**Minutes of Rivington Parish Council held on Monday, September 7th 2020**

**at 7.30pm in Rivington Chapel.**

**This meeting followed the Annual Parish Meeting where a number of the Rivington Residents and friends, associates and others attended because a rumour had circulated that Rivington Heritage Trust and United Utilities are going to convert a field into a Glamping Site.**

**When the meeting was advertised, Andrew Suter from Groundwork would represent Rivington Heritage Trust said that he would attend, but because of Covid 19 and the restrictions on the amount of people who could legally attend, he felt that a larger room was needed so postponed his attendance.**

**This Parish Council meeting would have been held in May 2020, but because of the Coronavirus epidemic the meeting had to be postponed until now.**

**Present**

**Cllr Steven Jones (Chair)**

**Cllr Vince McCully, Cllr Rob Wilson, Cllr David Jones, Cllr Trevor James-Ellett, Cllr Mrs Lynne Berry**

**Cty Cllr Kim Snape**

**Mrs Olive Fisher (Clerk)**

**Rivington Residents**

**Mark and Helen Skuce, Helen McIlveen Wilson, Paul and Lisa Harris, Kevin and Matthew Salmon**

**Caroline Jones and Rebecca Martin.**

**Visitors**

**Bernard Taylor (Horwich Resident), Chris Martin (Rivington Chapel Trustee) and**

**Alison Walker( Heath Charnock resident.)**

**Apologies were received from**

**Cllr Barry Keenan and Stephen Berry (Rivington Resident)**

**Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial issues**

**Cllr Steven Jones reminded everyone that he is a member of Rivington Heritage Trust.**

**Chair 2020/21**

**Cllr Steven Jones said that he would continue as Chair until the end of the financial year i.e. the end of March 2021.**

**Cllr Rob Wilson is happy to continue as Vice Chair.**

**There were no objections.**

**Appointments to Outside Bodies**

**Shaw’s Trust Lisa Harris (Rivington Resident)**

**Rivington and Blackrod Foundation Trustees. Cllr V McCully**

**Rivington Heritage Trust Cllr S Jones**

**Rivington and Brinscall LAG Cllr T James-Ellett**

**The Minutes of the last meeting February 17th 2020**

**All of the Parish Councillors had had copies of these. The minutes had been accepted and were taken as read.**

**Matters arising**

**Information Board**

**This would have been delivered, but because of Covid 19 everything has been delayed.**

**Cllr McCully will ask Janette Cordwell, a local historian, with regards to the wording**

**so that when the Board does arrive everything can be set up.**

**Defibrillator**

**It had been suggested that this be situated outside the Tea Room, but again because of Covid 19**

**It has not been ordered and organisation has been stopped.**

**Flag Pole**

**The Flag Pole has needed renewing for some time, but now that we have the money to purchase**

**a new one it had been decided previously that a Fibre Glass pole at a cost of approx. £1000 be purchased.**

**Cllr Steven Jones asked Cllr David Jones to lead on this one and Cllr David Jones agreed.**

**Key Discussion Points**

**Residents of the Village and the wider community were in attendance at the meeting to hear what Andrew Suter from Groundwork representing Rivington Heritage Trust had to say about the Glamping Sites that people had heard rumours about.**

**As stated previously, only a limited number of people could occupy the Chapel due to**

**Coronavirus restrictions from a risk assessment undertaken by the Secretary of the Rivington Chapel Trustees. This was made known to fellow councillors in advance.**

**It had been decided to delay a meeting dedicated specifically to Glamping when possibly more people would be able to attend in a larger setting.**

**All of the Parish Councillors had been told previously that Andrew Suter would not be**

**attending and it was assumed that word would have been circulated.**

**Cllr Steven Jones is also a member of Rivington Heritage Trust. In previous years, the former Chair of Rivington Parish Council has been a member of the Trust. A letter to that effect had been forwarded to all of the Parish Councillors, written by Cllr Barry Keenen in Cllr Steven Jones’ defence as it was felt by some Councillors that Councillor Steven Jones wasn’t being transparent about RHT. On the contrary, it is advantageous and not detrimental for the Parish Council Chairman to be on the committee. Cty Cllr Kim Snape advised all present that Cllr Steven Jones always acted in the interests of Rivington at the RHT meetings and acted appropriately and transparent at all times from her observations at Parish Council meetings and at RHT Board meetings.**

**Cllr Steven Jones had secured a document of the planned works a few days before this meeting from RHT to share at this Parish Council Meeting. He advised that he had missed the previous RHT Board Meeting due to work commitments.**

**Rivington Heritage Trust has two locations to be considered, one within Lever Park and one outside Lever Park up Sheephouse Lane towards Bradleys Farm. A copy of this outline proposed layout for the Lever Park option was shared.**

**As previously stated, Cty Cllr Kim Snape is also a member of Rivington Heritage Trust and had not seen this document before she had sight of it during this meeting.**

