## DRAFT Minutes of the Ordinary ROWDE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 7.30pm, Rowde Village Hall

	<b>PRESENT</b> : J Dalley, C Greenwood, C Stevens, J Wills, L Wills, B Zaccarelli Public audience: Four				
1.					
	Absent: P Bryant				
2.	Register of pecuniary interests				
	There were no interests to register				
3.	Notice of Resignation of Councillor – Tom Humphreys				
	Thank you to T Humphreys for all of his work with the Parihs Council, and in particular				
	with the Speed Indicator Device (SID).				
	There are two vacancies for Parish Councillors. One is currently being advertised. The				
	other vacancy can now be filled through co-option.				
4.	Public Question Time				
	A question was submitted in writing before the Parish Council meeting asking for an				
	update on the Wiltshire Council development on land adjacent to Reed Place. The Clerk				
	updated the meeting that Rowde is the third party in a pilot scheme. The other two				
	parties have started building. It is estimated that building at Rowde will be a couple of				
	months behind the first two sites.				
	A further question was asked about how boggy the ground is there, and whether the				
	height of the water table in Rowde may affect the proposal to develop on land at Sands Lane.				
	There was clarification that the new buildings (10) are part of the 'committed' number for				
	Rowde on the Local Plan.				
	• It was asked whether the audience could participate in items as they appear in the				
	agenda. The Chair confirmed that they could.				
5.					
	• Wiltshire Council has been awarded a further £2.1m by the Department for				
	Transport (DfT) to spend on improving bus services in the county. This second				
	allocation of funding for the period 2024 to 2025, is from the Government's Bus				
	Service Improvement Plan Plus fund and follows an earlier allocation in May for				
	2023 to 2024. Both nationally and locally, bus passenger numbers have struggled				
	to increase back to pre-COVID levels, and this has been compounded by the				
	challenging economic climate, high fuel prices and a national bus driver shortage.				
	This bus funding is aimed at helping address these issues, maintaining and growing				
	bus service levels across the county.				
	Local Plan Consultation: Cllr Mayes met a number of residents at the recent Local				
	Plan Consultation event at Devizes Library. Residents are encouraged to submit				
	their comments about the plan, particularly with reference to Rowde's housing				
	allocation.				
	Sands Lane Application: Cllr Mays has attended a number of meetings with Senior				
	Leaders at Wiltshire Council about the planning application. The Council has				
	recently lost a number of planning appeals because it cannot currently				
	demonstrate a five-year land supply. This is despite Wiltshire exceeding its housing				
	targets. Cllr Mayes is meeting a government minister with our MP next week to				
	explain the position the Council is in. If Wiltshire Council Officers are minded to approve this application it will come to the Strategic Planning Committee on				
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	C Greenwood will place a cross on the war grave of the soldier interred there.	
	C Stevens will lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.	
9.	<ul> <li>Community Engagement &amp; social media</li> <li>Act of Remembrance: Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 3pm</li> </ul>	
9.	in favour.	
	An additional payment of £60 for bus shelter cleaning was presented. Payment for invoices was proposed by J Wills, seconded by C Stevens. All Councillors were	
	Donations: £181.98	
	Ground's maintenance: £687.11	
	Admin costs: £1,814	
	October 2023 were presented. October <u>2023 invoices</u> (total: £2,683.09)	
	<ul> <li>Monthly bank reconciliation was shared with the Parish Council &amp; monthly invoices for October 2023 were presented.</li> </ul>	
8.	Finance Matters	
	work in the Jubilee Woods.	
	<ul> <li>The Clerk has written to thank the volunteers for the Canal and River Trust for their</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Aster has removed the sycamore tree which was growing through a wall at Maundrell Close bordering the High Street.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>along Rowde Court Road.</li> <li>Aster has removed the sycamore tree which was growing through a wall at</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>The Clerk has requested that the Parish Steward works to clear the kerbstones</li> </ul>	
7.	Matters arising & actions taken from 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	
	Councillors who were present at the meeting agreed.	
	C Stevens proposed and J Dalley seconded that the minutes should be accepted. All	
	Agree the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2023.	
	Wiltshire Council.	
	approved. Four Councillors voted in favour, one abstained. The Chairman confirmed that the recording was being used in the investigation by the Governance Department at	
	seconded by J Wills that the revised draft minutes as they were presented, would be	
	where the sound had been enhanced. After further discussion, it was proposed by J Dalley,	
	Chairman confirmed that she had received a copy of the recording from C Greenwood	
	of the meeting could be heard on the recording if the microphone was not being held. The	
	replayed at the meeting. A member of the audience expressed concern that not all parts	
	Chairman also produced a transcript of the section in question. The recording was	
	The Chairman confirmed that she has re-listened to the recording of that meeting. The	
	asked or stated that the meeting should be closed.	
	The minutes had been amended to include the disagreement between three Parish Councillors at the July Parish Council meeting. C Greenwood disagreed with who had	
6.	Agree the minutes of the Parish Council meetings on 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2023	
	have an emergency flood plan.	
	flooding in Sands Lane. It was noted that it is important for the Parish Council to	
	<u>Recent flooding</u> : Cllr Mayes thanked residents for making her aware of the	
	at improving the surface.	
	bicycle). A new Highways officer is starting next week, and he will be asked to look	
	public expense but only to a standard suitable for use on foot, horseback, and	
	<ul> <li><u>Sands Lane upkeep</u>: Wiltshire Council has confirmed that the lane is recorded as a highway, maintainable at public expense. The remainder is a bridleway (also at</li> </ul>	
	views are heard.	
	and residents to agree how to approach the meeting to ensure the community's	
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	<ul> <li>There will be a Police Concert in St Matthew's Church on Saturday night, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The concert is to raise funds for the Church and the Village Hall. Thank you to C Greenwood for collecting a large number of raffle prizes.</li> <li>Christmas: Putting up and the decorating of the tree.</li> <li>The tree will be delivered on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November by 'OxLea Barn' Oxford Down Sheep.</li> <li>Some Parish Councillors have volunteered to help set up the tree. It was agreed to purchase a second set of lights.</li> <li>Update on Santa's visit to the village</li> <li>The Parish Council has sourced a vehicle for Santa to travel on. The Clerk will check the Parish Council insurance to see if Santa can travel on the back of a trailer which is being pulled.</li> </ul>	Clerk
	Facebook posts	
	There has been some discussion on Facebook about flying the Ukrainian flag in the village. The Parish Council discussed removing it. It was agreed to leave the flag flying for now and to review the situation in February 2024.	
	<ul> <li>New noticeboards required.</li> </ul>	
	The noticeboard in Tanis needs repairing or replacing. The Allotment presentative has also requested a noticeboard for use at the allotments.	
	C Greenwood noted that the Village Hall Committee met recently and discussed the need to replace their noticeboard, located at the entrance from the path from Cock Road to St	
	Matthew's Church.	CG/
	C Greenwood agreed to look at sourcing bespoke wooden noticeboards which the Parish	
	Council could purchase. L Wills agreed to contact a local carpenter to ask him for a quotation too.	
10.	Planning	
	<ul> <li>PL/2023/04363: Lower Farm, Devizes Road, Rowde, Devizes, SN10 2LX. Erection of agricultural building (retrospective) and change of use to two flexible use commercial units (Unit 1 – Class B8 and Class E(g) only and Unit 2 – Class B8 and Class E only). Deadline for comments: 9th November 2023. The Parish Council had no comment to make on the application.</li> <li>PL/2023/07208: Land adjacent 35 Tower View, Rowde, Devizes, SN10 2PS. Outline application with all matters reserved for erection of a Dwelling. Deadline for comments: 30th November 2023. The Parish Council discussed concerns around access to the proposed site and problems around parking. There were concerns around the map supplied in the application and the boundary for the site. The Parish Council considered that there was insufficient information in the application. It was proposed that the Parish Council objects to the application on those grounds if it is unable to obtain an extension on time to consider the application.</li> <li>PL/2023/09231 4 Scholars Park. Single storey rear extension – amended design following approval of application PL/2023/07124 – application received after agenda had been published. Parish Councillors to submit their comments in writing to the Clerk for submission to Wiltshire Council.</li> <li>C Greenwood updated the meeting that the Hillworth Road planning application has been won on appeal by the developer. Wiltshire Council has not been asked to contribute costs to the developer. There are problems around sufficient land supply in Wiltshire which is being taken up with the Secretary of State.</li> <li>R Eccles noted that the site of Nursteed Road has been acquired by Bovis. The Hillworth Road devidenment will revide 200</li> </ul>	
	Hillworth Road development and the Nursteed Road development will provide 200 homes. Only 140 are required for the Devizes Area according to the Local Plan until	

