

RUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT ST. PETER'S ROOMS ON TUESDAY 25th JANUARY 2011 AT 7.30PM

Membership

Councillors	J.V. Norton	Chairman
	Mrs. B. Venes	Vice-Chairman
	D. Bakewell	
	Mrs. B. Breakwell	
A	Miss S.A. Chambers	
A	Mrs. M.G. Grice	
	D.J. Hall	
	Mrs. S. Kaur Samra	
	P. Lyons Lewis	
A	P.F. McGowan	
	K.S. Piggott	
	N.J. Tegerdine	
	M. Walsh	
A	W.A. Wood	
	Mrs. M. Woodhead	

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
2 members of the public	

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Miss S.A. Chambers, Mrs. M.G. Grice and P.F. McGowan. Councillor W.A. Wood had indicated that he would endeavour to attend the meeting, but would be late.

C. 11/1406 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' 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.

Councillors Mrs. B.M. Venes and M Walsh declared an interest in any Agenda item relating to the Allotments, Wilford Road.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th November 2010, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Councillors Mrs. S. Kaur Samra and M. Walsh arrived during discussion of the following item

C. 11/1407 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Rushcliffe Borough Council – Environmental Improvement Scheme – Elms Park (Vide Minute C. 10/1383)

The Clerk reported that she had tried to contact Tom Pettit, RBC Design & Landscape Officer, to ascertain when the project was likely to start but as he was out of the office she had left him a message with regard to this. Members noted this information.

Elms Park Play Area (Vide Minute C. 10/1384)

Councillor D.J. Hall advised that there had been some incidents of vandalism recently where the security fencing had been pushed over in order for the miscreants to gain access to the play equipment, with some slight damage being caused to the paintwork on one or two items of equipment.

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Stealth Security in order to ascertain whether or not they had been on site on the evening of Saturday 22nd January 2011. Unfortunately they had not attended on that evening. The Clerk had agreed to Stealth Security's suggestion that from tomorrow (Wednesday 26th January) they could incorporate a card system on site whereby their attendees have to register when they arrive and when they leave the premises.

It was pointed out that although the equipment is now fully installed, the turf has yet to be laid and time given for it to settle. Therefore, from a health and safety point of view it is not possible to leave the area unfenced and freely available for use. Members noted the above information and agreed that this matter should be discussed in more detail at the next meeting of the Amenities Committee scheduled to take place on 8th February 2011.

JG

Greening Campaign (Vide Minute C. 10/1384)

Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell advised that a meeting had been held on 7th January 2011 to further discuss the possibility of opening the underpass on the A52 to cyclists/pedestrians. She had been unable to attend the meeting but had been advised that there is strong support for the campaign, but obviously there are legalities to overcome.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Meeting held on 11th January 2011, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Vice- Chairman.

C. 11/1408 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

C. 11/1409 MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

RESOLVED:

That the Council adjourn to allow the members of the public present to make statements on Agenda Items.

During the adjournment the following items were raised:

David Hollingworth referred to Councillor McGowan's comments at the last Parish Council Meeting regarding the installation of bollards on the new paved areas along the High Street in order to prevent vehicles parking on the footway. Mr. Hollingworth reported that in a recently delivered newsletter from Nottinghamshire County Council there was an article about the refurbishment of High Street in which it stated that bollards had been installed. The Clerk agreed to contact the County Council regarding this matter.

JG

COUNCIL IN SESSION

C. 11/1410 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

90th Birthdays

The Chairman advised that planted arrangements had been delivered to the following parishioners on the occasion of their 90th Birthday:-

15 th November	Mrs. Hilda Milburn of Sheepfold Lane
27 th December	Mrs. Kaye Coupe of St. Mary's Crescent
9 th January	Mrs. Pat Norman of Peartree Orchard

C. 11/1411 COMMUNICATIONS

Thank-you letters

The Clerk read to members the contents of thank-you letters from Mrs. Hilda Milburn and Mrs. Kaye Coupe.

C. 11/1412 QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 8

There were no questions raised under Standing Order No. 8.

C. 11/1413 DEVELOPMENT

New Applications

RESOLVED:

That the observations contained in Planning Schedule 642 be adopted.

