defibrillator & donations to Parish Churchyard were approved and accepted by all, then signed by the Chairman.

4. To Receive Report from Tonia Hibberd, Quality Assurance, Marlowe Child & Family Services, re Alison House: Alison House cares for no more than 4 children at a time. There are only 2 in residence at the moment between 10 and 14 years old. The children they deal with are extremely damaged by abuse, neglect etc and need a lot of looking after. They have risk assessments for each child and policies and procedures in place. Their policy is not to involve the Police if incidents occur on their site, as they do not want to stigmatise these children with criminal convictions. This is why they do not call the Police. There is an emergency 24 hr on-call system for extra staff if there is a problem, they could get to the property within half an hour. She did suggest that they would like to come to future Parish meetings to liase. At the moment no telephone number, apart from Head Office, is available for the public to call in case of problems. They will look at the possibility of supplying an on-call number to immediate neighbours. Cllr Wolfson is the nominated contact. It was also agreed that feedback would be given after an incident.

5. To Receive Reports from the District & County Councillors:
District Cllr Horne reported that there was a new waste contract coming into effect in August, this will bring in the use of a further wheelie bin for recycling purposes although the paper, bottles and tins will still need to be put in the green boxes.
County Cllr Robinson reported that there will be a County Council increase of 4% to the Council Tax this year. 2% of which is allowable by the government for Elderly Care. Devolution is at the discussion stage with the government at the moment, there will possibly be a combined authority for the Police, Fire, etc. There is Heath Services review for residents of the Forest of Dean, more information can be found on the website, www.gloucestershireccg.nhs.uk/ForestHealth-Your-Say. Cllr Deane asked if the matter of the lack of walkable pavement in Buttermilk Lane and a possible replacement could be looked at, the verges also need re-instating where vehicles have destroyed them. Cllr Robinson said that there was no funding for any large works for the next 4/5 years or so. Cllrs met with representatives of Tibberton & Taynton Parish Council re Buttermilk Lane junction and a lead in lane from the Gloucester side was suggested. The bus stop at Church Lane was mentioned, Cllr Wolfson to liase with Cllr Robinson.

6. Village Agents Report: All Gloucestershire residents will be receiving a letter re sharing of medical information. This will give them a 12 week window to Opt Out if they wish.

7. To note Clerk’s Report on Matters Arising: A report was received from Brian Watkins re the Traffic Motion. He stated that the ‘slippery road’ signs will be removed if no longer necessary, that visibility splays will be cut twice per annum and a general verge cut once per annum in accordance with GCC Transport Assessment Plan. Visibility to the warning signs on B4215 should be picked up as part of monthly inspections. Visibility of other non safety signs will be attended to on a reactive basis. Edging stones will be maintained as and when necessary. He has raised the requirement for repeater signs for 40mph through Highleadon with Amey. He will include repainting the red ‘gateway’ signage at northern entry to Highleadon in the signing and lining programme for 16/17. He also warned of the noise that would be caused by the requested rumble strips. Various ditching works have been carried out along the New Bliss straight over the last 12 months to alleviate the flooding problem. Highways will continue to undertake any works needed on the highway and liase with private landowners where works are required by the landowners. The mirror at the end of Church Lane has been replaced. An addition warning sign for Church Lane was erected and the vegetation cut back. *This hasn’t, in fact, been done. The Church Lane bus stop is a problem at the moment. There is a discussion between Rights of Way and the landowner re the possibility of providing an off road route. *Any schoolchildren in Church Lane would be entitled to a taxi to get them to school. With regards to the accident records there was only 1 reported injury accident in the last 3 years at Highleadon, this was on 24th April 2014. * This was disputed as the friend of a Cllr had an injury accident requiring an ambulance and hospital treatment in December 2015. He has asked Amey to provide comments/actions/recommendations re the Lay-by, Amey ref no: 11087394 and also subsidence in Whitehall Lane, Amey ref no: 11087392. Nothing heard as yet.

8. Matters Arising from previous minutes: None
9. **To receive report on the sale of the Telephone Kiosk from Cllr Green:** Two prospective buyers weren’t interested, one from Kings Lynn was. He offered £420 for it as the transportation was going to cost £544. It was suggested that it may be a good idea to advertise it locally, social media etc as it was a fairly rare one with a George V1 crown, a figure of over £600 was mooted. This was proposed by Cllr Wolfson and seconded by Cllr Turner, all agreed.

10. **To discuss grants to meet requirements of transparency code for Parishes:** It was decided to apply for funding for a new and a scanner/printer. Proposed Cllr Salisbury, seconded Cllr Green. Cllr Green said the council wouldn’t be eligible for a grant for the website as he wasn’t officially qualified and the council would have to employ a qualified person to run the website to be eligible. Clerk to complete form and send it to FoDC.

11. **Buttermilk Lane footpath:** See paragraph 5.

12. **To comment on Planning Applications:**
   - 1.16/12/1 Enforcement New Bliss Farm P1049/14/COU: Nothing has been received in reply to our letter from the Enforcement officer.
   - 1.16/12/2 Rudford Farm P0511/14/FUL: Nothing has been received in reply to our letter from the Enforcement officer.
   - 1.16/12/2 Salcombe Farm: P1827/15/FUL, awaiting result.
   A strong letter is to be written to the Enforcement Officer, with copies to Cllr Horne and the CEO of the FoDC, enquiring why there has been no response to the previous letter or follow up email.

13. **Correspondence:** CPRE, letter re planning applications for new housing to be kept on file. Hempstead dump will be closed for works from 29th January to 6th February. Have your say on Transport Glos: Online survey until 5th February at [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/lt3](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/lt3).

14. **Finance:**
   - 1.16/14/1 Bank Balances as of 25th January 2016:
     - Current A/c £333.81
     - Savings A/c £1290.16
   Cheques signed for election costs of £747.58 and Hall Hire £58.

   - 1.16/14/2 Precept & Link report: A shortened version of Cllr Wolfson’s suggested entry for the Link, explaining a little more about the increase in precept to be included in the report of tonight’s meeting. In future Link reports will be circulated to Cllrs. for responses before submitting to the Link.

   - 1.16/14/3 Cost of elections & by-elections: Cllr Wolfson’s research on charges for Parish Council elections was read out. This compared Gloucestershire Parish Council’s charges for Parish elections when held with other elections. Only Stroud and the Forest of Dean make this charge. Cllr Horne suggested that a Cllr may like to attend the next FoDC full Council meeting on Feb 11th to ask this question. The question would need to be submitted by the beginning of that week.

15. **Minor Items Raised by Members for Future Agenda:**
   - 1.16/15/1 River Leadon flooding, nothing to report. There is continued flooding on the B4215 at the Highleadon/40 mph sign.
   - 1.16/15/2 Condition of Barbers Bridge monument. The base plinth is deteriorating badly as it is porous stone, it is splintering off and has ivy growing through the cracks. Brian Watkins /Amey to be contacted for repairs. It is grade 2 listed.
   - 1.16/15/3 For next agenda: Possibility of creating a FaceBook page similar to Westbury-on-Severn’s for discussion. A letter from Rudford Parochial Church Council was received and will be on the March agenda for discussion.

16. **Public Session:** Rubble has been dumped on Church Fields and also under the railway bridge. A letter is to be written to the Enforcement Officer.

   Meeting closed 10.00pm.

**Date of Next Parish Meeting:** Monday 21st March 2016 in Rudford & Highleadon Village Hall, Rudford at 7.30pm.

**More News and Information on the Village Website:**
[www.sites.google.com/site/randhpcouncil](http://www.sites.google.com/site/randhpcouncil)