MINUTES

Present: Councillors Tommy Cooper (Chairman), Terry Connolly, David Healey, Paul Taylor, Harry Campden, Parish Clerk, C. Cllr. Kiloran Heckels.

- **Approval of absences:** The absences of Cllr. McNally, Cllr Healey and Cllr. Tunstall were approved.

- **Declarations of Interest:** Playpark – Cllr. Campden, owner.

- **Resignation of Cllr. Cundy Jones and leave to co-opt a Parish Councillor:** The resignation of Cllr. Cundy Jones was noted, and she was thanked for her time as a Parish Councillor and particularly for her extensive work being responsible for the playpark and overseeing the recent renovations. The casual vacancy has been advertised by statutory notice and the Parish Council has leave to co-opt to fill the vacancy.

- **Public time:** There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

- **To approve the minutes of the meeting 7th June 2023:** These were approved and signed by the Chairman.

- **Matters arising from the meeting 7th June 2023:**
  a) Bank signatories – Cllr. Healey is now added to the Parish Council bank account mandate.
  b) Survey of Parish trees – Cllr. Healey is awaiting more information from the tree surgeon.
  c) Ivy – The Brookes: Rutland County Council have passed this matter to Anglian Water for attention.
  d) Footpath - Harrington Crescent. Rutland County Council have declined to act as the road/footpath is unadopted. The Parish Clerk will report the matter to Spire Homes as it is believed they are the owners of the unadopted path.

- **Clerk’s report and Correspondence:**
  a) RCC Grass cutting – Rutland County Council have confirmed arrangements for Parish grass cutting for 2024.
  b) Edith Weston Parish Council planning application 2023/0822/OUT – Edith Weston Parish Council have requested that the Parish Council consider supporting their objections to this planning application.

- **Sale of land adjacent to 5 Empingham Road:** Cllr. Cooper summarised the situation. The owner of 5 Empingham Road approached the Parish Council requesting to purchase a strip of land adjacent to his property (69.75m2) for £10,000 plus a £500 contribution towards legal costs. It was advised by Hegarty Solicitors that the land is subject to a restrictive covenant. The proposed sale of land was advertised. An independent surveyor’s inspection confirmed that the land in question is owned by 5 Empingham Road and not the Parish Council. The boundary has now been correctly marked out and a fence will be erected by the owner. The Parish Council will be fully reimbursed for legal fees and surveyor costs. A subsequent request to purchase 69.25m2 has been received. It was agreed that the Parish Council do not wish to sell any land but that it would agree to the digging of a 2m trench to allow the connection of a power supply, provided that this is properly marked out in advance and the trench reinstated once work is complete.

- **Malting Yard – maintenance of highway:** Cllr. Connelly reported that vehicles are increasingly cutting the corner of the verge and causing damage and the road is not maintained and is uneven. Rutland County Council have been asked to attend to inspect but to date have not. The issue will be reported via FixmyStreet.
• **ITCP 2022-35 to agree response to RCC:** Rutland County Council have responded to the Parish Council request for parking restrictions around the village green. It was suggested that these would be difficult to enforce and unsightly in a rural location. Cllr. Connelly has visited each class held in the village hall and requested that attendees park considerately. Cllr. Connelly will contact the village hall booking secretary asking that any bookings are made aware of the issue and be required to act accordingly. It was agreed that no further action from Rutland County Council will be required at this time and the matter can be closed with them.

• **County Councillor report:** C. Cllr Heckels reported having requested the removal of weeds from various locations via FixmyStreet. Weeds will be sprayed in September and repeated in October if necessary. Notice of when road sweeper is visiting village has been requested so cars can be moved in advance. Numbers using the post van are dwindling and residents are encouraged to use this service to ensure it remains. Nettles on lane to the church are due to be cut back. A map of trees in Exton, indicating ownership, was requested. Cllr. Campden agreed to provide this. Hawkswell House – the planning application will be decided by RCC planning committee on 19th September.

• **Parish Forum:** Cllr. Cooper attended.

• **Playpark:**
  Cllr. Campden agreed to take over responsibility for the maintenance of the playpark. A councillor to take responsibility for playpark health and safety will be appointed at the next meeting.

• **Finance:**
  a. Finance summary and bank reconciliation to 31st August 2023 – these were approved.
  b. To approve payments:

Rutland County Council elections £285.19  
Hegarty Solicitors £59.90  
Moore LLP £252.00  
Clerk’s salary September £311.00  
HMRC PAYE Q2 £213.80

• **Planning:**
  a. Decisions received from RCC since the last meeting –

2023/0388/FUL & 2023/0389/LBA 2 Stamford Road. Replacement of oak gate posts and 2 no.1.2m high oak gates. Granted 19/07/23.

  b. Planning applications received since the last meeting – none.

• **AOB:**

Date of next meeting – 4th October 2023

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.