Planning Appeal – 6 & 7 Paget Crescent – Residential development of 14 dwellings with access from Ashworth Avenue
Planning Application No. 10/00929OUT

Copies of the decision from The Planning Inspectorate in respect of the above appeal had previously been circulated to Members. Members noted that The Planning Inspectorate had allowed the appeal.

RESOLVED:

That the above information be noted.

C. 11/1414 COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Minutes and Reports as set out below were presented and motions made for approval and adoption:

Amenities Committee	30 November 2010
Environment & Community Committee	7 December 2010
Finance & Policy Committee	18 January 2011

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations contained in the aforementioned Minutes and Reports be adopted.

C. 11/1415 ESTIMATES AND PRECEPT

Copies of the Probable Out-Turn 2010/2011, Annual Budget 2011/2012 and Revised Scale of Charges for Parish Council facilities had previously been circulated to Members.

The Vice-Chairman of the Finance & Policy Committee explained to Members that the Committee had discussed the Budget Document in great detail and made one amendment to the contribution to the Renewals & Repairs Fund in respect of Equipment. Members were asked to note that Rushcliffe Borough Council had raised the Tax Base as a result of the additional properties in the village contributing towards the Precept during 2011/2012.

The net expenditure of the Council amounts to £357,490 and taking into account the expected balance brought forward into 2011/2012 and the proposed closing balance as at 31st March 2012, the amount required from the Borough Council in the form of the Precept is £257,489. This equates to a decrease of £0.26 per annum on a Band D property.

Copies of the Proposed Statement of Estimated Expenditure and Income 2011/2012 which will accompany the Council Tax Demand issued to residents of the Parish by the Borough Council had previously been circulated to Members.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Probable Out-Turn 2010/2011 be adopted.
2. That the Annual Budget 2011/2012 showing a nett expenditure of £357,490 be adopted.
3. That the Precept for 2011/2012 be £257,489.
4. That the Revised Scale of Charges for Parish Council facilities be adopted with effect from 1st April 2011.
5. That the Revised Scale of Charges for Parish Council Allotments with effect from 1st January 2012 be adopted.
6. That the Statement of Estimated Expenditure and Income 2011/2012, a copy of which is appended to these Minutes, be approved and submitted to Rushcliffe Borough Council for inclusion with the Council Tax Demand sent out to residents.

C. 11/1416 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION 2011

Copies of an article prepared by Councillor W.A. Wood and approved by the Finance & Policy Committee at its meeting held on 18th January 2011 had previously been circulated to Members. The article is designed to publicise the Parish Council Election taking place in May 2011, encourage local residents to consider whether they would be interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, together with the criteria which has to be met.

Members unanimously approved the copy.

RESOLVED:

That approval be given for the article prepared by Councillor W.A. Wood to be published on the Parish Council Website and in the next edition of the Village Newsletter.

C. 11/1417 PARISH COUNCIL SURGERY

8th January 2011 – Borough/Parish Councillor P.F. McGowan; Parish Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell

The Clerk advised that County Councillor Reg Adair had been into the Parish Council Office since the surgery to offer his apologies for his non-attendance on 8th January. He explained that this had been due to illness and he also advised that he will be at a Councillors' Conference on the date of the next surgery on 12th February 2011. Members noted this information.

Councillor D.J. Hall commented that he was disappointed that the County Councillor had been absent at several Parish Council surgeries, particularly as his website advises that it is his surgery.

The Deputy Clerk advised that the Beat Manager was not on duty on the day of the surgery and unfortunately the PCSO was called away at the same time the surgery was held. The Beat Manager had indicated that all being well she will be in attendance at the Surgery to be held on 9th April 2011.

