

Upper Rissington Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on

Wednesday 18 December 2019, 7:30 pm at Upper Rissington Village Hall

Present:

Don BOWIE
Christine HIGGS
Russell MCCANN
Declan TORRIS (Chairman)
Kelvin WALKER

Absent:

Samantha BROADHURST
Ben PAVORD
Amos PEEK (Vice Chairman)
Vaughan TAYLOR

In attendance: Pauline Rigby (Clerk) and no members of the public.

The meeting got underway at 19:40 due to late arrivals.

216/19 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Councillors Pavord, Peek and Taylor.

217/19 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Bowie declared in interest in item 222/19 because he is a personal friend of the managing partner of one of the companies that had submitted a proposal.

218/19 Applications for Dispensation

None received.

219/19 Public Session:

There were no members of the public present.

220/19 Developer meetings

- a. Members discussed the NALC solicitor's advice on meetings with developers and the suggested planning protocol and **RESOLVED** to adopt the planning protocol subject to an amendment to clarify that the protocol does not apply to personal dealings with developers. The fifth bullet point is to read: "informal meetings and telephone conversations between a developer and individual councillors or staff *pertaining to parish council business* will be documented in writing ...".
- b. It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Councillors Walker, Torris and Bowie as lead councillors on planning and development. The Clerk clarified that this meant these members would be called upon to take meetings with the developer if the need arises.

221/19 Confidential session

As there were no members of the public present, it was not necessary to resolve to move into a confidential session to discuss separate business, pursuant to s.1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as disclosure of time-sensitive commercial interests of the council and the person/company that have tendered is not in the public interest.

222/19 **Professional Advice**

Councillor Bowie left the meeting at the start of this item.

Three fee proposals had been received for professional planning advice about the completion of the public open spaces in the Victory Fields development and transfer to the parish council. All three firms had quoted for Stage 1 of the works, to review the site history, and identify what is to be provided and the scope of additional work.

There was a lengthy debate about the merits of the three proposals, and it was then **RESOLVED** to appoint Proctors Chartered Surveyors for Stage 1 of the work at a fixed cost of £5,000 ex VAT plus expenses, on condition that:

- there is a commitment to start on 6 January 2020;
- an on-site start meeting will be arranged with the Clerk and lead councillors;
- Stage 1 will conclude with a presentation to the parish council summarizing the key findings; and
- the report is suitable for tendering for subsequent stages of work.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:45 pm.

Signature of Chairman upon approval of the Minutes 15 January 2020