

RUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**DRAFT Minutes of the Environment & Community Committee meeting**  
Held at St Peter's Rooms on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

**Membership**

A	N J Tegerdine	Chairman
	K S Piggott	Vice-Chairman
	Mrs A Auckland	
	Miss S A Chambers	
	Mrs S Kaur Samra	
A	M S McGowan	
A	P F McGowan	
	Mrs M Pell	

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'

**In the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman took the Chair.**

Also in Attendance

Councillor	D J Hall
G D Long	Clerk to the Council
Mrs L M Cooke	Deputy Clerk
1 member of the public	

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P F McGowan and N J Tegerdine, and the reasons accepted.

Declaration of Member's Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2012, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Vice Chairman.

E. 11/871 Action List Update

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

Members noted this information

## E. 12/872 Motion for Adjournment

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

Mr David Hollingworth considered that planters would look out of place at St. Peter's Rooms because the ground is higher than the footpath and suggested that the Green might be a good site. He informed those present that Christmas trees contain a resin and therefore any chippings from them need to be placed carefully as they can damage the soil. Regarding enforcing parking restrictions he noted the response from the police and expressed the opinion that more enforcement action was required from the police.

## Committee in Session

### E. 12/873 Development

#### New Applications

**Resolved that:** The observations contained in Planning Schedule 679 are adopted.

#### Development at James Peacock Infant and Nursery School

Information regarding a proposed development to form an additional classroom, extend the hall/dining room and provide additional toilets at James Peacock Infant and Nursery School had previously been circulated. Nottinghamshire County Council had consulted under the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2010 Notice Under Article 23 with a deadline of 24<sup>th</sup> July. Members were consulted prior to the deadline and no objections were raised.

#### Decision Notices

Schedule DN 214 was presented to the Committee and the contents noted.

### E. 12/874 Policing

#### Withdrawal of dedicated police vehicle

Information that the vehicle currently dedicated for use by the Ruddington Beat Manager and PCSO will be put into a car pool had previously been circulated to members. A vehicle may, or may not, be available for use on any given day. On days when a vehicle is not available it is possible that the Beat Manager will be allocated to work elsewhere.

The Chairman of the Parish Council had suggested writing a letter of protest to Nottinghamshire Police.

The Clerk reported that Councillor Mrs B Breakwell had raised the Parish Council's concerns at the Police Priority Setting Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> July.

Members agreed to write a letter of protest.

**Resolved that:** The Parish Council Office should write to the Local Area Police Inspector protesting at the withdrawal of a dedicated vehicle for the Ruddington Beat Manager.

Other Policing Matters

There were no other policing matters raised.

PCO

E. 12/875 Highway Matters

There were no new highways matters raised

E. 12/876 Garden Competition

Results 2012

Copies of a report of the results of the 2012 Front Garden and Window Boxes / Baskets / Planters competition, which were judged on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2012, had previously been circulated to members.

**Resolved that:**

1. The prizes are awarded as follows:

**Front Garden**

Winner	Mrs I C Hardman	26 Church Street
Second	Mr E H Radford	11 Sheepfold Lane
Third	Mr D R Wharmby	38 Camelot Street

**Window boxes/Baskets/Planters**

Winner	Mr S P Horton	1 Fairham Close
Second	Mr R J & Mrs S Porter	100 Wilford Road
Third	Mrs J Cartwright	60 Churchill Drive

**Overall Winner of the Harold Wroughton Memorial Trophy**

Mr S P Horton	1 Fairham Close
---------------	-----------------

2. The Council, in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them commensurate with this expenditure:

a) Prize money	£125.00
b) Judge's Fee	£20.00

PCO

### Garden Competition 2013

Copies of a report prepared by the Deputy Clerk suggesting that, for the Garden Competition in 2013, the two categories were combined and that a new Business/Shop Frontage competition is introduced had previously been circulated.

Councillor D J Hall suggested that a children's competition is included and agreed to discuss this with councillors involved with the local schools.

#### **Resolved that:**

1. That the two sections in the Garden Competition are combined so that there is just one competition for Front Gardens
2. That the Parish Council considers launching a Business/Shop Frontage Competition and a further report is brought to Environment and Community Committee to agree details.

PCO

PCO

### Photographic Garden Competition

A request to include non-eligible photographs in the display had previously been circulated.

**Resolved that:** Photographs from photographers who are not eligible to enter the competition may be included in the display.

PCO

### E. 12/877 Hanging Basket Scheme

A report on the future of the Hanging Basket Scheme had previously been circulated to members. Interest in this scheme has dropped off considerably over the last few years as businesses have become more 'water' aware, more concerned about safety issues and have complained about costs (a £20 donation for each basket).

The total number of baskets ordered for 2012 has fallen to 16, which includes 9 baskets for around St. Peter's Rooms. At least one business (who takes 3 baskets) has said that they are doubtful whether they will order again after this year.

#### **Resolved that:**

1. The Parish Council ends the hanging basket scheme at the end of the summer 2012
2. That the Parish Council continues to order and display 9 summer hanging baskets and 9 winter hanging baskets at St. Peter's Rooms
- 3.

PCO

### E. 12/878 Planter Scheme

A report suggesting the provision of planters at St. Peter's Rooms and in other places in the village had previously been circulated to members. Each planter would be provided and 'planted out' by the Parish Council but a team of 3 volunteer local households would be required to water, weed and maintain each one.

Members agreed that this idea should be pursued. A number of options for both planters and sites were considered and avenues for further investigation were suggested.

**Resolved that:** A further report is brought to Environment and Community Committee with more specific proposals and costs.

