

LITTLE RISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Contact: Clerk@littlerissington.net

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9th September 2024 at 6.30 p.m.
in Little Rissington Village Hall.

Members of the Council present were:

Cllr Cole (Chairman), Cllr Elkington (Vice Chairman), Cllr Whittington. Parish Clerk Maxi Freeman.

17. Welcome and Apologies. Cllr Cole welcomed Councillors. Apologies had been received in advance from Cllrs MacKenzie-Charrington and Wilks.

18. Declaration of interests. Cllr Elkington and Cllr Cole declared an interest in Item 32 Ford Fountain.

19. Representations from the Public. One member of the public, the Treasurer of the Village Hall asked for an update on the repairs to the Village Hall. She also explained that a new fire door and repairs at the top of the stairs were needed. As the building is listed, planning permission would be needed. **Action: Clerk to establish cost for Planning Advice and Planning permission if requested through the PC. Also check purchasing process in deeds.** A second member of the public requested an update on speed cameras for the village and the condition of the pavement outside Hill Farmhouse as well as that near Henever Coppice. **Action: Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington to discuss with GCC Highways and report back to the PC.** A Member of the Public also noted that the dates on the two signs provided by GCC Highways were different and had changed since the original notification. **Action: Clerk to check dates.**

In light of these questions, the Chairman moved agenda item 29 to this position.

28. Highways:

a) GCC Highways will be closing the Rissington Road to carry out an engineering survey at Henever Coppice 16th to 27th September. Pedestrian access will be maintained but other traffic will be diverted.

b) Traffic management. Although speed cameras had been chosen as a method of managing speeding drivers, some residents had objected to their location. VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign) equipment is now being considered. Cllr Elkington said that these were now much more cost effective than when the original discussions had taken place. However, he added that VAS were unlikely to have any effect on the volume of traffic. Build outs were also discussed but they would make the road impassible for tractors, as would parked cars.

Regarding coach traffic in Little Rissington, Councillors had found that the current weight limit only applies to HGVs, not coaches.

Cllr Cole had attended a meeting with Bourton on the Water Parish Council regarding coaches. The meeting made Bourton PC aware of the knock-on effect that the lack of coach parking or turning in Bourton was having on Little Rissington; offered to work with Bourton to resolve the problems and asked that Little Rissington be included in considerations for remedies to the problem. Cllr Cole explained that Bourton was considering an extension to the coach ban, to start at the turnoff for Little Rissington on the Burford/Stow road. Any change to coach arrangements in Bourton must be approved by both GCC Highways and CDC as well as local residents and businesses. However, GCC Highways would only allow an off-road pick-up and collection point, while the business association only wanted a point in the centre of the village. Bourton on the Water PC was working closely with CDC to find solutions to the problem.

Cllr Cole noted that several other speed-reduction measures were also being considered and that Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington was in touch with GCC Education to request that the school bus stops to collect children from Little Rissington.

The Chairman postponed the discussion regarding a working party to progress action on these issues between Council meetings.

c) Bus Shelter Repair (GE) Cllr Elkington noted that a contractor had been appointed to repair the roof. **Action: Cllr Elkington to request a start date and update Councillors.**

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- 20. County Councillor Report:** No County Council report was available.
- 21. District Councillor Report:** CDC Cllr Maclean reported that:
- * CDC was 50 years old this year and Upper Rissington was 25 years old this year.
 - * The new phase of matched funding via CDC's Crowdfunding app had opened, with a deadline of 16th October.
 - * Cirencester would be holding its first history festival
 - * there would be another Town & Parish Council forum in Cirencester on 10th October, focusing on the Cost of Living. All councillors are invited to attend.
- 22. Minutes:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 30th May 2024 were approved and confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting. **Action: Clerk to post to website and pin to noticeboard.**
- 23. Action Point Update:** (Covered in other agenda items).
- 24. Noticeboard.** Councillors noted the list of potential noticeboards and agreed on an A1 sized board with 2 opening doors (one lockable), in man-made wood, with magnetic backboard (not for drawing pins). The preferred supplier was Greenbarnes. A budget of £800 was set. Rather than position the noticeboard in the same place as the current boards, councillors resolved to fix it to the interior back wall of the bus shelter, where it was safer for pedestrians to read it. Wall hanging fixings would be needed. **Action: Clerk to order new noticeboard which meets these criteria. Clerk also to check whether a newer bus timetable was available to replace the 2021 version currently displayed.**
- 25. Planning applications**
- (a) **New applications:** Councillors resolved not to object to application 24/02458/FUL 'Removal of pedestrian crossing point to west of site entrance, Orchard Cottage.
- (b) **Submissions between meetings.** The Chairman noted that the PC had contributed extensive comments of objection to the following two applications. Councillors confirmed that the submissions for 24/02058/FUL Church Farm, conversion of agricultural land to residential, and 24/01694/PLP (Planning in Principle) Glebe Farm for 5 houses, represented their views correctly. Councillors noted that permission for Church Farm had since been refused and permission for Glebe Farm had been permitted.
- 26. Finance:**
- (a) **Receive bank balances:** Councillors noted the Treasurers A/C £17,549.15 on 28/08/24 and Instant Access A/C £22,468.38 on 28/08/24.
- (b) **Councillors authorised the following payments:**

