

ROWSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES

For the meeting held on Monday 25th September 2023 in the WI Room at Rowsley Village Hall.

Councillors present: Kevin Rowney Victoria Friend (Chair) **Apologies:** Jo Wildgoose
Cllr S Hobson Kath Potter Robert Hockley
(DDDC & DCC)

Others: Sian Bacon (Clerk) 18 Parishioners
(including DDTC
Councillors Dave
Oakley and Jason
Farmer and DDDC
Councillor Mark
Wakeman)

PART 1 – NON CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

*Report / Action
Required
Approved*

- 1. Apologies for absence – Cllr J Wildgoose (illness) & Cllr R Hockley
- 2. None
- 3. Public Speaking

Noted

Traveller Site on Old Station Close Car Park

Cllr Friend opened the discussion with a summary of the situation. She reported that in November 2022 the DDDC removed all of the sites on the old list and declared them unsuitable. Now, following the election the DDDC has had a change of council control and the Traveller Working Party now has only 4 members, down from 10 previous members under the last administration. With the change in Working Party members the DDDC has returned to considering the Ashbourne and Rowsley sites as temporary sites at the upcoming Full Council meeting with the Holmesford Woodyard site for permanent use. The DDDC is looking for other permanent sites, but this may take time and has already been underway for 20 years. Residents who wish to speak at the meeting must register by close of business tomorrow. Residents register by emailing the committee email and requesting to ask questions at the meeting. Each person is allocated 3 minutes at the meeting.

Cllrs Hobson and Wakeman (DDDC) noted that they had read the Working Party report and thought that the way it was written was a shambles. They encouraged residents to write to the committee with their objections to Rowsley being considered as a traveller site and to be respectful when referring to the Travellers. It was noted that one line of objection will do and to copy in Cllr Hobson and the Parish Council. Cllr Friend requested that in letters that everyone please focus on the unsuitability of the site and its disproportionate impact on Rowsley and the local businesses who need the car park. All submissions should be made by Wednesday lunchtime for the District Councillor’s to get enough time to read them fully after which they will only have 5 minutes to read them in the Council Meeting. It was noted that the Parish Council’s petition counts as only one objection. Cllrs Hobson and Wakeman both acknowledged that the DDDC must find somewhere decent for the travellers but Rowsley is not that place. Cllr Hobson reported that the decision was made in November 2022 to move the Travellers to the sites in Matlock and Matlock Bath and then to the Woodyard once it was up and running. She also noted that the reduced Traveller Working Party has no chair. Cllr Hobson noted that two district Councillors had visited the car park and businesses and one Councillor had not thought the site suitable. The MP Sarah Dines has produced a leaflet that will be distributed to all residents. One resident noted that it was too late by Thursday with the leaflet and Cllr Hobson noted that they had tried their best but had received very little notice of the site plans from the working party.

Darley Dale Town Councillor Dave Oakley noted that at the last DDDC planning meeting the Holmesford Woodyard site was approved. Cllr Hobson had attended a meeting and asked for a definitive timeline. It was queried why 8 sites were being looked at and it was noted that the Council were looking at future accommodation with growing numbers so all sites previously ruled out are back on the agenda. Cllr Hobson disagreed with the decision as the Ashbourne and Rowsley sites were plucked from the list and not discussed with businesses. A resident observed that the Rowsley site didn’t work last time it was used with faeces and mess left. Cllr

Chairman’s Signature Date.....

