

RUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD AT ST. PETER'S ROOMS, CHURCH STREET ON TUESDAY 30th
NOVEMBER 2010 AT 7.30PM

Membership

	Councillors	D.J. Hall	Chairman
		K.S. Piggott	Vice-Chairman
		Miss S.A. Chambers	
		P. Lyons-Lewis	
	A	P.F. McGowan	
		J.V. Norton	
		Mrs. B. Venes	
	A	M. Walsh	

Persons absent are marked 'A'

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs. J.A. Goodbody	Clerk to the Council
Mrs. L.M. Cooke	Deputy Clerk
C. Churches	Qualified Groundsman
6 members of the public	

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P.F. McGowan, M. Walsh and Richard Shelbourn, Senior Groundsman.

DECLARATION OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS

Councillor Mrs. B.M. Venes advised Members that she will be serving on the Borough Council's Development Control Committee when a final decision is taken on planning applications and will therefore abstain from voting when planning applications are discussed.

Councillor Mrs. B. M. Venes declared an interest in any item appertaining to the Allotments.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2010, having been previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**Jubilee Clubhouse** (Vide Minute A. 10/826)

The Clerk queried whether the fee for core use of the facility would be paid by the Club or whether each individual team would need to be

invoiced. Councillor J.V. Norton advised that the Club should be invoiced in January 2011 for the total amount of £1080 (inclusive of VAT) and confirmed that the 50% rate would only apply to club meetings and club staff training sessions over the permitted core usage allowed, ie over 10 meetings per year.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

RESOLVED:

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

During the adjournment the following matters were raised:-

David Hollingworth raised the question as to why a planning application had been submitted by John A. Wells Ltd. for the erection of a farm office building at Barn Farm as to his knowledge a farm office was built when the company first moved there. Members noted this information.

Rahul Patel, the sponsor of Ruddington Cricket Club, expressed his concern that the Cricket Club had failed to settle their outstanding invoices for the 2010 Season. He advised that the account would be settled this evening and suggested that for the 2011 Season he would be willing to collect the match fees from the members of the Club and pay the Parish Council. John Wright and Nic Greaves, representing Ruddington Cricket Club, advised that there had been issues within the Club which had resulted in non-payment. He thanked the Parish Council for its support for cricket in the parish.

Mrs. B. Dickman advised Members that Planning Application No. 10/01903/FUL in respect of the construction of a new dwelling at 25 Kirk Lane had been submitted following refusal of the original application by the Borough Council. This new application includes the suggestions made by the Planning Officer. The Clerk pointed out that the Parish Council had not objected to the original planning application submitted for this site.

COMMITTEE IN SESSION

A. 10/836 DEVELOPMENT

New Applications

That the observations contained in Planning Schedule 638 be adopted.

A. 10/837 CRICKET FACILITIES (Vide Minute A. 10/823)

Councillor J.V. Norton advised that following the Finance & Policy Committee Meeting he had been liaising with the Cricket Club through Nic Greaves who had been unaware and most concerned about the outstanding invoices. He had explained that there were one or two problems between the two teams which would be sorted out but in the

meantime he had offered to come to this meeting to explain the situation and settle all outstanding monies.

Members expressed their appreciation to the representatives of the Cricket Club for attending the meeting and explaining the circumstances.

Provision of cricket training facilities.

Councillor J.V. Norton re-iterated to the Cricket Club the importance of their involvement in the provision of cricket training facilities and said it would prove helpful to the Parish Council if the Club could provide information on the various types of training facilities at other similar clubs and also the type of facility they would like to see provided at Ruddington.

Councillor J.V. Norton advised that the Parish Council would like the Cricket Club to work with it and stressed that the Parish Council wishes to see the Cricket Club thrive and attract youngsters to the sport.

The Chairman asked the club representatives whether it would be possible for them to do some fundraising towards making a contribution to the cost of this installation.