2038. It was commented by a member of the audience that the Devizes Area Neighbourhood Plan Steering group is not doing its job properly.

- <u>Request by Society of Merchant Venturers to meet with Rowde Parish Council to</u> <u>discuss land for development in Rowde</u>. Three representatives from the Parish Council met with representatives from the Merchant Venturers in September. It was unclear about the purpose of the meeting before it took place. The Merchant Venturers would like to discuss a potential development on land at Tanis (15 houses), behind Conscience Cottages, and also adjacent to Conscience Cottages to go up to the Rowdey Cow (50 houses in total). It was originally thought that the meeting was to discuss a cycle route from Tanis to Braeside and a suggestion to develop on land at Roundway (Devizes Field).
- The suggestion to build on land at Tanis was first raised by Jim Butler a couple of years ago. There was hope for a hamlet, community led housing development.
   Some properties would have been affordable homes and others social housing.
- A resident raised concerns about the ground levels of the proposed site with existing homes being 8-9 ft lower than the proposed development. Any new buildings would look into the existing properties. It was noted that the land is good agricultural land, and it is also very wet.
- C Greenwood raised a concern about who should register a pecuniary interest in the proposed development {Advice from WALC: Councillors individually must decide whether or not they should declare an interest in any decision being made at a Council meeting. In addition, if the planning application was for a large development and the land previously owned by the Councillor, then yes there probably is a pecuniary interest}. However, if the land or adjacent houses are not owned by Councillors, it would be difficult to see how they would gain a pecuniary advantage from the planning application. All business interests in the application and associated parties should be recorded.
- A resident stated that there is no room for this development within the emerging Local Plan and that the suggestion should be dismissed. C Greenwood suggested postponing the decision to meet with Merchant Venturers until after Christmas.

