

## RUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING**HELD AT ST. PETER'S ROOMS ON TUESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2011 AT 7.30PM**Membership**

Councillors	A	N. Tegerdine	Chairman
		W.A. Wood	Vice-Chairman
		D. Bakewell	
		Mrs. B. Breakwell	
	A	Mrs. M.G. Grice	
		Mrs. S. Kaur Samra	
		Mrs. M. Woodhead	

Persons absent are marked 'A'

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor P. F McGowan	
Mrs. L. M. Cooke	Deputy Clerk to the Council
3 Members of public	

**In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman took the Chair**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs M. G. Grice.

DECLARATION OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest made.

MINUTESThe Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2011, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENTRESOLVED:

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

During the adjournment the following items were raised:

Marion Pell said that she had serious concerns about the parking outside Sainsbury's Local and South Notts Windows on Duttons Hill. Vehicles appear to be ignoring the restrictions and as a result are causing traffic jams and problems for traffic coming over the hill from Wilford, particularly at peak times. As a result vehicles are taking risks to get past the obstructions and the result is "an accident waiting to happen". Chris Murden and David Hollingworth concurred with this statement.

David Hollingworth reported that the new block paving is showing signs of wear as a result of delivery vehicles driving on to, and parking on it. He expressed concerns about who will be responsible for repairing the paving.

David Hollingworth also reported that the hedging around the telephone exchange had not been cut for about three years and that residents on Carter Avenue were unable to walk on the pavement as a result. He added that he had previously reported the situation to the Clerk who had attempted to contact the owner but no action had been taken to date. Councillor P. F. McGowan added that the Clerk could write to the owner and advise that the Parish Council could arrange for its groundstaff to cut the hedging and invoice them for the work.

Chris Murden said that he had concerns about the condition of the area around the Human Sundial on the Green and wanted to draw attention to grass growing through the paving which might cause long term problems and damage. He asked that the Parish Council consider installing a plaque giving information about when the Sundial was installed and why it is there. The Deputy Clerk reported that an inspection of the Green was due to take place in the next few days and that a full re-instatement of the Green was required to the satisfaction of the Parish Council.

Chris Murden also asked whether the Parish Council was still considering a consultation in respect of how the funds paid by the Medical Centre during its temporary occupation on the Green would be spent. The Deputy Clerk advised that it had been Minuted to further discuss this issue once re-instatement of the Green was completed to the satisfaction of the Parish Council and that these funds had been ring-fenced until that time.

Chris Murden suggested that the Parish Council organise a regular informal social event to bring residents together in the absence of Footlights. He said that Gotham have organised a regular "New Age Curling" event which was very successful and he understood that Ruddington Women's Institute was planning a similar one-off event. He asked that the Parish Council monitors the success of this event with a view to organising its own event.

**The Chairman arrived and took the Chair at this point**

**Chris Murden left the meeting at this point**

E. 11/779 DEVELOPMENTRESOLVED:New Applications

That the observations contained in Planning Schedule 643 be adopted.

Decision Notices

Schedule DN 206 was presented to the Committee and the contents noted.

**Councillor P. F. McGowan left at this point.**

E. 11/780 POLICINGLocal Area Group Meeting

The Deputy Clerk reported that subject to availability, local officers should be available to discuss issues in your area at the Parish Council Surgery on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April from 10am to 12 noon.

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

RESOLVED

That the above information be noted

E. 11/781 HIGHWAY MATTERSProposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) 30 MPH & 40 MPH Speed Limit Order Landmere Lane & Loughborough Road, Ruddington (Job No. 8162) Vide Minute E. 11/770)

Copies of a further notice from Nottinghamshire County Council Highway Design Department had previously been circulated. The notice advised that following consultation, it is now proposed to make Loughborough Road 30MPH, keeping it consistent with the proposals on Landmere Lane.

RESOLVED

That the above information be noted

Nottinghamshire County Council – Changes to Highway Maintenance Policies

Copies of a notice from Nottinghamshire County Council, Highways South dated March 2011 had previously been circulated. The notice detailed changes to grass cutting, weed killing and drain cleaning (gully emptying) which were taking place as a result of overall budget savings.

Members commented that all of the changes involved a reduction and/or priority setting in the services currently provided.

RESOLVED

That the above information be noted.

Parking on Duttons Hill

Following the discussion during the adjournment in respect of parking and car park access/egress at Sainsbury's Local on Duttons Hill, the Deputy Clerk reported that the Parish Council Office had also received a letter from a resident expressing concerns about loading and unloading during unsociable hours. The letter will be reported at the Finance & Policy Committee Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> April.