In response, the representatives said they would endeavour to provide more information in time for the next meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED:

1. That the above information be noted.
2. That this matter be further discussed at the next meeting of the Committee.

JG

A. 10/838 ELMS PARK PLAY AREA (Vide Minute A. 10/824)

Environmental Improvement Scheme – Elms Park

The Chairman reported that following a meeting with Tom Pettit, it has been agreed that the new cycle path will follow the existing footpath from the entrance to Elms Park to near the new play area. At this point, the cycle path will separate and run between the two lines of trees towards the Jubilee Playing Field and on to the country park and business park. A knee high rail will be installed along the cycle path for safety and the ditch will be covered as appropriate.

In addition to this, the existing gates at the Elms Park entrance to the playing field will be replaced by the gates which were originally at the Loughborough Road entrance and the pedestrian access will be swapped to the other side.

The Chairman confirmed that all of this work would be done by the Nottinghamshire County Council Local Improvement Scheme Team at no cost to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED

That the above information be noted

Elms Park Play Area

The Chairman reported that the work had commenced on the new play area on 29th November and that the contractors are making good progress despite the poor weather. The Chairman confirmed that Proludic had arranged for the existing concrete base to be dug out to ensure a better foundation for the new surface.

The Qualified Groundsman, Chris Churches, advised that some necessary changes had been made to the original plans. Some of the trees which were to be removed would now remain in situ although they may require some pruning. The mound adjacent to the Maintenance Unit will not be installed as it was considered to be too close to the building. The rocks originally planned for seating / climbing will not now be installed as they have not been particularly successful at other sites. In their place, additional sleepers and stepping stones would be installed. The Vitality Area is also being moved to act as a screen to the main play area.

Councillor J. V. Norton was concerned about the position of the footpath taking into account the new position of the Vitality Area. He asked the Qualified Groundsman to ensure that the footpath was included in any changes to the plan as agreed with Proludic.

The Chairman stated that he is hoping the Parish Council will be able to secure further funding for Phase 3, the Multi-use Sports Area in the future. He added that the whole project will be something the Parish Council and the village can be proud of.

At this point, the Chairman thanked the representatives of the cricket club for attending the meeting and they subsequently left.

RESOLVED

That the above information be noted

A. 10/839 ST. PETER'S CHURCHYARD (Vide Minute A. 10/825)

Councillor J.V. Norton reported that to date there had been no further communication and therefore there was nothing to report at this time.

RESOLVED

That the above be noted

A. 10/840 FLAWFORTH CHURCHYARD (Vide Minute A. 10/827)

Councillor J. V. Norton reported that after speaking to the Head Groundsman, Richard Shelbourn, he was making enquiries to find the

most appropriate material to use for re-marking the outline of the original church at Flawford Churchyard. Councillor Norton advised that the project required a material that was binding so that it could not easily be dug up or hinder the mowers, but that did not set solidly as concrete would do. He estimated that the cost would be in the region of £40 per tonne and would need to be in two colours. Councillor Norton advised that he would report back to the next Amenities Committee when he hoped to have identified something suitable for the project.

RESOLVED

That the above information be noted

A. 10/841 WAR MEMORIAL (Vide Minute A. 10/828)

The Clerk reported that she had not received any further communication from the War Memorial's Trust in respect of the availability of application forms for the Grants for War Memorials Scheme but would chase this at the earliest opportunity.

The Clerk also reported that despite requests, only two of the three contractors approached had put in quotations for the work that was required. Councillor J. V. Norton advised that if both quotations were competitive, this would not normally be a problem, however, since in this case one of the quotations is clearly not comparable, the Clerk should find a contractor to provide a third quotation.

RESOLVED

1. That the Clerk contact the War Memorial's Trust to ascertain when the application form for the Grants for War Memorial Scheme will be available. JG
2. That the Clerk seeks a third quotation from another stonemason for the repairs at the War Memorial. JG

A. 10/842 CHURCH STREET CAR PARK

Councillor J. V. Norton reported that he has arranged an informal meeting with the Medical Centre architect, John Hallatt next week, along with representatives from the Ruddington Medical Centre to discuss all aspects of use of Church Street Car Park.