Parish Council's response to the Local Plan Consultation The deadline for responses is 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

The Clerk confirmed that she has obtained a copy of the Wiltshire Council Local Plan Rural Housing Requirements. The excerpt from Rowde had been circulated to all members of the Parish Council prior to the meeting.

C Greenwood asked for a link to the full suite of local plan documents (Clerk sent this 9/11/23).

## 11.Village Appearance<br/>Fly tipping at the allotments: cars and car parts had been left in the car park next to the<br/>large playing field. The owner of the items was identified and asked to remove them. The<br/>parish is reminded that anything that is fly tipped on that land will cost the parish money<br/>to remove and dispose of as it is considered private land.<br/>It was proposed that the Parish Council installs a camera in this area. C Greenwood<br/>agreed to source a price for one.<br/>Discussion on the removal of dog waste bins by the Canal and River Trust along the Caen<br/>Hill Locks and the impact for the village of Rowde.<br/>A Humphreys has set up a petition to try to get the bins reinstated. There was a discussion<br/>among the Parish Council about whose responsibility it is and the effects on the parish<br/>precept (estimated cost currently £6k). C Greenwood suggested obtaining prices for<br/>emptying bins along the Caen Hill Locks, or the access points to the parish of Rowde, from

	a sector de la Thair Davida. Casa alles constituir de la transferie de la final de la final de la final de la c			
	a contractor. The Parish Council agreed to monitor the situation and see if there is a long-			
	term problem with dog waste in that area.			
12.	Highways			
	<u>Speed Indicator Device – update on data to Police</u>			
	J Gray has kindly agreed to extract the data from the Speed Indicator Device and submit it			
	to the Police. The data for October 2023 has been submitted to the Police. J Gray offered			
	to provide the Parish Council with a monthly report on the speeding data. The data has to			
	be submitted to the Police at the end of each calendar month. It was proposed to move			
	the Speed Indicator Device to a new location at the end of November.			
	There is a 'dark mode' on the Speed Indicator Device. This could be used in periods when			
	the Speed Indicator Device should be resting. It can also be used to test the need for a			
	second SID.			
	Community Speedwatch			
	C Greenwood reported that the village has access again to a Speedwatch camera. It will be			
	shared with Brickley Lane and also Seend. C Greenwood was thanked for his hard work in			
	reestablishing use of the camera. C Greenwood is attending a course on Speedwatch.			
	Speed awareness week is coming up. It was noted that the Police have been enforcing			
	speed limits several times recently in the village.			
13.	Playing fields			
	Grounds maintenance			
	There were no updates.			
14.	Play Areas			
	It was noted that M Somerville is looking at repairs suggested in the recent RoSPA reports.			
	J Dalley reminded the Parish Council that it had been agreed for him (in May 2023) to look			
	for goal posts for the Silverlands Play Area, approximately 12ft x 6ft. J Dalley volunteered			
	to look into this again.			
	It was also suggested that high rise netting is installed along the fence by the school to			
	stop balls going over the fence.			
	There had been a suggestion to hold a grand opening of the new play equipment at			
	Silverlands Play Area. There was a discussion on who could open the area. After some			
	discussion, it was proposed by J Dalley, seconded by B Zaccarelli that there would not be a			
	grand opening as the park area has been reopened now for some time. All Councillors			
	present at the meeting were in favour of the proposal.			
15.	Allotments			
<u> </u>	M Somerville sent his apologies for the meeting.			
	C Greenwood noted that M Somerville required more information about the allotments			
	which could be shared with allotment holders and potential allotment holders. L Wills	LW		
	agreed to speak with M Somerville about this.			
16.	Correspondence			
	There was no further correspondence to report.			
	C Greenwood reiterated the comment in Cllr Mayes' report that Rowde needs to have a			
	Flood Plan. L Wills has started looking at a Flood Plan. C Greenwood noted that he is the			
	Flood Warden for the Devizes \North Ward and can help with any documents needed.			
	nood warden for the bevices (forth ward and can help with any documents needed.			
	Meeting closed: 9.55pm			
17.	Parish Council meetings – 2024			
	Dates were agreed.			
18.	Date of next Parish Council meetings			
	<ul> <li>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023, 7.30pm, Rowde Village Hall.</li> </ul>			
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Everyone is we	Icome to attend	d all meetings.
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A reminder that all requests for work/or goods must be presented to the relevant Committee first for authorisation.

Signed: ..... Chairman Date: .....