**As most people are aware, Lever Park is protected under the Act.**

**Several questions were asked by Parish Councillors and the general public.**

**Cllr Steven Jones answered those questions to the best of ability and knowledge for approximately**

**one hour.**

**Some key elements shared by Cllr Steven Jones.**

* **RHT is looking to raise approx. 130k per year for ongoing maintenance and preservation of the gardens. RHT had considered three costing options. The one being taken forward is the middle costed option.**
* **In order to generate these funds RHT is looking to develop multiple revenue streams with Glamping being one of the proposals to become a revenue stream. A strategy working group from RHT is also working up other options for other revenue streams.**
* **No decision has been made whether Glamping will be taken forward and the plans so far are part of early development options. Some early consultation has taken place with three businesses in Rivington, The Village Tea Room, Spring Cottage Café and Rivington Barn with all indicating general support.**
* **RHT is planning further consultation before deciding on the steps which will likely be a Planning Application.**
* **Cllr Steven Jones advised that if the Parish Council or interested parties are not in favour then this could be shared prior to any submission of planning or objected against via the planning process.**
* **Heritage Lottery Money awarded to RHT does not include ongoing maintenance.**
* **It was advised that a wider public consultation will be undertaken by RHT on the proposals in the near future.**
* **It was advised that Groundwork is a partner of RHT and is also a Charity and not a “Groundwork Contractor” as some thought. Groundwork work in partnership with RHT to deliver the objectives of the RHT which include overseeing and managing the Heritage Lottery funding capital works which had recently been completed.**

**The general mood and feedback from those in attendance was not supportive of the Glamping and felt that RHT had not been open and transparent about its intentions. Some felt that, as a Charity, it should be far more open and transparent. Some, in attendance, felt that a legal challenge should be considered if the proposals were submitted and a campaign group formed if the local feeling was strong enough.**

**None of this has gone to Chorley Planning Department. Emails of the interested people present were collected and the Clerk volunteered to email everyone when the Planning Application is received.**

**It was felt that when the time came there would be a legal challenge and the Lever Park Act quoted because there are many objections to the proposal and the effect on Rivington itself.**

**Cty Cllr Snape informed everyone that there had been an independent traffic consultation in the area. The speed limit on Horrobin Lane into Rivington and certain areas of Rivington Lane had been reduced.**

**Speeding and traffic remains a constant concern for everyone.**

**Rumours have been around for a long time with regards to double yellow lines around the area’s roads and car parking charges being introduced. No plans are currently under consideration for this though.**

**Village Green works and the Village in general**

**The Chair Cllr Steven Jones had produced a document of planned works dated 16th August 2020 with a forecast spend for the next few months. This had been circulatedto all of the Parish Councillors and agreed as a committed spend.**

**Time and time again contractors have accepted to do work around the Village Greenand have let the Parish Councillors down.**

**Covid-19 has put paid to everything so far this year.**

**To date a contractor has promised to commence work during this month September 2020. An estimate has been accepted by all of the Parish Councillors with the hope that the work will proceed.**

**The Parish Councillors had agreed previously that Cllr Steven Jones order six Barrel Tubs to be planted with plants and sited around the Village Green. Cllr Steven Jones advised he would now order them.**

**Cllr David Jones volunteered Judith Gilgun, a Rivington Resident to purchase soil, plants etc and plant all of the Barrel Tubs and position them. There were no objections.**

**The Gilgun family had previously approached the Parish Councillors to ask if it would be agreeable for a Bench to be bought by the family and positioned on the smaller green in memory of Andrew Gilgun who had passed away last December, but had lived in the cottages adjacent to the smaller green for years. Everyone had previously agreed and looked forward to receiving the details of the bench chosen.**

**The Parish Council had received £500 for Rights of Way maintenance and Finger Post Signs. Rebecca Martin from Hallbrook and Alison Walker from Nickleton Brow expressed an interest in helping with this venture.**

**Charitable Donations**

**It was decided that £200 be donated to each of the following**

**1 North West Air Ambulance Charity**

**2 Living Waters Storehouse Charity Food Bank, Chorley.**

**Finance**

**Cheques were signed for:-**

**1 Parish Council Websites Web Site Hosting 1/9/20 – 31/8/21 £120.00**

**2 Lancashire Association of Local Councils Subs £ 40.00**

**3 Clerk’s Half yearly honorarium and expenses £325.00**

**Received Precept £2500**

**Grant £500 for Rights of Way and Finger Post Signs**

**CIL £3336.69**

**Reports from Outside Bodies**

**No meetings had been held**

**LEVER PARK update**

**None received**

**Planning**

**Application 20/00860/TCON**

**Notification of work to trees within a conservation area. Hallbrook, Rivington Lane, No objections**

**Application 20/00818/FULHH**

**Extensions to Rivington Lodge, Dryfield Lane, No objections.**

**Police Matters**

**There have been complaints about speeding on Rivington Lane .The Car Park near to Rivington and Blackrod High School is locked at night, but the one on Sheephouse Lane isn’t. This will be reported.**

**Cty Cllr Snape informed everyone that PCSO Ben Pilling is patrolling the area regularly. He is the PCSO for Rivington, Anglezarke and Heath Charnock. Everyone should ring 101 if there are any concerns.**

**Correspondence**

**The Clerk had received an email to remind all of the Parish Councillors to fill in their Register of Interests forms.**

**Cllr Steven Jones and Cllr Barry Keenan have done so already and the other 5 Parish Councillors were reminded again by Cllr Steven Jones that this is a critical requirement to complete.**

**Any other Business**

**Cty Cllr Snape reported that there will be disruption to traffic on the stretch of road along**

**the reservoir to Lucianos, Anderton. These traffic lights will be in place for quite some time while the reservoir walls are repaired. There had been complaints regarding loud music at the weekends at Rivington Hall Barn. Kevin Salmon from Rivington Hall Barn was present at the meeting and apologised and promised to rectify this.**

**The Meeting closed at 8.50 pm**

**The next meeting was fixed for Monday, December 7th 2020 to be held in Rivington Chapel.**