Friend noted that there is going to be a contract with the travellers but that the contract will be pointless because the families are homeless and the DDDC will still need to house them somewhere if the contract is broken. It was noted that it was not a closed DDDC meeting and so is open to the public though residents can speak only if they have registered. The meeting will also be streamed live on youtube. Attendees get 3 minutes to speak although Cllr Farmer (DDTC) reported that if there are a lot of people then some people can get cut so everyone speaking should assume they have only 2 minutes and be succinct. A resident that had spoken previously noted that he had attempted to speak and raised a dangerous situation concerning one of the families and was shut down by the DDDC and there have been issues with police since this. Cllr Friend noted that the travellers need to go somewhere but that they should be on an independent site away from the centre of a village. The Ashbourne site is likely to be for the original family with the second family is likely to be sent to Rowsley. Lord Edward from Haddon Hall had reportedly sent an objection letter. It was hoped that Peak Village would object as well as they had had issues with Traveller's parking on their site previously. Cllr Hobson observed that the car park is very heavily used and Cllr Friend reported that she would query why the site was deemed unsuitable 10 months ago and what had changed to deem it suitable now. It was noted that there are no lights on the car park and there is currently no planning permission on the car park. If the site did pass then there would be planning permission sought by the DDDC and a consultation done by the DDDC as well. The DDDC working party have been told to find 3 temporary sites. Cllr Hobson informed the meeting that she would request a recorded vote and that if the plans are stopped by the DDDC now then that would be the end of it. A resident recommended looking into legal action if the site was found to not be selected by a proper procedure as clearly there had been issues with this before concerning the Hasker Farm site and the Harrison Way site which had been dropped as a suitable site after complaints to the local government ombudsman into the selection process. This had left a lack of confidence in DDDC decisions. It was noted that a proper process has to be followed. Harrison Way is also currently back on the list. Cllr Friend reported that the petition organised by the Parish Council will go round the following day and anyone affected can sign. It was noted that this is just the start of the consultation and if the plans are not stopped now there will be six weeks of consultation and the Parish Council will keep going with their objections. Councillor Hobson reported that DDDC councillors were seeing representations every day and that she felt that the whole thing was unfair and inappropriate.

A resident queried whether Peak Village could relocate their defibrillator to the outside wall of Peak Village so residents can access it at night in an emergency. The Clerk will raise this with the Manager at Peak Village.

Clerk

Cllr K Potter (Peak Park Parish Representative)

Cllr Potter reported that the Peak Park were intending to sell farm barns to raise funds.

Sue Hobson (DDDC & DCC)

Cllr Hobson reported that she was in touch with the environment agency regarding the weir and Caudwell's mill.

It was reported that she had been waiting three months for new signs for Chesterfield Road. In the meantime, another coach had become stuck on the road, and it was noted that sat navs lead vehicles down that road. The work on the Oaker road has stopped temporarily but should be restarted and completed soon.

Cllr Hobson reported on the DCC budget deficit, and it was noted that Adult and Child Social care had ballooned. All hiring had been stopped and the Council is running essential services only.

- 4. Travellers on Old Station Road Carpark – this was covered in Public Participation
- 5. There were no items on the agenda to exclude members of the press and public in order to discuss the following item under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960).
- 6. Antisocial Behaviour in Rowsley
There has been antisocial behaviour on Chatsworth Road and reports of fires being started. The Police have been notified. Noted
- 7. The Minutes of the Meetings held on Monday 24th July 2023 were approved. Approved

