

RUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Environment & Policy Committee meeting

Held at St Peter's Rooms on Tuesday 18th November 2014 at 7.30 p.m.

Membership

	N J Tegerdine	Chairman
	Mrs M Pell	Vice-Chairman
	Mrs A Auckland	
A	Mrs S Kaur Samra	
	Miss H Opie	
	K S Piggott	
	M Walsh	

Action

PCO =
Parish
Council
Office

PCG =
Parish
Council
Groundstaff

Persons absent are marked 'A'

Persons representing the Parish Council on other business are marked 'O'

Also in Attendance

Councillor	D J Hall
Councillor	P F McGowan
Councillor	Mrs M Robinson
Councillor	Mrs B M Venes
Councillor	W A Wood
Borough Councillor	Mrs J Greenwood
G D Long	Clerk to the Council
4 members of the public	

E. 14/11/01 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs S Kaur Samra.

E. 14/11/02 Declaration of Member's Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

E. 14/11/03 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th October 2014, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

E. 14/11/04 Action List Update

An update on actions resulting from recommendations had previously been circulated.

Members noted this information.

E. 14/11/05 Motion for Adjournment

Resolved that: The Committee adjourns to allow the members of the public present to make statements on agenda items.

Borough Councillor Mrs J Greenwood informed the meeting that the planning application for 2 Landmere Lane was for a two storey front extension not, as described on the paperwork from Rushcliffe Borough Council, a one storey extension.

Committee in Session

E. 14/11/06 Development

New Applications

Resolved that: The observations contained in Planning Schedule 729 are adopted

Decision Notices

A list of recent decision notices was presented to the Committee and the contents noted.

E. 14/11/07 Environment & Policy Committee Income and Expenditure

Copies of the Summary Report on Income and Expenditure to 30th September 2014 had previously been circulated to members.

Resolved that: The above information is noted.

E. 14/11/08 Road Naming

Rushcliffe Borough Council had contacted the Parish Council a second time regarding the naming of land to the north of Woodhouse Gardens as the developer had rejected the first proposal of “The Marl Pits” (this is the historic local name for that area). After discussion it was agreed to try to retain at least part of the local name and Marl Close was agreed.

Resolved that: “Marl Close” is put forward to Rushcliffe Borough Council.

E. 14/11/09 Gateways to the Village (See minute E. 14/10/19)

Councillors and members of the public have frequently raised the issue of the poor state of the signs at the gateways to Ruddington over the past few years, in particular in comparison with other local villages.

The signs are the responsibility of Nottinghamshire County Council and are on the list for maintenance, but there is no timescale provided for any work. There are no current plans for replacement.

PCO

Members discussed this and agreed that the Parish Council should purchase one sign for each entrance. The Clerk agreed to obtain advice from Nottinghamshire County Council and bring back a report to a future meeting.

It was agreed that funding up to a maximum of £10,000 should come initially from the 'Village Green' fund, with the balance from the Major Projects fund. The Clerk reported that approval of Parish Council would be required for the use of these funds. It was agreed to put the request to the next Parish Council meeting.

Resolved that:

1. The Clerk should seek advice from Nottinghamshire County Council about the possible placement of a new sign at each gateway to the village and report to a future meeting, and
2. The Clerk would bring a request to the next Parish Council meeting for funding up to a maximum of £10,000, initially from the 'Village Green' fund and the balance from the Major Projects fund.

PCO

PCO

E. 14/11/10 Village Decoration (See minute E. 14/10/19)

At the recent Meeting with Businesses a suggestion was made that it might be possible to use the Xmas tree brackets during the summer to decorate the village. At the last E&P meeting a suggestion was put forward regarding banners/standards attached to lampposts in West Bridgford.

Members agreed to investigate the possibly of placing 'topiary balls with lights' in the Xmas tree brackets and to ask Nottinghamshire County Council about having banners in Ruddington. These ideas should be taken to the next Meeting with Businesses.

Resolved that:

1. The possibly of placing 'topiary balls with lights' in the Xmas tree brackets should be investigated.
2. Nottinghamshire County Council should be asked about having banners in Ruddington, and
3. These ideas should be taken to the next Meeting with Businesses.

PCO

PCO

NJT

E. 14/11/11 Traffic & Transport Plan (see minute E. 14/07/08)

The Chairman of the Ruddington Traffic Working Group, Councillor N J Tegerdine, reported that 792 responses had been received; 464 were submitted online and 328 by paper. The door to door delivery of the survey had been patchy but the overall response rate was excellent, showing a high interest in this topic throughout Ruddington.

The Group have met and outlined a format for the draft Transport Plan. This was agreed. The draft plan will be taken to Parish Council, then go out for consultation before coming back to Parish Council for final approval in January or March 2015.

Resolved that: The above information is noted.

E. 14/11/12 Budget 2015/2016

The Clerk pointed out it would be a very tight budget and the aim is to balance the underlying budget (i.e. excluding the transition grant which is expected to be removed for 2016/17).

A proposal was put forward for two new notices boards, one on Ashworth Avenue and one on Clifton Road, near Camelot Street. The Clerk pointed out that this would have an impact on the staff. Concern was expressed that the Parish Council did not own any property in these places.

It was agreed to consider both the costs of purchase and the impact on the staff of managing them, as well as the practicalities. A report should be brought to a future meeting.

Resolved that: The Clerk should bring a report to a future meeting about purchasing and managing two new notices boards, one on Ashworth Avenue and one on Clifton Road, near Camelot Street. This should include both the costs of purchase and managing the notice boards, as well as the practicalities.

PCO

E. 14/11/13 Living Wage

The Parish Council currently pays the Living Wage to those employees whose hourly rate falls below the Living Wage. This affects 6 posts.