PCO

### E. 12/879 Regular Village Clean-up (See minute C. 12/1612)

Parish Council on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2012 had requested that Environment and Community Committee discuss appropriate actions for regularly keeping the village clean.

It was agreed that this required someone, or a small group, to organise and promote this. A programme of key dates (4 or 5 through the year) needs to be drawn up to clean up known hotspots. A plan of what needs doing and what equipment is needed devised and local individuals, organisations and businesses approached requesting volunteers to undertake the work.

**Resolved that:** A report is taken to Parish Council on 18<sup>th</sup> September asking for one or more volunteers to organise and champion a programme of clean-ups involving individuals, organisations and businesses across Ruddington.

PCO

### E. 12/880 Community Speed Watch (See minute E.12/841)

A report on setting up a Community Speed Watch Scheme had previously been circulated. The Clerk reported that an effective scheme required a number of volunteers and someone to organise. Publicity seeking interest had resulted in only 2 potential volunteers. It was agreed that this was insufficient to take a scheme forward.

In 2009 the Parish Council made a contribution to Nottinghamshire Police to assist taking forward a Scheme for Ruddington.

**Resolved that:**

1. A Community Speed Watch Scheme is not taken forward at this point.
2. Nottinghamshire Police are asked to return the contribution made in 2009 when this was first raised.

PCO

#### E. 12/881 Lorry Watch

A report on setting up a Lorry Watch Scheme had previously been circulated. Lorry Watch is a scheme in Nottinghamshire where local people identify the misuse of weight restricted routes by heavy goods vehicles

The Clerk reported that there is only one weight restricted route in Ruddington (Flawforth Lane).

**Resolved that:** A Lorry Watch Scheme is not taken forward.

#### E. 12/882 Strategic Plan for Environment and Community Committee (See minute E. 12/866)

A first draft of the Strategic Plan for Environment and Community Committee had previously been circulated.

The Vice Chairman thanked the working group for producing an excellent piece of work. He suggested that members feed back any comments to the Clerk and that the Clerk, in conjunction with the Chairman, produce a further draft for the next meeting.

**Resolved that:**

1. Members submit their comments to the Clerk by 31<sup>st</sup> August.
2. The Clerk and Chairman produce a further draft for the next meeting of Environment and Community Committee.

Cllrs

PCO/  
NJT

#### E. 12/883 Consultation on Passenger Transport Services

A consultation from Nottinghamshire County Council on Passenger Transport Services had previously been circulated.

Members noted this information.

#### E. 12/884 Christmas Tree Scheme (See minute E. 11/844)

A report on extending the Christmas Tree Scheme had previously been circulated to members. The Deputy Clerk reported that there is some interest from additional businesses in joining the scheme. The current brackets have a narrow diameter and this means time is spent trimming the trunks to fit. The cost of trees is now greater than the £10 donation.

Consideration was given to the level of the donation. It was agreed that this should be raised to £15.

It was agreed to extend the scheme and to order sufficient new brackets to replace the existing brackets, provide for new members and keep some in reserve.

**Resolved that:**

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. The number of shops/businesses included on the scheme is extended.   | PCO |
| 2. The donation is increased to £15 per tree.   | PCO |
| 3. The Parish Council Office gets firm commitments from additional shops/businesses.  | PCO |
| 4. The Parish Council Office orders sufficient brackets to provide trees to those properties, to replace existing brackets and to keep some brackets for stock, and LED lighting sets and transformers for the new trees. | PCO |
| 5. The matter is referred to the Finance & Policy Committee to decide on the most cost-effective method of installing the new brackets and/or replacing the existing brackets.  | PCO |

E. 12/885 Website/Village Newsletter Updates

A report on visits to the Parish Council website and circulation figures for the Village Newsletter had previously been circulated to members.

The Vice Chairman commented on the excellent progress being made in terms of response to both the website and the newsletter.

Members noted this information.

E. 12/886 Parking Enforcement Responsibilities (See minute E. 12/866)

A report on the response from Nottinghamshire Police on the responsibilities for different types of parking offence had previously been circulated.

Members noted this information.

E. 12/887 Possible Action on Empty Homes (See minute E. 12/869)

A report on the different possible legal ways of action being taken on empty homes had previously been circulated. These all have to be taken by Rushcliffe Borough Council. Given the time and cost involved these will only be pursued if it is a political priority

**Resolved that:** Any specific empty properties causing concern should be referred to the local ward Borough Councillors for action.

E. 12/888 Ways to Improve the Look and Feel of Ruddington  
(See minute E. 12/869)

Repainting White and Yellow Lines

Councillor Mrs M Pell reported that many white and yellow lines across Ruddington required repainting. This is the responsibility of Nottinghamshire County Council. The Clerk agreed to contact NCC.

E. 12/889 Other Environmental Matters for Report

Planning Applications in August

The Deputy Clerk reported that any large planning applications (or a large number of small ones) to be decided in August would need a meeting arranged. A few small applications could be dealt with by contacting councillors and requesting comments.

Walnut Close

The Clerk reported that the new road off Elms Close would be called Walnut Close.

Vacancy - Easthorpe Ward

The Clerk reported that there had not been a request for an election to fill the vacancy in Easthorpe Ward. A process of co-option to fill the vacancy would now go ahead.

Bus Shelters – Loughborough Road (See minute E. 12/860)

The Clerk reported that County Councillor Reg Adair had recently informed him that the request for bus shelters on Loughborough Road (on the side farthest from the village) is still being progressed.

The meeting closed at 8.38 p.m.

Chairman

Committee Chairman