

RODMARTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE RODMARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN  
RODMARTON VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025**

Present: Cllrs Paul Drake, Charlotte Hudson, Claire Trehearne & Emily Olsen  
Presiding: Cllr Paul Drake  
Clerk: Roz Morton  
In attendance: 2 members of the public

**43 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Biddulph & Kinmont

**44 Declarations of Interest on items on the Agenda.**

Cllr Drake declared a pecuniary interest in item 56

**45 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

It was **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025 are a true and accurate record of the proceedings. Proposed Cllr Hudson, seconded Cllr Trehearne – all in favour.

**46 Matters arising**

- a. Gigaclear - see item 64
- b. Watershed Magazine – see item 59
- c. Phone box refurbishment

Discussion took place.

**Tarlton Phone box** – some work has already been carried out, but the standard is poor and the phone box remains incomplete. A quote for completely refurbishing it has been received for circa £4k. The box currently houses a defibrillator.

**ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotes for refurbishment**

**ACTION: Add to May Agenda for final decision.**

**Rodmarton Phone box** – is in a poor state of repair. It currently has no function. A request for it to be kept in the village for heritage purposes has been made to the Council. There is some debate as to whether it could be moved from its current location and repositioned in order that it might serve a function in the village (book exchange, defib etc), although planning permission and disconnecting the power would have to be sorted out. It may be that the cost for refurbishment is too great and the phone box could be sold.

**ACTION: Cllrs to send photos of both phone boxes to the Clerk**

**ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotes for refurbishment and also removal.**

**ACTION: Add to May Agenda for final decision.**

**ACTION: Residents with particular interests in this issue shall be invited to the May meeting.**

**47 To agree to adjourn the meeting for Public Participation – if members of the public are present.**

Agreed.

**48 To receive questions from the public – (there is a 10-minute time limit)**

The PC was asked to consider funding two 12ft Christmas trees for the church.

**ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotes and add to the May Agenda for discussion.**

The PC was asked to consider producing a Neighbourhood Plan. Given the perilous state of the housing land supply in the district since the requirement has been raised to over 1000 houses per year, the door is open to speculative development all over the district. An NDP offers some protect against speculative development. Consultancy help will be required and a committee will need to be formed with specific terms of reference.

**ACTION: Councillors to look at made NDPs from similar sized settlements in the district.**

**ACTION: Clerk to contact GRCC to see advice on starting the process.**

**ACTION: Clerk to add to May meeting for further discussion.**

**49 To agree to reconvene the meeting following Public Participation, if applicable.**  
Agreed.

**50 To receive a report from the County Councillor and District Councillor.**  
Cllr McKeown sent a report that was circulated to the Council and will be filed with these Minutes.  
The report covered REPF grants for Village Halls, and update on the devolution process, The Leader off CDC, Joe Harris, stepping down as Leader, the success of the Drive & Thrive events regarding energy efficiencies that householders can make. There is an event in Tetbury that the Council could advertise.

**ACTION: Cllr McKeown to circulate details of the Tetbury event for the Website**

**51 To receive reports from meetings attended**  
None.

**52 To note correspondence received and to agree any actions**  
None

#### **Finance**

**53 To receive an update on the banking situation.**  
Lloyds have confirmed that Cllrs Drake & Biddulph will both have online access shortly. Cllrs Kinmont & Trehearne will be added to the account in due course.

**54 To receive bank reconciliation to end of Feb 2025**  
Bank reconciliations were received without comment.

**55 To consider and agree statement of accounts to end Feb 2025**  
A question was asked regarding the increase in cost for grass cutting – the Clerk explained that some payments for the previous year had been made in this financial year which has skewed the figures.  
It was resolved to accept the statement of accounts as presented. Proposed Cllr Drake, seconded Cllr Olsen.

**56 To consider and agree payments in the normal course of business**

It was resolved to agree the payments as presented. Proposed Cllr Hudson, seconded Cllr Olsen, 3 in favour, one abstention.

**57 To consider and agree request for funding from The Watershed Magazine.**

Discussion took place. Councillors agreed to find out from other contributing parishes what level of financial support they are currently giving. Once that information has been obtained, Cllrs Trehearne & Olsen agreed to survey the villages to ascertain how many residents still require a hard copy of the magazine, or if they would prefer an online version. That the magazine is useful and welcomed was not in question. RPC previously agreed to remove the requirement for the church to pay towards the grass cutting in lieu of financial support for the magazine. RPC currently pay circa £260 per month (March – Oct) for grass cutting in the churchyard.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact Coates, Sapperton/Frampton Mansell parishes to ascertain the level of financial support offered and the residents preference for online or hard copy and report back.**

**ACTION: Cllrs Trehearne & Olsen to canvass residents if required.**

**58 To consider and agree to use @rodmartonparishcouncil.gov.uk email addresses and to enter into a contract to host the emails. Cost approx. £70pcm**

Although considered best practice, it is not year a statutory requirement for all Councillors to have a .gov.uk email address. As the costs would be a significant proportion of the precept, it was agreed to not pursue this until necessary. However, Councillors are encouraged to set up a separate email address specifically for council business so that in the event of a FOI request, personal emails do not have to be surrendered.

