

RUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING**

HELD AT ST PETER'S ROOMS ON TUESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2011 AT 7.30PM

Councillors	N. Tegerdine	Chairman
	K. S. Piggott	Vice-Chairman
	Miss S. A. Chambers	
A	Mrs S. Kaur Samra	
	P. Lyons Lewis	
A	M. S. McGowan	
	Mrs M. Pell	
A	Mrs M. Robinson	

Persons absent are marked 'A'

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor	Mrs B. Breakwell
Councillor	D. J. Hall
G. D. Long	Clerk to the Council
Mrs L.M. Cooke	Deputy Clerk
Ian Wilson	Ruddington Business Partnership
1 member of the public	

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs S. Kaur Samra, and Mrs M. Robinson.

DECLARATION OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest made.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2011, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE REPORT

Rushcliffe Borough Council – Update following the Visioning Event  
(Vide Minute C. 11/1522)

At the Parish Council meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> November it was agreed to accept an offer from Borough Councillor Neil Clarke, Leader of Rushcliffe

Council to update the Parish Council and to invite him to this meeting of the Environment and Community Committee. The Clerk reported that a response had been received to the invitation that Councillor Clarke is unable to attend due to other commitments and requesting an alternative date. There were no suitable alternatives possible before the final decision is made by Rushcliffe Borough Council on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

## MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

### RESOLVED

That the Committee adjourn to allow the members of the public present to make statements on agenda items.

During the adjournment the following matters were raised:

1. Mr Ian Wilson gave a verbal report on the Ruddington Business Partnership. This was set up in August after he had attended a similar event in Rushcliffe. The RBP meets monthly with a mailing list of 40 local businesses and an attendance of 12 – 20. After initial assistance from Rushcliffe it is now self-supporting. There are plans to expand with a 'Beer and Banter' session on a Friday evening to encourage local tradespeople who are not available for breakfast meetings, and later, with some topic based sessions involving a half hour presentation followed by networking.

The Chair thanked Mr Wilson for his presentation which would assist the Committee when considering the Parish Council's relationships with local businesses later on the agenda.

2. Mrs Dee Flight addressed the Committee regarding trees which had recently been planted on Elms Park near her house. She thanked the Committee for agreeing to discuss this item at short notice and asked the Committee to consider repositioning these trees.

Mrs Flight commented that the park is fantastic, that she uses it daily and that trees add value to the park. These trees, however, have been planted from between 4 to 8 metres from her southern boundary and she had not been consulted about their position. She has subsequently seen the plans (relating to the introduction of the cycle path) and the trees have not been planted where they are indicated on the plan which shows the trees as being approximately 8 to 12 metres from her boundary. Mrs Flight feels that the trees being so close to her property have a detrimental effect, in particular the loss of light over a period of time.

Councillor D J Hall informed the Committee that the trees were provided by Rushcliffe Borough Council as part of the cycle path scheme and had been sited where suggested by the Borough's Arboricultural Officer.

The Chairman asked for clarification on how many trees Mrs Flight was requesting to be moved and she responded that only one tree was in the place set out in the original plan.

## **COMMITTEE IN SESSION**

### **E. 11/824 DEVELOPMENT**

#### **RESOLVED**

##### **New Applications**

That the observations contained in Planning Schedule 665 be adopted.

##### **Decision Notices**

Schedule DN 210 was presented to the Committee and the contents noted.

### **E. 11/825 POLICING**

#### **Ruddington Police Station**

No further information has been received.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the above information be noted.

#### **New Non Emergency Telephone Number**

Copies of a public notice had been circulated regarding the new Police non-emergency telephone number, 101. This is now live in Nottinghamshire and replaces the 0300 300 9999 number, which will be turned off completely on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the above information be noted.

#### **Police Priority Setting Meeting**

Councillor Mrs B. Breakwell reported on her attendance at the Police Priority Setting Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

She advised that the meeting had been led by P.C. Ann Gill as there was no Inspector present. The following issues were discussed:-

- Anti-Social behaviour is still a priority across the whole area
- Officers are being moved around to cover various operations
- P.C. Ann Gill is progressively training more officers in the use of

hand-held speed cameras

- Attendees were reminded of the Alert System which people can register with to be kept informed of issues/trends in the area. People can also fill in a satisfaction questionnaire on the site.
- On-going issue is car crime, but it was pointed out that a lot of this is due to insecure cars. It was stressed that in the lead up to Christmas, and during the current economic climate, people need to use their common sense to minimise the risk of becoming a victim.

Councillor Mrs Breakwell advised that she will be attending the next meeting which will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2012 and would report back.

RESOLVED

That the above information be noted.

Community Speed Watch

Councillor D. J. Hall asked whether there had been any progress on the Community Speed Watch initiative. The Deputy Clerk reported that the training had not yet taken place but that the Parish Council office would make further enquiries of Nottinghamshire Police.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk makes further enquiries of Nottinghamshire Police in respect of the Community Speed Watch initiative.

GDL

There were no further policing matters to report.

E. 11/826 HIGHWAY MATTERS

There were no new highways matters raised.

RESOLVED

That the above information be noted.

E. 11/827 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE (Vide Minute E. 11/813)

The Deputy Clerk reported that the Parish Church had responded positively to the request to dress a tree in the churchyard for Christmas and that this had now been done. Councillor Mrs B Breakwell reported that the person who originally requested this had asked for her thanks to be passed on to the Parish Council. The Chairman asked that the groundstaff be thanked for their efforts in making sure the tree was lit in time for the festive season.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council thank the groundstaff for their efforts in making

sure the tree was lit in time for the festive season.  
E. 11/828 RUDDINGTON FESTIVAL

GDL

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council Office had contacted the insurance company regarding legal liability insurance cover for the Ruddington Festival. A copy of the response had previously been circulated advising that some further information will be required regarding the scope of the event.

