

Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting for the Parish of

Ruddington held at St. Peter's Rooms on

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2013 at 7.30 p.m.

**Chairman**

Councillor P F McGowan, Chairman of the Parish Council, took the chair.

**Attendance**

24 members of the public were present.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs A Auckland, Councillor Mrs R Wilson, Councillor W A Wood, Kim Aspinall (James Peacock Bread Charity), Fran Dent (Bowls Club), Borough Councillor Mrs J Greenwood, and Andy Scott (Ruddington Colts).

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012, having been circulated to every elector present, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters raised arising from the minutes.

**Charity Accounts**

James Peacock Educational Foundation

The Clerk reported that he had been unable to contact Mr Andrew Green of the James Peacock Educational Foundation.

The James Peacock Bread Charity

In the absence of Mrs Kim Aspinall, Chair of the Trustees, the Clerk gave her report on behalf of the James Peacock Bread Charity:

During the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 the Charity had income of £1,265.94 and expenditure of £1,184.97 giving a profit of £80.97. The financial assets at the year end were £4,720.23. The charity was initiated by James Peacock in his will of 1641 to help the needy and children of the parish. Therefore, during the year £300 was donated to Honeycomb to give to needy people in the village.

## **Annual Report on the work of the Parish Council**

Amenities Committee – presented by Councillor Mrs Barbara Breakwell.

Councillor Breakwell gave a résumé of the work undertaken by the Amenities Committee over the past year. A copy of the full report is appended to these minutes.

Mr J Hayes asked if it was possible to reserve plots in Vicarage Lane Cemetery. The Clerk replied that it was not currently practice to do so but that he would take the request to Amenities Committee. Mr Gavin Walker pointed out that this practice has led to significant underutilization of some other cemeteries.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Breakwell for her presentation

Environment & Community Committee – presented by Councillor Nick Tegerdine

Councillor Tegerdine gave a brief résumé of the work undertaken by the Environment & Community Committee over the past year. A copy of the full report is appended to these minutes. He thanked the staff and members of the Committee for their work over the last year in moving forward the growing role of the Committee.

There were no questions raised.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Tegerdine for his presentation.

Finance & Policy Committee – presented by Councillor Nick Tegerdine

Councillor Tegerdine gave a brief résumé of the work undertaken by the Finance & Policy Committee over the past year. A copy of the full report is appended to these minutes.

There were no questions raised.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Tegerdine for his presentation.

## **Reports from Local Clubs/Organisations**

The Chairman advised that it had previously been agreed by the Parish Council that any Club/Organisation which received priority use of a Parish Council asset, or had received funding from the Parish Council during the year, be requested to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to present a report on their activities.

## Ruddington Bowls Club

The Clerk reported that Fran Dent was unable to attend but had submitted a written report, which he read out.

“We have been using the green on Elms Park since 1934 the membership grew to nearly 100 in the 1990’s but in 2011 there were 57 members of whom 39 live in Ruddington and 12 from surrounding villages six from WB.

The season runs from May to September and a typical fixture list for a season will have over 70 league matches and 30 cup and friendly games. Half of these are played at Elms Park together with various club days and events. The opposition comes not only from the Rushcliffe area but extends to Hucknall, Newark and the Mansfield area – so we do help to put Ruddington on the map. Having said that it is surprising how few Ruddington residents are aware of the existence of the bowling green, despite our efforts to advertise it. It would be good if could be were signposted in the village.

We are grateful to the Council for the provision and upkeep of the green for which we will pay £3.799 this year. We are delighted that Chris Churches has been made head groundsman as we have always had a good relationship with Chris and appreciated very much the way he stepped into the breach last year. Also we are pleased to have Scott helping keep the green. The improvement in the appearance of the green and its surrounds has been very noticeable and has received favourable comments from our members.

The pavilion, which consists of a club room, ladies and gents changing rooms and an equipment room, together with all the equipment and seating for spectators has been provided by the Club, and we are responsible for its upkeep and maintenance. Both buildings were painted in March last year.

All bowls clubs are experiencing a decline in numbers, and Ruddington is no exception. The Club will welcome anyone from Ruddington and surrounding areas to come to the green and have a go.”

## Ruddington Local History & Amenity Society – presented by Gavin Walker

Gavin thanked the Parish Council for the use of St. Peter’s Rooms over the Easter weekend for the photographic exhibition. This has been a very successful event attended by over 550 people on the 2 public days. It had the feel of a real village event with lots of interaction between the visitors and a number of new photographs had been brought forward.