Members suggested that the Clerk and Deputy Clerk make contact with the Manager of Sainsbury's Local and ask that she come to talk through the issues at the Parish Council Office in an effort to reach an agreement which would be more acceptable to local residents.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk and Deputy Clerk make contact with the Manager of Sainsbury's Local and arrange an informal meeting at the Parish Council Office.

JG/LC

E. 11/782 BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2011

Copies of documentation from the Campaign to Protect Rural England, relating to entry for the Best Kept Village Competition had previously been circulated.

Councillor Mrs. M. Woodhead recommended that Members organise a working party to encourage residents to get more actively involved with this competition. The Chairman asked that this be put back on the agenda for the first committee meeting after the election so that a working party can be set up for this purpose.

In the meantime, members agreed that the Clerk/Deputy Clerk enters Ruddington in the Best Kept Village Competition 2011.

RESOLVED

1. That the Clerk/Deputy Clerk enters Ruddington in the Best Kept Village Competition 2011 and forwards the entry along with a cheque for £8 entry fee.
2. That the above matter be discussed at the Environment & Community Committee Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011, with the aim of forming a working party.

JG/LC

LC

E. 11/783 THE VALERIE GILLESPIE AWARD 2011

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

The Deputy Clerk advised that she had emailed contacts at the CPRE but had been unable to ascertain who were winners of the 2010 award. Councillor Mrs B. Breakwell added that she had also been attempting to find this information without success.

Members agreed that Ruddington should submit an entry for 2011 but that there was sufficient time before the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2011 to decide on an appropriate project to put forward.

The Chairman asked Members to put forward any ideas they might have and asked that this item be included on the agenda for the first Environment & Community Committee Meeting after the elections.

RESOLVED

That this item be put on the agenda for the Environment & Community Committee Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

LC

E. 11/784 WAYS TO IMPROVE THE LOOK AND FEEL OF RUDDINGTON

(Vide Minute E. 11/776)

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

The Deputy Clerk reported that she had emailed the NCC Local Improvement Scheme Team in respect of parking on the new block paving to see whether they were able to install additional bollards to prevent vehicles mounting the pavement and thereby causing damage. To date, there has been no response from the LIS Team. However, the Deputy Clerk reported that County Councillor Reg Adair had advised there would be no more bollards installed other than those detailed on the original plan.

Councillor D. Bakewell said that he recollected a newspaper article which implied that parking on pavements was due to become a police matter. He said he was concerned that no-one wanted to take responsibility for preventing vehicles parking on the blockwork or take the initiative of doing something to stop it happening. Councillor W. A. Wood said that he was aware of suggestions that something of this nature might become national policy but that it was early days and there were issues about enforcement.

Councillor W. A. Wood said that he had noticed signs of deterioration in some areas of the paving and asked whether the Parish Council could ask the appropriate authorities what they recommended should be done.

After discussion, members agreed that placing planters along the paving would not be a suitable deterrent as they would need maintenance, would possibly be damaged by vehicles mounting the pavement anyway and might even be in the way of car doors opening when correctly parked on the road.

### RESOLVED

That the Deputy Clerk writes to NCC Local Improvement Scheme Team with a copy to County Councillor Reg Adair and asks what they recommend to prevent vehicles mounting the pavement and causing further damage to the block paving.

LC

### Clean Up Your Neighbourhood Campaign

Councillor W. A. Wood reported that he had noticed a considerable amount of dirt accumulating on pavements and in gullies. If residents were to sweep outside their own properties, this would reduce the amount of dirt which was washed down on to the roads subsequently blocking drains and gullies.

Councillors Mrs. M. Woodhead suggested that the Parish Council launches a "Clean Up Your Neighbourhood" Campaign which would involve the whole community.

Councillor W. A. Wood said that he would write an article for the Village Newsletter and website promoting this idea. The Chairman asked for this to be brought back to the committee to assess the feedback.

### RESOLVED

That Councillor W. A. Wood writes an article promoting a "Clean Up Your Neighbourhood" Campaign for the Village Newsletter and website and that this item be brought back to the next Environment & Community Committee Meeting.

