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**RIPPONDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the**

**Extraordinary Meeting**

**held on** **23rd May 2023**

**The Extraordinary Meeting of the Ripponden Parish Council, held at Ryburn Football Club Wednesday 23rd May 2023 at 7: 15pm.**

Councillors Present: Cllr Johnson chaired the meeting. In attendance were Cllr Greenwood, Cllr Hunt, Cllr K Naylor, Cllr Webster, Cllr Nicholls, Cllr Thornber, Cllr Nothard.

* Please note an index error was identified – to be dealt with at next meeting.
* Please note, names of co-option candidates were listed in the agenda in non-alphabetical order.

2023/2024-18668 – To note the apologies and accept the reasons for absence or lateness.

Apologies were offered by Cllr Naylor (Chair) who is recovering from an operation and was unable to attend the meeting.

2023/2024-18669 – To interview all applicants who have expressed an interest in serving as a Ripponden Parish Councillor, in alphabetical order.

Cllr Johnson (Vice Chair) explained the process. There was then following that a discussion amongst councilors on the best way of proceeding with the voting process / system. There was unanimous agreement on the procedure implemented.

*Judith Crossley*

Mrs Crossley was first to be invited in to interview. She gave a brief presentation.

Cllr Johnson asked what her preference was on which ward she wanted to represent. She stated a preference for Soyland.

Cllr Webster asked why Mrs Crossley chose not to stand in the recent Ripponden Parish Council elections. The answer was that she expected the vacancies up for election to be filled.

Cllr Thornber asked what Mrs Crossley could bring to the Parish Council. The answer concerned local environmental issues.

Cllr Nothard asked what have been the good and bad points arising from the Parish Council over the past 4 years. The answer was that the council has not been visible and queried whether anything had been improved.

*Geraldine Carter*

Mrs Carter was the second to be invited to interview. She gave a brief presentation.

Cllr Johnson asked what her preference was on which ward she wanted to represent. She stated no preference.

Cllr Webster asked why Mrs Carter chose not to stand in the recent Ripponden Parish Council elections. The answer was for personal reasons.

Cllr Thornber asked what Mrs Carter could bring to the Parish Council. The answer concerned developing post covid business planning and to ensure decisions move the council forward on a body corporate basis.

Cllr Nothard asked what have been the good and bad points arising from the Parish Council over the past 4 years. The answer was that covid had been disruptive to council business but that historically the council has proven its ability to make change and a difference.

*Stephen Pickles*

Mr Pickles was the third to be invited to interview. He gave a brief presentation.

Cllr Johnson asked what his preference was on which ward he wanted to represent. He stated no preference.

Cllr Webster stated she did not need to ask her question of Mr Pickles as he had stood in the recent Parish Council elections.

Cllr Nicholls asked why Mr Pickles chose to stand in the election. Mr Pickles replied that he wanted to build on the progress made by the previous council.

Cllr Thornber asked what Mr Pickles could bring to the Parish Council. The answer was to help raise the profile of the council and further the library / community hub takeover.

Cllr Nothard asked what have been the good and bad points arising from the Parish Council over the past 4 years. The answer was that nothing came to mind of what did not go well, bar a particular issue connected to a past individual no longer on the council.

*Geoff Potts*

Mr Potts was the fourth and final person invited to interview. He gave a brief presentation.

Cllr Johnson asked what his preference was on which ward he wanted to represent. He stated Barkisland, but this was not of importance.

Cllr Webster asked why Mr Potts chose not to stand in the recent Ripponden Parish Council elections. The answer was that he did not know what the texture / make up of the council would end up being, so he waited to see what it would look like after the elections.

Cllr Thornber asked what Mr Potts could bring to the Parish Council. The answer was to get us all working as a team and working well together.

Cllr Nothard asked what have been the good and bad points arising from the Parish Council over the past 4 years. The answer was that covid had an impact and the council has not had premises to work out of. He said we could do with smaller projects and it is good that the council is still putting information out there that people need.

End of interviews.

2023/2024 - 18670 To select three of the four applicants to serve as Ripponden Parish Councillors.

The voting took place using the agreed method. This was undertaken by the chair (Vice Chair Cllr Johnson) declaring which ward was to be assigned to the candidate with the outright majority and then reading out the names of the candidates. A show of hands then took place to indicate the numbers of members in favour of each candidate for the ward in question.

The vote for Barkisland.

Mrs Carter – 4 votes

Mr Pickles – 3 votes

Mr Potts – 1 vote

Mrs Crossley – 0 votes

Mrs Carter with the most votes was thereby declared winner of the vote by outright majority.

The vote for Soyland

Mr Pickles – 4 votes

Mr Potts – 4 votes

Mrs Crossley – 0 votes

In the event that this was a tie, Cllr Johnson used his casting vote as chair of the meeting and cast his vote in favour of Mr Potts.

Mr Potts with the most votes (by way of the use of the chair’s casting vote) was thereby declared winner of the vote by outright majority.

The vote for Soyland (seat 2)

Mrs Crossley – 4 votes

Mr Pickles – 4 votes

In the event that this was a tie, Cllr Johnson used his casting vote as chair of the meeting and cast his vote in favour of Mrs Crossley.

Mrs Crossley with the most votes (by way of the use of the chair’s casting vote) was thereby declared winner of the vote by outright majority.

2023/2024 – 18671 To discuss the future administration of the council in the absence of the Clerk / RFO.

Press and public were excluded on account of the employment related nature of discussion. Details in the minutes for this item are therefore limited to resolutions and disclosable decisions only.

There was a proposition to alter the council postal address to that of the chair.

Proposer – Cllr Nothard

Seconder – Cllr Webster

There was an agreement that I, Cllr Hunt, would take the minutes for the Annual Assembly and the next full council meeting.

There was a unanimous vote for the chair to approach YLCA for employment advice and associated issues.

There was an agreement for the chair, Cllr Naylor, to inform the co-option candidates of the outcome and to handle acceptance of office and other paperwork normally undertaken by the Clerk.

2023/2024 – 18672 - To note any items which councilors wish to be discussed at the next full Ripponden Parish Council meeting.

* To set up the employment/disciplinary/grievance committee and also the policy committee and select members for those committees.
* To receive an update on the asset transfer of the library.
* To discuss a resolution that Cllr Greenwood be permitted to conduct administration of the Parish Council website.
* To discuss a potential breach of Purdah (Cllr Hunt to lead)

The meeting ended at 20:52.