

RUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Environment & Policy Committee meeting

Held at St Peter's Rooms on Tuesday 28th April 2015 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	G Ellison
Councillor	D J Hall
Councillor	P F McGowan
Councillor	Mrs M Robinson
Councillor	Mrs B M Venes
Councillor	W A Wood
G D Long	
8 members of the public	

E. 15/04/01 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs S Kaur Samra who was away on holiday.

E. 15/04/02 Declaration of Member's Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

E. 15/04/03 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th February 2015, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

E. 15/04/04 Action List Update

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

E. 15/04/05 Motion for Adjournment

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

Councillor P F McGowan suggested that the issue of the 2 boarded up houses on the Green should be raised again with Rushcliffe Borough Council. He also suggested a competition for the design of the proposed new gateways to the village.

Catherine Haywood referred to the planning application for an advertising hoarding on Sellor's Playing Field, the number of objections submitted, the decision of Amenities Committee to object and queried the use of the Council's Scheme of Delegation by the Clerk.

David Hollingworth said that the sign should be placed on Clifton Road.

Councillor Mrs B M Venes said she did not like the format of reporting of Decision Notices (Item 6b).

Rebecca Collison referred to the item of Recognising Improvements and said she agreed with the proposal regarding the Bricklayers Arms and the Ruddington Arms. She referred to 'Improving the Look and Feel' and reported a broken window in the Village Hall and problems with the fence around the play area on Sellors Playing.

Catherine Haywood referred to Item 6b and said it would help her to have the address on the report.

Committee in Session

E. 15/04/06 Development

New Applications

Resolved that: The observations contained in Planning Schedule 740 are adopted

Decision Notices

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

E. 15/04/07 Risk Assessment

A risk assessment review was undertaken during 2014/15. The results have been circulated to members.

The Clerk reported that action identified to reduce risks as part of the risk assessment process will be addressed as soon as is practicable. It is anticipated that the works required can be contained within existing budgets for 2015/16.

The Clerk recommended that the Parish Council should commission a tree audit that would document all trees on Parish Council land, note the general condition of the trees and whether tree surgery would be required. Trees in St Peter's Churchyard for example are particularly tall and could potentially cause a lot of damage if one were to fall. The cost of the audit should be met from the Earmarked Fund for tree works.

The last fire risk assessments were completed in October 2013 and should be completed every two years. An independent fire risk assessment firm carried out the inspections. The cost of this risk assessment and any associated works is anticipated to be funded from existing budgets in 2015/16.

Resolved that:

1. The action identified to reduce risks as part of the risk assessment process is addressed as soon as is practicable. PCO
2. An audit of trees on Parish Council Land is commissioned. The cost of the audit should be met from the Earmarked Fund set aside for tree work. PCO
3. A fire risk assessment should be completed in autumn 2015. PCO

E. 15/04/08 Recognising Improvements

Developments that have improved the look and feel of the village can be recognised by the Parish Council.

Both the Ruddington Arms and the Bricklayers Arms have made substantial improvements to the exterior of their premises. In addition both premises make a contribution to keeping the adjacent areas relatively free from litter.

Resolved that:

1. A framed certificate is produced and given to each premise in an awards event at each premise. PCO
2. The Parish Council is represented by the Chairman or Vice Chairman of Environment and Policy. NJT

E. 15/04/09 Policy & Finance Officer (See minute C. 15/01/17 & 15/02/10)

The Clerk reported that Sue Peacock had been appointed as Policy and Finance Officer.

Resolved that: The above information is noted.

E. 15/04/10 Policing

1. The Ruddington Beat Manager, Rob Archer, had agreed to attend the meeting to give a report and discuss any specific items. Unfortunately he had to give his apologies.
2. To receive any policing matters for report

Councillor Mrs M Pell reported on the recent Priority Setting Meeting advising: an increase in anti-social behaviour at night time; some pubs are causing concern; and new equipment is available through the local Beat Team for community speed checks.

Councillor N J Tegerdine reported that cuts in the Policing budget would result in the loss of 25% of PCSOs across the County.

Resolved that: This information is noted.

E. 15/04/11 Highway Matters

Councillor D J Hall reported that from next week the Parking Wardens will be around both in the early mornings and during the evenings.

Resolved that: This information is noted.

E. 15/04//12 Meeting with Businesses

No new matters were raised.

E. 15/04//13 Ways to Improve the Look and Feel of Ruddington

Councillor G Ellison suggested that daffodils on grass verges could be planted on grass verges for example on Loughborough Road. It was agreed to put this on a future agenda.

Councillor P F McGowan raised the issue of the 2 boarded up cottages on The Green and also the grassed areas which are not cut as frequently as needed by Nottinghamshire County Council.

Councillor Mrs M Pell said that the Parish Council planters are looking dead and that the hanging baskets at St. Peter's Rooms are looking dead & bedraggled.

PCO

E. 15/04/14 Other environmental matters for report

Councillor Mrs M Pell raised the issue of enforcing legal restrictions in the Conservation Area, in particular signs on buildings on the High Street and A frames.

The Clerk said that individual issues were best raised with the Borough Council either directly by councillors and/or members of the public or through the Parish Council office. He further pointed out that A frames were a Highways issue not a Conservation Area issue and should be reported to Nottinghamshire County Council.

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Chairman

Committee Chairman