Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 26 February 2016
Village Hall – 7.00pm

Present
Councillors: Peter Hubbard (Chair), Richard Steel, David Wing
Clerk: Phil Parkin
Three members of the public

Public Session
The following matters were raised:

Robert Poynton fund is to be closed; PH is to write to the bank with the information requested.

Turnshaw Road down towards scrap yard is in a poor condition and repairs have been deferred by RMBC.

Reservoir Bridge – suggested that double yellow lines on both sides would improve safety in the summer.

Damaged wall on Main Street– PH advised that this was on agenda.

Pavements on Main Street need resurfacing.

Need to ensure that the new Archive library has all previous documents, maps etc. (Jeff Walker to follow up).

A question was raised about the Precept; PH advised that this had been set at the extraordinary meeting on 3 December 2015.

An update was requested on the former Clerk. PH advised that this was on the agenda.

Has the Neighbourhood Watch been paid £75 this year?

Could a camera be funded from a Tesco grant, to prevent littering? (Adrian Osborne to be asked if he has researched this).

A question was raised about the councillor vacancy. PH advised that this was on the agenda.

1/16. Apologies:
No apologies were received.

2/16. Minutes of the meeting on 25 November 2015
Resolved: The minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record and be signed by the Chairman.
3/16. Minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting on 3 December 2015

Resolved: The minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record and be signed by the Chairman.

4/16. Declarations of interest

None declared, other than relating to the Millennium Trust, for which dispensation has been given.

5/16. Items for which a resolution may be passed to exclude the press and public

None

6/16. On-going issues:

6.1 The former clerk had been bailed for a further month while the police make further enquiries.

6.2 The Halifax fund should be operational in 2 to 3 weeks, after the terms of reference have been signed by the Chairman. A public meeting is to held on Sunday 13 March 2016 at 10.30.

6.3 Resolved: The issue of costings for swings be deferred pending the acquisition of the recreation ground.

6.4 A new clerk (Phil Parkin) has now been appointed.

6.5 The adoption of the recreation ground awaits RMBC completing all formalities.

6.6 Resolved: The Clerk to write to RMBC’s Conservation officer seeking action to repair the Wall on Main Street, with the Brewery bearing the cost.

7/16. Communications received by the Chairman

The resignation of Councillor Mozley was noted.

8/16. This item (Action to address the councillor vacancy) was taken together with item 24.

9/16. Village Hall insurance

Resolved: The Clerk makes enquiries to ascertain the viability of the suggested combining of insurance cover for the Millennium Trust and the Parish Council, including the cost implications, and report to a future Parish Council meeting.

10/16. The financial position to November 2015 as reported, was noted; PH advised that a further payment had been made of £400 for consultancy. Also a grant had been received which funded computer equipment to enable implementation of the transparency code.

11/16. New arrangements for appointing external auditors
Resolved: the Parish Council does not opt out of the new arrangements for the appointment of external auditors.

12/16. Actions relating to RMBC matters:

12(i) Two planning applications were noted

12(ii) Resolved: The invitation to make a contribution to the RMBC’c Mayor’s fund raising be declined.

13/16. Actions relating to police in the community

None – no police representatives were present.

Resolved: The Clerk to notify the SNT of all future Parish Council meeting dates.

14/16. FoUCP

Resolved: The routine reporting of the FoUCP meetings cease and reports only be tabled where the Parish Council has been actively involved in a particular matter.

15/16. Broadband update

Resolved: No further action be taken pending the deployment of Superfast Broadband commencing July to September 2017, with the Parish Council continuing to keep residents posted as more information becomes available.

16/16. Community funded skip

Resolved: That the grass area near the recreation ground be used for the skip for 1 or 2 days only, and that PH follows up arrangements with the Area Housing Panel.

17/16. Parish Council enforcement of littering/dog fouling

Resolved: That the option for local enforcement be declined.

18/16. Summer Planting

Resolved: The planting scheme be approved and the Parish Council contribute £350 towards the cost of summer planting.

19/16. Rotherham Holiday Aid

Resolved: The invitation to make a contribution to Rotherham Holiday Aid be declined.

20/16. Petition to enable local councils to appeal planning decisions

Resolved: The Parish Council supports the petition and the Clerk shares the link with all parish councillors.

21/16. VAT

Resolved: The Parish Council submits a claim for the repayment of VAT incurred during 2015/16, at the end of the current financial year.
Resolved: Walkabout dates will be the second Sunday in months in which the Parish Council does not meet, namely, 10 April, 12 June, 14 August, 9 October and 11 December, and the Clerk to confirm the dates to councillors.

23/16. Village Hall electrics

Resolved: The invoices totalling £270, for NICEIC electrical testing paid by the Millennium Trust, be re-imbursed by the Parish Council.

24/16. Urgent business

Councillor Finley is said to have left the country, but has not formally resigned. He has not attended any meetings, nor provided apologies for five months.

Resolved: The Clerk notifies RMBC’s elections office of the resignation received from Councillor Mozley, and seeks clarification on the additional potential vacancy, as well as the process including possible costs.

It was noted that Councillor Wing was to be re-imbursed for the outlay of £582.90 for computer equipment purchased, in order for the Parish Council to comply with the transparency code, from his own funds.

25/16. Next meeting 30 March 2016 at 7 pm in the Village Hall.