

## RUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING**HELD AT ST. PETER'S ROOMS ON TUESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2011 AT 7.30PM**Membership**

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

Persons absent are marked 'A'

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell  
 Councillor P. F McGowan  
 Councillor Mrs. B. M. Venes  
 Councillor Mrs. R. H. Wilson  
 Borough Councillor N.K. Boughton Smith  
 Borough Councillor Mrs. J. E. Greenwood  
 Borough Councillor J. Lungley  
 Mrs. J. A. Goodbody Clerk to the Council  
 Mrs. L. M. Cooke Deputy Clerk to the Council  
 16 Members of public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

DECLARATION OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest made.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2011, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by Councillor Mrs. S. Kaur Samra, being the only Member present at this meeting who had been in attendance on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

## MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

### RESOLVED:

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

During the adjournment the following items were raised:

### Planning Application 11/00727/FUL

Mr Brian Oldfield raised objections to the above application. He said that the development ran all the way along his property and despite claims that the dwellings were two storey, they were in fact three storey with accommodation in the roof. Both the first and second floor windows of three of the proposed dwellings would directly overlook his property. He expressed concern that the developer appeared to be claiming land and trees which he said belong to his property. He said he had additional worries that by developing the land it would increase the amount of surface water on his property which is currently drained by soak-a-ways. Mr Oldfield stated that he currently has foxes, crested newts, bats, owls and a nesting woodpecker on his land, all of which could be adversely affected by the close proximity of the development.

Mr Donald Sayers read an article from the Daily Telegraph dated 9<sup>th</sup> June 2010 in respect of plans to prevent "garden grabbing" or the development of housing in back gardens. He said that he hoped he spoke on behalf of friends and neighbours on Elms Close in his objection to the development. He said he has lived in "this tranquil place" for more than 40 years and is fearful about the threat to his peace and happiness. He repeated several concerns voiced previously about drainage and access to the site and added that only recently residents of Elms Close had been required to pay to have blocked drains cleared. Mr Sayers concluded by adding that he had spent too many years attending meetings and raising petitions and was weary of this unwanted intrusion into the lives of the residents. He asked that Members read the Inspectors Report which accompanied the Planning Appeal for 8 dwellings.

G. D. Aram said he wished to add that the new application did not comply with the Planning Inspectorate's recommendations. The proposed development did not include any details of how they were going to protect the trees with TPO's and traffic would have to pass over the root system.

Mrs Abida Jacques also commented on the above mentioned planning application. In addition to concerns previously mentioned, she noted that the applicant's own survey states that a 5 metre zone is required around the trees with TPO's but the plans show one tree with 1.5 mtrs and another with 3 mtrs. She expressed concerns that tall vehicles would damage the canopy of the trees both during building work and once the work is completed. Mrs Jacques noted that the internal plans show the footprint for the planned five dwellings is larger than the footprint for the original application for six dwellings and the gated entrance would result in

additional parking on Elms Close when visitors were unable to gain access. Mrs Jacques stated that the proposed development included plans to pollard the Poplar trees and that these trees are a focal point for visitors coming into and leaving the village.

Mr Mark Soper said that during heavy rain the drains in the area already overflow on to his property and that installing a drain under the garage at 218 Loughborough Road would not be sufficient to take or remove the additional surface water once the land has been concreted over. He expressed serious concerns about parking and access on Elms Close both during building work and afterwards. In addition to agreeing with previous statements, he added that the style of the dwellings did not fit in with properties on either Elms Close or Loughborough Road. He stated that in his opinion the village is already overcrowded and that the infrastructure should be improved before agreeing to any further development.

#### E. 11/789 DEVELOPMENT

##### RESOLVED:

##### New Applications

That the observations contained in Planning Schedule 652 be adopted.

##### Decision Notices

Schedule DN 207 was presented to the Committee and the contents noted.

**The majority of the members of public left at this point.**

#### E. 11/790 POLICING

##### Police Priority Settings Meeting Report

Copies of a report presented by Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell had previously been circulated. Councillor Mrs. Breakwell advised Members that Inspector Hallam had offered to attend a Committee or Council meeting to address Councillors and members of the public and answer questions. The Chairman asked that the Clerk and Councillor Mrs Breakwell organise a visit to a Parish Council Meeting in the future.

There were no further policing matters to report and/or action.

##### RESOLVED

That Inspector Hallam be invited to attend a Parish Council Meeting to address Councillors and members of the public, and to answer any questions they might have.

BB/JG

E. 11/791 HIGHWAY MATTERSRuddington Connection Bus Service

Copies of a report presented by Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell had previously been circulated. Councillor Mrs. Breakwell explained that the problem with inconsiderate parking was not just restricted to Musters Road but that this road was of particular interest to her as she had been on the bus when it was unable to proceed as a result of parked cars. She expressed concern that if the situation continued, the Ruddington Connection might be re-directed which could deprive those in need of this valuable service.