**Planning**

**59 To consider planning applications and agree any comments**

**25/00636/TCONR**| Fell ash tree| Boxall Barn Tarlton Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 6PA (deadline 7<sup>th</sup> March) – note comment submitted.

**60 To note planning decisions**

**24/03787/TCONR**|T1- a dead Quince - Fell. T2 & T3 - Golden Lawson Cypress trees - too large- Fell T4 - Smooth Arizona Cypress- outgrown - Fell T5 - Dead Black Pepper - Fell| Rodmarton Manor Rodmarton Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 6PF – **No objection**

**24/03703/LBC**| Removal of existing timber windows, replacement with new timber double glazed windows and addition of a reconstituted stone subsill|62 Tarlton Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 6PA – **application withdrawn**

**23/00548/ADV**| Installation of two directional signs| Highway Verge On A433 At E396855 N197642 Kemble Gloucestershire - **REFUSED**

**Other business**

**61 To receive an update on Councillor training and to agree a date.**

Mr Chris Haines, CEO of GAPTC has agreed to run a training session for the Council at the Village Hall in the new financial year once the Council is a member of GAPTC. Date to be agreed.

**ACTION: Clerk to arrange to pay the subs in April and agree a date for training.**

**62 To receive an update on the Gigaclear build in Tarlton and to agree any actions.**

A meeting has been arranged for Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March. Cllrs Drake & Kinmont will attend. Mr Grimes has also been asked to join the meeting.

The Councillors will report back at the May meeting.

**ACTION: Cllr Drake & Kinmont to attend the meeting with Gigaclear and report back to Council.**

**63 To consider and agree any actions that the Council can take to combat littering & rubbish in the area.**

It was generally agreed that litter is a problem along the roadside verges, one that is exacerbated on refuse collection days.

Cllr Trehearne noted that the Beaufort Hunt have carried out an annual litter pick in their area and she agreed to contact them to ask when that will be done this year.

**ACTION: Cllr Trehearne to contact the hunt and report back to Council.**

Cllr Hudson agreed to contact residents and organise a village litter pick.

**ACTION: Cllr Hudson to confirm the date**

**ACTION: Clerk to reserve a litter picking kit from CDC once the date is agreed.**

**ACTION: Cllr McKeown to contact UBICO to reiterate the need to ensure that the flaps on refuse trucks are closed to prevent rubbish from falling out, and to request that drivers take more care when driving around the parish as the trucks are damaging the verges.**

**64 To consider the state of the verges in the area and to agree any actions.**

Cllr Drake reported on verge erosion in Tarlton near the new Hullasey Grove development. Contractor vehicles have damaged the verge.

**ACTION: Clerk to write to the Bathurst Estate to request that the verge is reinstated. (Cllr Drake to provide contact details).**

The verge near the “no thru road” sign opposite The Stables is being eroded by cars being parked there. The cars are legally parked.

**ACTION: Cllr Drake to ask the resident whether they could kindly consider parking elsewhere, or avoiding the verge.**

The green by the water tower and the triangle at the entrance to Rodmarton are being eroded by large vehicles, particularly refuse trucks

**ACTION: Cllr McKeown to contact UBICO to request that drivers take more care when driving around the parish as the trucks are damaging the verges.**

**ACTION: Cllrs to email Cllr McKeown photos of the damage**

**65 To receive an update from Highways regarding flooding & the condition of the roads and to agree any actions.**

Cllr Drake reported that Gill Portlock (Glos Highways) has confirmed that a CCTV survey of the “no thru road” has shown a possible collapse in the culvert under the road. This will be investigated in 25/26.

Drains are full of silt, particularly on Hampton Lane (?).

Residents are encouraged to report any defects or issues on the “fixmystreet” section of the GCC website.

The Council expressed its frustration with the apparent lack of action from Glos Highways despite repeated requests from the Parish Council to undertake work to fix issues such as flooding and pot holes.

Cllr McKeown suggested that the Council recruits a local volunteer flood warden via the GRCC scheme who could report areas of concern to further raise the profile of issues in the area.

**ACTION: Clerk to add Flood Warden scheme to the website which can then be brought to the attention of residents via local WhatsApp groups.**

**66 To receive an update on the website**

The website is ready to go live once the words for the front page have been agreed.

**ACTION: Cllrs to agree wording for the front page and Clerk to upload the site.**

**67 Any other business – to discuss minor matters, not included elsewhere on the agenda, or matters received after the publication of the agenda. Not an opportunity for debate and decision making.**

None.

**68 Date of next meeting:**

Annual meeting of the Parish - Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 @7.00pm. Annual meeting of the Parish Council - Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 @7.30pm

Noted.

**ACTION: Clerk to invite the Police to attend and give a report if available.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed:.....

Date: .....