Councillor Mrs. B. M. Venes stated that it would be unfair to have reserved spaces for the Medical Centre which would not be available for general use if the Medical Centre staff were not using them.

Councillor Norton advised that he would listen to what all parties had to say and would report back to the Amenities Committee in due course.

RESOLVED

That the above information be noted.

A. 10/843 VILLAGE HALL

The Chairman reminded Members that there is to be an informal meeting on 14th December at St. Peter's Rooms, commencing 7.30pm to discuss possible suggestions for the future of the Village Hall. All Councillors are invited to attend or if unable to do so, to send in their comments/views to the Parish Council Office in time for the meeting.

RESOLVED

That the above information be noted.

A. 10/844 RISK ASSESSMENTS AT SELLORS PLAY AREA

Copies of the Risk Assessment for the Sellors Play Area had previously been circulated along with the Action Sheet identifying issues for access and egress at the site.

The Deputy Clerk reported that during her recent inspection, she was egress to Nottinghamshire County Council's footpath there was insufficient warning and/or barrier to prevent children running out onto Wilford Road. As both paths exit within a couple of feet of each other, it would be ineffectual to address one egress without dealing with the other.

The Deputy Clerk referred to a letter written by the then Clerk, W. Scarrott in 1996 asking Nottinghamshire County Council to consider the installation of a barrier at the end of this footpath but although the letter had been acknowledged, no action had been taken.

Councillor K. S. Piggott suggested that the Deputy Clerk write again to NCC advising them that as a result of our own Risk Assessments, this issue was now considered to be a Health & Safety hazard requiring prompt attention. He added that any preventative measures taken by the Parish Council would be negated if Nottinghamshire County Council did not take action.

RESOLVED:

That the Deputy Clerk write to Nottinghamshire County Council advising them that as a result of our own Risk Assessments, the egress from the footpath from Brookside Road to Wilford Road (at the Wilford Road end) requires a safety barrier to prevent children running out on to Wilford Road.

LC

A. 10/845 BUDGET 2011/2012Probable Out-Turn 2010/2011

Copies of the Probable Out-Turn 2010/2011, Proposed Amenities Budget 2011/2012, Renewals and Repairs Funds and Proposed Scale of Charges 2011/2012 had previously been circulated to Members.

The Clerk explained that the Probable Out-Turn 2010/2011 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 2010/2011 as presented.

Annual Budget 2011/2012

The proposed Annual Budget 2011/2012 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.

Proposed Scale of Charges 2011/2012

Members considered the Proposed Scale of Charges 2011/2012 for the use of facilities which had been increased in line with an earlier resolution, together with the Proposed Scale of Charges 2012/2013 in respect of the Allotments. The Deputy Clerk advised that she had prepared a possible seasonal charge for cricket use and Members agreed that this could be offered as an alternative to monthly match charges if the Cricket Club preferred. Members agreed the charges.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Probable Out-Turn 2010/2011, a copy of which is appended to these Minutes, be approved.
2. That the Annual Budget 2011/2012, 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.
3. That the Proposed Scale of Charges 2011/2012, 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.
4. That the Proposed Scale of Charges 2012/2013 in respect of the Allotments, 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

A. 10/846 REPORTS ON AMENITIES MATTERS

Breakages at the Village Hall

The Deputy Clerk reported that at some time during the previous 2-3 weeks there had been a considerable loss of crockery, reportedly broken, from the kitchen at the Village Hall. This was in addition to numerous reports of damage and mess left after regular users have been at the venue. The Deputy Clerk added that she was planning to prepare a new

annual agreement for regular users which they would be required to renew each year. The contract would ensure that users are fully aware of their responsibilities as hirers and should be ready for consideration at the Finance & Policy Committee meeting on 1st March 2011 at the latest.

LC

A. 10/847 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AMENITIES AGENDA

- 1. Cricket Facilities
- 2. Elms Park Play Area
- 3. St. Peter's Churchyard
- 4. Flawford Churchyard
- 5. War Memorial
- 6. Church Street Car Park
- 7. Village Hall
- 8. Wakes
- 9. Village Green

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Chairman

Committee Chairman