8.	Matters Arising (non-decision making)	Noted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chatsworth Road • Caudwell's Mill • Planning • Recreation Ground items including car boot. • Allotment items • Finance • Correspondence – actioned as agreed. 	
9.	Chatsworth Road	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on bins and other issues There has been no further movement on this. • Chatsworth Road Playground Update There has been no further movement on this. 	
10.	Caudwell's Mill Update	Clerk
	At present there has been no update on plans for the mill site. The Clerk will raise this with Haddon Estates.	
11.	Planning Applications	Noted
	New:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derbyshire Dales – None • Peak Park – None 	
	Existing:	Noted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peak Park: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NP/DDD/0317/0204 - Burntwood Quarry – variation of conditions – Pending ○ NP/DDD/1198537 - Stanton Moor Quarry – Determination of Conditions – Pending • Derbyshire County Council – None • Derbyshire Dales – None 	
12.	Bus stops, Recreation Ground and Playground	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car boots on the Recreation Ground update – this will be discussed at the next meeting. • Car Park Repair – the Clerk will meet with a contractor for a quote for pothole filling and resurfacing. • Bench Removal – The Clerk will raise this with the contractor when she meets with him. 	Noted Clerk Clerk
13.	Allotments	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work required to summer house update – Cllr Rowney reported that he is still waiting for a few days with decent weather and then he will plan the repair out with the other allotment holders. • Allotment fees – It was RESOLVED to leave the allotment fees for the 2024 year at the current rate. 	Cllr Rowney Approved
14.	Parish Council handyman – The Clerk will continue to advertise the position and will place it on social media.	Clerk
15.	Finance and Audit	
	- Accounts to 19 th September 2023 – Appendix A	Noted
	- New expenditure to approve:	Approved
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clerk's wages - £437.90 (monthly) ○ HMRC – PAYE - £11.60 (monthly) ○ B Bacon – Parish Mag Delivery September - £25.00 ○ Rowsley Village Hall September Hire - £22.50 ○ M Burnett – Hedge cutting – £285.60 ○ DALC - Cemetery and Allotment training - £150.00 ○ Community Heartbeat Trust – Defib pads & supplies - £98.34 ○ DDDC – Public Space Signs - £86.40 ○ Clerk's ½ yearly Homeworking - £125.00 	
	- Expenditure to note:	Noted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parish Magazine (10 issues yearly) - £93 ○ BT – Direct Debit – £50.40 quarterly 	
	- Income to Note:	Noted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Car boot – £1646.00 ○ Recreation Ground Hire - £50.00 ○ Interest - £55.10 	

16. Village Hall
- Update – No update
 - Community Projects – No update
 - Council Hire of hall for Defib Training – It was **RESOLVED** to organise a training session and the Council will pay for the hall hire. The Clerk will liaise with the hall committee and the training providers to find a date and advertise.
 - Hall Defibrillator – it was **RESOLVED** to purchase a new battery for £210.
17. Parish magazine
- September Parish Magazine article content – the following items will be placed in the magazine in August:
 - 1) Parish Councillor Vacancy
 - 2) There is one starter allotment available
 - 3) Handyman advert
 - 4) Anti-social behaviour reporting
 - 5) Traveller Site update from PC meeting – update on website
 - 6) Parish Council Meeting Dates
18. Feedback from Meetings and Training – The Clerk reported that she had attended Cemetery training and will summarise the training in a note to Councillors before the next meeting.
19. Correspondence
- Darley Dale Town Council – Dales Councils Action Group Letter and meeting on the 3rd October – Cllr Rowney will attend.
 - High Peak Jobs and Apprentices Fair at Pavilion Gardens, Buxton 29th September 10am
 - PPPA – Parishes Day – 7th October 2023 – Cllr Potter will attend.
 - Derbyshire Dales Walking Festival - 25th September to 1st October.
 - DDDC – Government Community Ownership fund
 - DCC – Snow Warden Scheme – Cllr Rowney will check the grit bins and stand as snow warden.
20. For Information – None
21. DALC (circulated by email)
- Training Bulletin
22. Reading (circulated by email):
- Peak District News and Views
 - Beeley Parish Council Agenda Papers
 - Rural Bulletins
 - Peak Park Parishes Forum Information
 - Rural Matters Newsletter
 - Peak Park Authority Press Releases
 - Derbyshire Dales District Council Press Releases
 - Neighbourhood Alerts
23. Meeting Dates for the 2024 year
- Monday 22nd January 2024
 - Monday 25th March 2024
 - Monday 22nd April 2024 – Parish Meeting
 - Monday 20th May 2024 – Annual Parish Council Meeting followed by and Ordinary Meeting
 - Monday 22nd July 2024
 - Monday 23rd September 2024
 - Monday 25th November 2024

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS - All meetings held at 7.30pm in the Village Hall - MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND:

- Monday 27th November 2023