Reporting on the activities in the Museum there is a new emphasis on community engagement. During the year the Museum had hosted a visit by 3 classes from James Peacock School which had been very successful. The village uniformed organisations were being encouraged to visit and the Beavers would be visiting during the next term.

The Museum has embarked on attaining accreditation, which requires the production of a lot of strategies and procedures but which will provide the Museum with access to additional sources of grant aid. The accreditation scheme is administered by the Arts Council.

A new museum website was launched during the year and the History Society and 'Bombs to Butterflies' websites would be updated over the following months.

The Chairman thanked Gavin for his presentation.

Ruddington Fun – presented by Jude Winwood

“As chair-person of the local group, Ruddington Fun, I'd like to extend our warm thanks to the Parish Council for all their kind and generous support since we formed in 2011.

We are grateful for the use of Parish Council venues, and all our events hosted in these are extremely well attended and appreciated by families in Ruddington.

We have carefully monitored who is attending our sessions and we're proud to say that children's ages range from 1 week to 10 years old, and many other family members also attend, including mums, dads and grandparents.

Our 2012 season kicked off with a Valentine's theme event at the Village Hall; and then Easter crafts in April; leading up to the summer holidays, where we offered six sessions in total. During this time we welcomed 891 adults and children through our doors. This certainly demonstrates the need for Ruddington fun's efforts”.

The Chairman thanked Jude for her presentation.

Ruddington Colts – presented by Andy Scott

The Clerk reported that Andy Scott was unable to attend but had submitted a written report, which he read out.

### **“1. Introduction.**

Apologies I cannot make the meeting due to a long standing family commitment. I hope this written report will meet your needs and update the meeting on how the Parish Council has supported the Club in the last year.

### **2. Specifics on Support in the Last Year.**

#### **Annual Support:**

- **Marking out of six a side pitches** to allow us to fund raise for the club each June (vital to help us meet league / insurance fees etc.);

- Use of pitch and facilities to stage an **annual Boxing Day charity football match**. Allowed us to donate £1,027.88 to the Air Ambulance service;
- **We continue to help the Parish Council by providing funding to help maintain the facilities** and pay for use by us for training and volunteer coach development; and
- **The Parish Council own and sustain the Jubilee Clubhouse** – there is no way in truth a group of volunteers like us could cope with all the costs and demands running such a facility brings. The club representatives meet with parish councillors formally twice a year to ensure the facility runs well.

#### **Weekly:**

- **High quality pitches** - preparation and maintenance; and
- **Provision of goals and nets** to meet the various league standards we are in. Currently we have 16 squads of players from under 7 to adults to cater for. All need to be supported by having the right playing surfaces and equipment.

#### **Problem Solving:**

- **We continue to work together to sustain and develop the Jubilee Clubhouse** – not just leaving the Parish to pick up the bill alone. New signage now on the clubhouse provided by the club at no cost to the Parish may help improve hire;
- **Dog fouling playing areas**. A serious issue for the health and welfare of players. Nationally there have been instances where children playing have encountered dog mess and lost their sight as a result of contamination / infection arising. The Parish policy of all dogs left on leash makes it better for us as it is not so easy for an owner to skulk off and leave dog mess. In addition advertising hoardings at the Jubilee Field will remind dog walkers they are on football pitches – not just a grassy field; and
- **Elms Park Kitchen**. Has been renovated by the club and Parish as a partnership project. The club providing the labour and expertise to strip out and refurbish the kitchen using equipment provided by the Parish. This is an excellent example of partnership working that allows a project to be done cost effectively for the benefit of the community.

### **3. Summary.**

- **In short we have a proper partnership with the Parish**. Our club does not simply demand the Parish buy this that or the other. We work together to try and find ways forward as equal partners to bring about realistic community improvements. We also stand with the Parish post project to ensure they work and are maximised; and

- **Finally, we would be a poorer club without Parish Council support.** We really appreciate the help provided by Parish Council staff and councillors. The community and the village would be a poorer place if we could not run the 16 teams for kids, adults, male and females - without the Parish Council I feel we would really struggle.”

The Chairman expressed his appreciation of all the work done by volunteers running the football teams.

#### Any Other Business

Two members of the public raised concerns about the possibility of advertising hoardings being placed on Elms Park. This had been approved in principle by Amenities Committee and was on the agenda for Finance and Policy Committee on 30<sup>th</sup> April. They were encouraged to attend the meeting to express their concerns.

The Chairman reported that a local resident had asked him to raise the issue of rubbish being left on the Green and the lack of a bin next to the seats. This will be taken to Environment & Community Committee.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting and invited them to stay behind for the refreshments which had been provided.

The meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.

Chairman