Councillor Mrs. Breakwell offered to assist with composing a suitable letter which she could distribute to residents on Musters Road asking that they park more considerately.

The Chairman also asked that a notice in a similar vein covering Ruddington in general be put in the Village Newsletter and on the website at the earliest opportunity.

There were no further highways matters to report and/or action.

RESOLVED

1. That Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell liaise with the Parish Council Office to compose a suitable letter which she will distribute to properties on Musters Road.
2. That a notice in a similar vein covering Ruddington in general be put in the Village Newsletter and on the website at the earliest opportunity.

BB/LMC

LC

E. 11/792 COMMUNITY BUS HIRE

Copies of a notice from Keyworth and District Community Concern Trust had previously been circulated. The notice detailed proposed increases to £1.25 per mile with a minimum charge of £20 per hiring for the hire of the mini bus.

The Deputy Clerk advised that this increase would add approximately £37.35 to a four week month. The Clerk advised that the price had remained the same for many years prior to this increase and that the service was a valuable and well used facility.

Members agreed that the service should be maintained and the increase in hire costs be noted.

RESOLVED

That the service should be maintained and the increase noted.

E. 11/793 OBTAINING AND USING ORDNANCE SURVEY MAPS AND DATA

Copies of documentation from Nottinghamshire County Council in respect of new arrangements under the Public Sector Mapping Agreement for obtaining and using Ordnance Survey Maps had previously been circulated.

The Clerk explained that in her opinion, it was only necessary to register the Parish Council for a Click-Use Licence and that there did not appear to be any charge for registering.

Members noted the information supplied and asked the Clerk to register for a Click-Use Licence.

RESOLVED

That the information be noted and that the Clerk register Ruddington Parish Council for a Click-Use Licence.

E. 11/794 NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST

Copies of an email from Euan Wilkinson of Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust advising that Members have an opportunity to contribute their experience to help the Trust provide the best possible standards, had previously been circulated.

The Chairman asked that Members note the information and respond on an individual basis.

RESOLVED

That the information be noted and that Members respond on an individual basis.

E. 11/795 RUDDINGTON COMMUNITY EVENT / QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

A report by Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell headed "A Celebration of the Village, by the Village" had previously been circulated.

Councillor Mrs. Breakwell advised that she had been approached by several organisations in her role as a member of the team organising "Ruddington Fun" to investigate the possibility of an event to bring the village together. Councillor Breakwell said that in 2012, Ruddington was not only celebrating the Olympics and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee but also the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Village Hall, the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ruddington & District Choral Society, the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hermitage Pre-school Play Group and it was 80 years since Samuel Carter donated the land which is now Carter Playing Field to the Parish Council.

Councillor Mrs. Breakwell said that she felt the best venue for a celebration would be on the Elms Park Playing Fields as it would be safer for families, is a much larger area than The Green and is directly involved in one of the events to celebrate. She asked whether the Parish Council would support this venture as she would like to start canvassing support without further delay.

Members agreed that this is an excellent idea and that it would take a lot of enthusiasm and support to make it work. The Chairman acknowledged that it would make sense to combine an event which would also take into account the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. The Vice Chairman added that whilst the Parish Council could not organise this event alone, it could set up a Working Party to facilitate an event in 2012.

Members agreed that this item be referred to the Parish Council in order that a Working Party can be established from all Committees, in support of Councillor Mrs. Breakwell's suggestion.

### RESOLVED

That the Environment & Community Committee fully supports the suggestion of a community event in 2012 and that the item be referred to the Parish Council Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> June to establish a Working Party.

JG

## E. 11/796 GARDEN COMPETITIONS 2012

### Annual Garden Competition 2012

The Clerk advised that Entry Forms for the Annual Garden Competition were now available and that judging would take place on the morning of 19<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

### RESOLVED

Members noted this information

### "Photographic" Garden Competition 2012

The Deputy Clerk reported that this new competition would run from 1<sup>st</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2011 and it was hoped that a Presentation Evening, where photographs could be displayed, might be organised to hand out prizes for both Garden Competitions if the entry level was sufficient, together with the prizes for the Allotments Competition. The Deputy Clerk advised that Entry Forms were now available in St. Peter's Rooms and online and asked whether any Member might be available to help with distributing posters around the village. Councillor Mrs. R.H. Wilson agreed to help with the this.

### RESOLVED

That the information be noted and that Councillor Mrs. R.H. Wilson help with the distribution of posters.

RHW

E. 11/797 BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2011

The Clerk advised that judging of the Best Kept Village Competition had already started and would continue until the end of June 2011. Members noted that it would be too late to organise a Working Party at this time as arrangements had been delayed due to the installation of a new Parish Council in May 2011.