WAW/LC

## E. 11/785 RUSHCLIFFE COMMUNITY COHESION NETWORK

(Vide Minute C 11/1442)

A copy of the report from Councillor Mrs B. Breakwell which was presented to the Parish Council Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2011 had previously been circulated to Members. Councillor Mrs Breakwell said that she was concerned about vulnerable people, or people with special needs, within the village who might need assistance but did not know how to get the help they needed. Councillor W. A. Wood stated that in his opinion, families and individuals might not wish to be identified as this might make them a further target for victimisation and other negative attention which would not be helpful. Councillor Mrs Breakwell added that she was concerned that people were reluctant to come forward as they did not wish to be viewed as victims, or because they did not know who to report the problems to.

After further discussion, it was agreed that Councillor Mrs B. Breakwell liaise with Beat Manager PC Ann Gill and PCSO Jenny Buggy to see how to move forward with this initiative and would report back to the next meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED

That Councillor Mrs B. Breakwell liaise with Beat Manager PC Ann Gill and PCSO Jenny Buggy to see how to move forward with this initiative and report back to the next meeting of the Environment & Community Committee

BB

E. 11/786 STREET CLEANSING

(Vide Minute C. 11/1438)

Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> March had previously been circulated to members requesting that the Environment & Community Committee decide on monitoring arrangements for street cleansing.

Councillor Mrs M. Woodhead stated that the only way to ensure good and reliable street cleansing was for the Parish Council to employ its own operative but acknowledged that provision had not been made for this in the budget for 2011-2012.

After considerable discussion, it was agreed that issues relating to street cleansing should be reported to Parish Councillors who could bring these problems to the appropriate meeting or report them to the Clerk who will refer them to Streetwise. The Chairman asked that this information be made public through the Newsletter and the website.

The Deputy Clerk also advised that the Parish Council Office staff also have bi-monthly meetings with Streetwise and this would be an ideal opportunity to advise them of on-going issues.

RESOLVED

1. That issues related to street cleansing should be reported to Parish Councillors who could bring these problems to the appropriate meeting or report them to the Clerk who will refer them to Streetwise.
2. That this information be made public through the Newsletter and website.

LC

LC

E. 11/787 VILLAGE FESTIVAL

Copies of an email from a local resident suggesting that the Parish Council consider combining the Annual Beer Festival with a Village Festival had previously been circulated. The Deputy Clerk then read a further email from the resident which gave a list of potential themes for a Village Festival for consideration.

Councillor W. A. Wood advised that it would be too late to organise something to coincide with the Annual Beer Festival for the current year and added that when these events have been organised previously, they had taken a lot of time and commitment. He added that in his opinion it would be too much work for the Parish Council to undertake on its own without considerable support from residents, local businesses and organisations and a working party. He added that he would be happy to meet with the resident who sent the email for an informal discussion about how and whether to move this forward.

Councillor Mrs B. Breakwell added that it might be possible to combine an event with the Queens Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 2012.

### RESOLVED

That Councillor W. A. Wood meets with the resident who sent the email for an informal discussion about how and whether it is possible to organise a Village Festival.

WAW

## E. 11/788 OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS FOR REPORT

### Vicarage Lane Playing Fields

Councillor Mrs B. Breakwell advised that following discussions with groundstaff, local children are planting bulbs and flowers in the area where the leylandii trees were removed last year. A local resident was so pleased with this arrangement that he has volunteered to ensure the new planting is regularly watered.

### Greening Campaign

Councillor Mrs B. Breakwell reported that she and the Clerk have been invited to attend a Greening Campaign Reception at the House of Commons on the evening of 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011. Councillor Breakwell said that she would be contacting Kenneth Clarke MP to see whether he would be available to attend.

### Rushcliffe Meeting on Housing

Councillor W. A. Wood reported that he and one or two other Parish Councillors had attended a meeting held at the Methodist Church Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> March when the leader of Rushcliffe Borough Council, Neil Clarke gave a short talk and listened to questions from the general public. The meeting was entitled "A Fresh Approach to Housing Growth – Nothing is Yet Decided!" and Councillor Wood strongly advised Members that they should attend the return visit which will be made towards the end of the year. He added that a list of questions and notes from the meeting would be forwarded by RBC to the Parish Council in due course.

Newsletter

The Deputy Clerk reported that the Village Newsletter had received far too many editorial pieces for publication in the April edition and that many pieces would have to be held over for future editions. She also reported that as a result of IT upgrades in the Parish Council Office, there might be delays in producing the Newsletter in the next few weeks.

Cemetery

The Deputy Clerk advised that the water supply at Vicarage Lane Cemetery had been temporarily turned off as a result of a leak somewhere in the supply pipework. It was hoped that the leak would be located and repaired before Mothering Sunday on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2011.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Chairman

Committee Chairman