Councillor Mrs B Breakwell reported that the information had been passed on to the Working Group who will take appropriate action and that she will provide the Parish Council with relevant information in due course.

RESOLVED

That Councillor Mrs B. Breakwell provides the Parish Council with relevant information for the insurance company in due course.

GDL

E. 11/829 RUDDINGTON BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP (Vide Minute E. 11/816)

The Chairman referred to the contribution from Ian Wilson earlier and it was concluded that the Ruddington Business Partnership covers some of what the Parish Council aspires to achieve.

Members agreed that the Parish Council is looking to work with businesses to address issues that affect local business. In particular there are issues that local retailers and the Parish Council could address together. It was agreed that the first step was to build a relationship with the businesses and that the planned open evening for local businesses would be a good start. The Chairman and Vice Chairman agreed to discuss the open evening event with the Chairman of the Parish Council with a view to holding the first event in early spring.

RESOLVED

That the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Environment and Community discuss the open evening for local businesses with the Chairman of the Parish Council with a view to holding the first event in early spring.

NT/KP

E. 11/830 ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY BUDGET 2012/2013

Probable Out-Turn 2011/2012

Copies of the Probable Out-Turn 2011/2012, Proposed Environment and Community Budget 2012/2013, and Renewals and Repairs Funds had previously been circulated to members.

The Clerk explained that the Probable Out-Turn 2011/2012 had been based on the actual performance in the first six months of the year, with adjustments made for any known over/under spending. The Committee noted the comments and agreed the Probable Out-Turn 2011/2012 as

presented.

### Annual Budget 2012/2013

The proposed annual budget 2012/2013 was discussed in some depth. Members were advised that in the absence of the information from Rushcliffe Borough Council in respect of the new tax base the impact on the Council Tax for a Band D property had been based on the previous year's figure.

### RESOLVED

1. That the Probable Out-Turn 2011/2012, a copy of which is appended to these minutes, be approved.
2. That the annual budget 2012/2013, a copy of which is appended to these Minutes, be approved and forwarded to the Finance & Policy Committee for inclusion in the Parish Council's overall budget document.

GDL

### E. 11/831 "A FRESH APPROACH TO HOUSING – NOTHING IS YET DECIDED" (Vide Minute E. 11/821)

A copy of a download from the BBC website dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2011, setting out the number of new homes that Rushcliffe Borough Council had approved to be built over the next 15 years had previously been circulated. Approval in principle has been given by RBC for 1,500 new homes near Ruddington, Keyworth, Radcliffe-on-Trent and East Leake.

### RESOLVED

That the above information be noted.

### E. 11/832 WAYS TO IMPROVE THE LOOK AND FEEL OF RUDDINGTON (Vide Minute E. 11/822)

#### Maintenance of grass verges

The Deputy Clerk reported that Nottinghamshire County Council had informed her by email that the verges along the A60 are maintained by NCC up to each individual property boundary. Some residents cut highway grass themselves so there are varying standards of cutting along the whole length.

### RESOLVED

That the above information be noted.

### E. 11/833 STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE (Vide Minute C. 11/1537)

Members were advised that this matter had been referred to this

Committee by the Parish Council. Copies of a previous plan, originally produced in 2007, had been circulated to members.

It was suggested that a working group be set up to review and update the 2007 plan, as a first step towards a new plan. If possible this should be brought to the next meeting. Councillors Mrs S. Chambers, P. Lyons Lewis and Mrs M. Pell volunteered to be on the working group and agreed to arrange a meeting at the earliest opportunity.

#### RESOLVED

That a working group to review and update the 2007 plan consisting of councillors Mrs S. Chambers, P. Lyons Lewis and Mrs M. Pell be set up and arrange to meet at the earliest opportunity.

SC/PLL/  
MP

#### E. 11/834 TREES PLANTED ON ELMS PARK PLAYING FIELD

Correspondence had previously been circulated relating to the recent planting of 6 trees on Elms Park as part of the cycle scheme provided by Rushcliffe Borough Council. Mrs Dee Flight, near whose boundary they had been planted, had raised concerns about the eventual loss of light in her back garden.

During the discussion a number of issues were raised:

- That the trees are not planted where they are shown on the original plan and are closer to Mrs Flight's boundary
- That it is possible to manage the height of the trees long term by periodic pollarding
- That since Rushcliffe Borough paid for and planted the trees they should be involved in the solution
- That consideration should be given to the most sensible place for these trees.

A number of solutions were considered:

- Managing the height of the trees (pollarding)
- Moving the trees to where they are shown on original plan
- Re-evaluating where the trees are best sited

Members agreed that Rushcliffe Borough Council should be contacted and that they along with the Chairman of the Amenities Committee, the Clerk and the Parish Council groundstaff consult on site to find an acceptable solution.

#### RESOLVED

That the Clerk contact Rushcliffe Borough Council and that RBC along with the Chairman of the Amenities Committee, the Clerk and the Parish Council groundstaff consult on site to find an acceptable solution.

GDL

E. 11/835 OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS FOR REPORT

Dog Faeces

The Deputy Clerk reported that she had been advised of a local lady who had slipped on some dog faeces in Ruddington and had broken her hip. With the lady's permission, and when she is well enough, the Deputy Clerk proposed to write an article in the Village Newsletter as an illustration of the possible consequences of people not picking up the excrement left by their dogs.

LC

Development at the rear of 218-220 Loughborough Road

A copy of a letter from Mr Aram to Rushcliffe Borough Council was circulated at the meeting. It expressed concerns about the protection of trees on the development to the rear of 218 and 220 Loughborough Road.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Chairman

Committee Chairman