Councillor Mrs. M. Pell reported that it appeared to her that shopkeepers did not take responsibility for their own shop frontages. She also asked who is responsible for the grassed areas sited along Wilford Road where the cycle path has been installed. The Clerk thought this would be the responsibility of Highways and was asked to write and ask them to tidy the area and cut the grass.

Councillor Mr. P. F. McGowan asked whether the Clerk could arrange for the groundsmen to cut the grass at the junction of Kirk Lane and Loughborough Road as this has not been done for some considerable time due to the poor condition of the area.

Councillor Mrs. B. M. Venes noted that Nottinghamshire County Council did not appear to be cutting areas that are their responsibility as frequently as perhaps the Parish Council would like and Councillor P. F. McGowan asked if it would be possible for the Clerk to write to NCC to see if there was any possibility of negotiating a package whereby the Parish Council could be remunerated if it agreed to cut these areas.

With regard to the setting up of a working party, the Chairman agreed that it might be too late to make a significant difference to the result of the Best Kept Village Competition for 2011 but suggested that a Working Party should be convened in plenty of time for the 2012 competition.

RESOLVED

1. That the Clerk writes to NCC Highways Department to request that the grassed areas along the cycle path on Wilford Road be maintained. JG
2. That the groundstaff be requested to cut the grass at the junction of Kirk Lane and Loughborough Road. JG
3. That the Clerk writes to NCC to ascertain whether it might be possible to negotiate a package whereby the Parish Council is remunerated for cutting areas currently the responsibility of NCC. JG
4. That a Working Party be convened in plenty of time for the Best Kept Village Competition 2012. LC

E. 11/798 THE VALERIE GILLESPIE AWARD 2011 (Vide Minute E. 11/783)

Copies of the information in respect of this year's competition had previously been circulated.

The Chairman asked Members to give this item consideration and advise the Clerk if they have any suggestions that might be appropriate for entry before the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2011.

RESOLVED

That Members give this item consideration and advise the Clerk if they have any suggestions that might be appropriate for entry before the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2011.

E. 11/799 A FRESH APPROACH TO HOUSING GROWTH – NOTHING IS YET DECIDED!

Copies of the notification of the Community Consultation Event taking place at St. Peter's Rooms on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2011 from 2pm to 8pm had previously been circulated.

The Deputy Clerk advised that this event has been featured in the Village Newsletter and on the website.

RESOLVED

That the information be noted.

E. 11/800 WAYS TO IMPROVE THE LOOK AND FEEL OF RUDDINGTON  
(Vide Minute E. 11/784)

New High Street Paving (Vide Minute E. 11/776)

The Deputy Clerk reported that she had been advised by County Councillor Reg Adair that no additional bollards would be installed on the block paving on High Street despite the possible damage which could be caused by vehicles parking on it.

Councillor Mrs. M. Pell reported that she had seen bollards in the form of statues of children being used as a deterrent to parking and wondered whether the Parish Council could investigate further.

The Vice-Chairman asked that County Councillor Reg Adair be invited to attend the next meeting of the Environment & Community Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2011 so that they could discuss this further.

RESOLVED

That County Councillor Reg Adair be invited to attend the next meeting of the Environment & Community Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2011 to further discuss ways of preventing parking on the block paving.

Further ways to Improve the Look and Feel of Ruddington

Councillor Mrs. M. Pell reported that following the recent Beer Festival, the pavements had been left with litter, broken bottles and cigarette ends. She

LC



expressed concern that licenced premises did not respect their outside or communal areas.

The Deputy Clerk reminded Members that Councillor W.A. Wood had suggested forming a Local Traders / Environment & Community Committee Liaison Group, whereby local traders were invited to come along and discuss issues which affected them.

The Chairman thanked the Deputy Clerk and asked that this item be put on the next agenda for further discussion.

### RESOLVED

That consideration of forming a Local Traders / Environment & Community Committee Liaison Group be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

### E. 11/801 NCC PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP

Correspondence in respect of the termination of the Parish Paths Partnership had previously been circulated.

The Clerk reported that previously the Parish Council has paid for the contractor to carry out the maintenance of paths within the Parish and been reimbursed by Nottinghamshire County Council. She pointed out that funding is allocated within the current budget for this work and suggested that the contractor be advised to continue as normal for this year.

Members agreed to this suggestion.

### RESOLVED

1. That the above information be noted.
2. That an order be placed with the contractor for the maintenance of paths within the Parish.

JG

### E. 11/802 OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS FOR REPORT

#### Ruddington Parish Council website

The Deputy Clerk reported that a record number of more than 7,000 visitors were recorded to [www.RuddingtonParishCouncil.gov.uk](http://www.RuddingtonParishCouncil.gov.uk) in the month of May 2011.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Chairman

Committee Chairman