The Living Wage increased on 1st November 2014 from £7.65 an hour to £7.85. This will result in increased costs in basic pay of £65 a month (on average) in total plus associated on costs.

This information was noted.

E. 14/11/14 Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan

Correspondence regarding an additional consultation for the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan relating to Sand and Gravel Provision in Shelford West had previously been circulated to members.

Concern was expressed about the proximity of the sand and gravel site to Shelford and the traffic implications. It was agreed to submit a letter of objection.

Resolved that: A letter should be sent in response to the consultation objecting on the basis of the proximity to Shelford and the traffic implications.

PCO

E. 14/11/15 Policing

Councillor N J Tegerdine reported a spate of car tyre slashing on Peartree Orchard, Easthorpe Street. This had been reported to the police.

E. 14/11/16 Highway Matters

There were no new highways matters reported.

E. 14/11/17 Meeting with Businesses

The notes from the Meeting with Businesses on 30th September 2104 (appended to these minutes) were discussed. It was agreed to check the signposting to Ruddington from the Nottingham Knight Island.

Resolved that: The Clerk will check the signposting to Ruddington from the Nottingham Knight Island.

PCO

E. 14/11/18 Ways to Improve the Look and Feel of Ruddington

There were no new matters raised.

E. 14/11/19 Other environmental matters for report

Councillor Mrs M Pell reported that there were 17 entries for the Christmas Business Shop Window Competition – an increase of one over last year.

E. 14/11/20 Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved that: In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted the public and press be temporarily excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item in accordance with Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and they are asked to withdraw.

E. 14/11/22 Christmas Event

The Clerk reported that Councillor Mrs B Breakwell had resigned as a parish councillor. A replacement was, therefore, required to lead the planning for the Christmas Event.

Consideration was given to the practicalities of successfully delivering the event in the current circumstances. After a full discussion of the situation and the risks of both proceeding and not proceeding, it was agreed to go ahead. Councillor N J Tegerdine requested that his view against proceeding was recorded.

Various issues, options and suggestions were discussed. It was agreed that Councillor Miss H Opie would lead the planning for the event, supported by Councillor W A Wood.

It was agreed that although the planning for the event was well advanced and Councillor Mrs B Breakwell had left notes on outstanding actions, there is a lot left to do in eight working days. In view of the timescale Councillors Miss H Opie and W A Wood were empowered to make any necessary decisions and, in consultation with the Clerk, authorise any necessary expenditure.

Resolved that: Councillor Miss H Opie will lead the planning for the event, supported by Councillor W A Wood. They are empowered to make any necessary decisions and, in consultation with the Clerk, authorise any necessary expenditure.

HO/WAW

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Chairman

Committee Chairman

Ruddington Parish Council

Meeting with Businesses 30 09 2014

Notes

Some of the issues/ideas raised at the last meeting have been addressed: a Business Directory has been produced and is being delivered to every house in Ruddington in early October. A Christmas event is planned and traffic issues are being considered by the Parish Council (see below).

There is still more to be done both by the Parish Council and by local businesses.

The Community Toilet Scheme will be up and running by Christmas. So far 3 businesses have come forward. If you are willing to be involved contact the Parish Council office.

Details of the Christmas Event are available from Councillor Barbara Breakwell (contact via Parish Council office). There will be markets, activities and entertainment. The likely venues are St. Peter's Rooms, St. Peter's Church and the Hermitage. The entry form for the Christmas Shop Window Competition is below.

Ruddington Traffic Plan: This is being developed by the Parish Council to reduce speeds, improve traffic flow and have a plan to underpin any comments made on planning applications. A survey is being delivered to every household and business in Ruddington to seek views. It is also available on the Parish Council website. Once a draft plan is drawn up there will be further consultation before the plan is finalised.

Conservation Area: Ruddington has a conservation area and the village core has a unique quality and appearance. The Parish Council are concerned about: e.g. advertising and footway obstruction, losing the unique quality, the impact of financial constraints on the planning authority.

Business responses on the 2 hour parking scheme:

- Has improved local footfall
- Has created parking spaces for customers
- Has caused displacement e.g. onto Kirk Lane
- There has been a mixed response but generally positive.

Other parking issues:

- Parking at the White Horse has helped. You can normally park there.
- There is other land, and other pubs, that could be used for parking.
- The White Horse, and Parish Council Car Park (next to Co-op), often have large vans in which take up a lot of space.
- There is a need for more enforcement – especially after 4.30 p.m.
- A big issue of parking on the pavement on Wilford Road opposite Sainsbury's.

Further Ways to Improve the Look and Feel of Ruddington.

- Improve tourist information: map, etc.
- Who enforces cigarette usage outside shops + pubs? Also litter & broken glass?
- Signage for Ruddington from the Nottingham Knight (none currently).
- Use Xmas tree brackets during the summer e.g. hanging baskets (not real flowers, led lights). Possibly one shop sponsors a basket outside another.
- Planters on Dutton's Hill (Wilford Road, opposite Sainsbury's) to improve the look and deter parking on the pavement.
- More focus on the Village Green: a sign made by a local craftsman, more events (following on from the success of the marquee on the Village Green during Ruddfest).
- Improve signage throughout the Village to direct people.
- Get more uniformity in e.g. litter bins to improve the 'brand'.
- Better 'gateway' signs to the Village. Parish councillors agreed to 'Do it ourselves'. Parish Council to fund?
- Employ Streetwise to clean up on a Sunday – to get to the bits that are difficult to do in the week. Parish Council to fund?
- Encourage residents and shop owners to be responsible for their own frontages.