PAYEE	DETAILS	CHEQUE NO	INVOICE NO.	INVOICE TOTAL
Little Rissington Village Hall	Hall hire for September 24 meeting	789		24.00
Maxi Freeman	Clerk Administration May (part)/June/July 2024	790	See PATA payslips	568.36
Maxi Freeman	Expenses – file and dividers	791	See Smiths receipt	9.98
HMRC	Employer's tax		See PATA payslip	142.00
Nick Cole	Expenses for website and emails	792	3247358218 17/08 32197154316 01/08 3204711019 23/07 3167199088 01/07 313954133 14/06 3111653518 01/06 Total	14.39 14.39 101.94 14.39 2.45 14.39 161.95
Nick Cole	Ink for printing the village newsletter	793	t.b.s.	343.60
t.b.d.	Noticeboard max £800		t.b.s.	t.b.a.

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Councillors noted the cost of grass strimming in the village to date of £1,465 and agreed that the new provider was carrying out the work well.

27. **Village Hall Governance** Also see Member of Public question at item 19. Cllr Cole informed the meeting that five responses had been received to the survey on how the village hall is/should be used had been received. **Action: Councillors to consider how to encourage more responses.**
28. **Highways** (moved to Page 1, item 28)
29. **Website Report (NC):** The Chairman announced that all councils were being recommended to move to a .gov.uk website and email addresses and to ensure that they are compliant with the new accessibility standards. The new system would also offer online booking and payments. It is hoped that other village organisations would be able to update their own sections of the website. Councillors agreed to use the preferred provider - Parish Online. Outline costs were £315 + VAT p.a. A £100 grant was available to help with the costs of purchasing a domain name. Councillors decided to start the process of migration. **Action: Cllr Cole to progress and report to the next meeting.**
29. **Allotments Report (KW):** Councillor Whittington reported that Plot 1 was vacant due to the tenant moving away. Plot 2 had requested rabbit proof fencing. The tenants were welcome to install their own but fencing the whole of the allotments was outside the council's budget. Plots 12 (a) and (b) were not being kept according to the conditions of the tenancy. **Action: Clerk to write to the tenants reminding them to take proper care of their allotments.**
30. **Ford Fountain Renovation Report (GE).** Cllr Cole reported that Thames Water had not responded to any of the emails regarding reconnecting the fountain. In addition the wall where the fountain is located is not stable. Councillors resolved to discontinue the project and offer donors a refund or the option to allow the PC to use the funds for other capital projects. **Action: Clerk to identify donors and draft letter.**
31. **Flora & Fauna Report:** Cllr Elkington stated that area of Rycroft was left unmown for most of the year to encourage the butterfly population in the village and strimmed twice a year.
32. **Chairman's matters.** The Chairman reported that Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington had arranged for the footpath next to the road to be cut back while the road was closed for engineering investigations in September. Resurfacing through the village is programmed for January 2025 but might be affected by the outcome of the geotechnical testing at Henever Coppice. Cllr Macenzie-Charrington has also recommended resurfacing between Rissington Road and the Burford road. In October the posts and rails leading to the phone box would be replaced. Note: The PC is currently holding over £21,000 of CIL funds which can only be spent on infrastructure for the benefit of the village.

The Chairman noted that the 2012 bench and the bench on Sweetings Corner may need maintenance.

Action: Councillors to review their condition, plan of works, and report to the next meeting. The phone box would also need restoration when budget was next available. The work should include sandblasting and repainting in the correct colour. **Action: Clerk to contact Upper Rissington for information about their recent phone box restoration.**

Councillors to decide on the date of the Annual PC meeting in May at the next meeting. Note: The second Monday is a Bank Holiday.

There being no further matters for discussion the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.00.

Notice of Forthcoming Meeting Dates

Monday, 9th December 2024, Monday, 10th March 2024, May 2024 Date t.b.a

Chairman's Signature.....

Date: 9th December 2024