The following matters were raised at the surgery held on 8th January:-

1. Mr. Dodd of Loughborough Road brought in a letter about bus routes, requesting that the Parish Council asks NCT to put the notice "Severe Weather – main road running only" on No. 10 buses when appropriate.
The Clerk advised that this matter is on the Agenda.
2. David Hollingworth of Elms Close - The Police were supposed to be in attendance and he wanted to report numerous vehicles without tax discs – black Vauxhall Corsa outside Honeycomb and a black Vauxhall in the Church Street Car Park. Complained about dog fouling in front of the telephone exchange and in the twitchell between Elms Park and Elms Gardens. *The Clerk advised that this had now been cleaned.* Also mentioned that the hedge around the telephone exchange still has not been cut.
3. David Hall of Brookside Road – wished to speak to County Councillor Reg Adair regarding the County Council's proposals in respect of social care.
4. Mrs. Linda Cooke of Landmere Lane – wished to see County Councillor Reg Adair about hedge planting on Landmere Lane and the marking of priorities on Wilford Road for cyclists and pedestrians.
5. Gavin Walker of Wilford Road – concerns about 'A' Boards, particularly on Wilford Road and opposite the shops on Duttons Hill. Also concerns about the appropriateness and position of the 'A' Board outside the Beauty Shop on Church Street. Can the County Council check whether these are acceptable.
Councillor Mrs. B.M. Venes advised that she had contacted the NCC Inspector with regard to this, but no action had yet been taken. Councillor D.J. Hall advised that he had spoken to the owner of the Beauty Shop and the Board has now been moved adjacent to the wall of the property.
6. Sally Squires – dog fouling generally in the village.
7. Mrs. Muriel Woodhead – Grit residue – can it be recycled?
8. Mrs. Collier of Moor Lane – Gritting concerns on Moor Lane – it is a bus route for school buses and the bus service. She had been advised to write to County Councillor Reg Adair and did so on 13th December 2010 but has not received any reply. Concern as older residents in a warden-aided area.

Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell agreed to give Mrs. Collier the contact details for the NCC Highways Dept. She also advised Members that according to NCC, even though buses travel along a particular road, it is not classified as a 'Bus Route' unless there are more than 8 buses an hour!

9. Elms Park resident – query regarding ownership of the grass strip in front of her property. *Advised to contact Land Registry.*

RESOLVED:

That the above report be noted.

C. 11/1418 PUBLIC TRANSPORT OPERATING DURING SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS

Copies of a letter from Mr. Dodd of Loughborough Road regarding the operation of the NCT No.10 bus during the recent spell of severe weather conditions had previously been circulated to Members.

Mr. Dodd advises that during the severe weather conditions the No.10 bus deviated from its usual route both when passing through West Bridgford and Ruddington, which no doubt caused confusion and a little inconvenience to village residents. He writes that the Parish Council might like to suggest to Nottingham City Transport that they adopt a similar scheme to that which he saw operating in the Walsall/ Wolverhampton area, where the destination boards on the buses carried a message along the lines of:-

“Severe weather – main road running only”

Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell reported that the ‘real-time’ time tables did display a notice to this effect, although this was of no help to passengers waiting where these time-tables were not installed.

Members agreed that this seemed a sensible point to suggest to Nottingham City Transport and therefore their comments should be sought.

RESOLVED:

That the comments of Nottingham City Transport be sought with regard to the suggestion that messages regarding deviations to bus routes be displayed on the destination boards of buses during severe weather conditions.

JG

C. 11/1419 THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Copies of correspondence from The Royal British Legion regarding the ‘Great Poppy Party Weekend’ had previously been circulated to Members. The Royal British Legion are encouraging individuals and groups across the nation to hold a ‘Poppy Party’ over the weekend of 10th – 12th June 2011 in celebration of The Royal British Legion’s 90th Birthday.

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Mr. George Fearn, a member of the Ruddington Branch of the Royal British Legion, who had advised that he was not aware of this event, but anticipated that the County Organisation would be holding their annual event again at Wollaton Park. Mr. Fearn had offered to discuss this matter at the next Ruddington branch meeting and report back before the next Parish Council Meeting. The Clerk suggested that she passes the information received to Mr. Fearn before his branch meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the information regarding the 'Great Poppy Party Weekend' be passed to the Ruddington Branch of The Royal British Legion for discussion at their next meeting.

JG

C. 11/1420 RUSHCLIFFE COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY SERVICE (RCVS)

Copies of correspondence from RCVS seeking financial support during the next financial year towards the Rushcliffe Voluntary Transport Scheme had previously been circulated to Members, together with a copy of Minute No. C. 10/1354 taken from the Parish Council Minutes dated 29th June 2010.

Members noted that the Parish Council had made a contribution of £50.00 to RCVS towards the scheme during the current financial year.

It was reported that the Voluntary Transport Scheme is used by a considerable number of local residents and therefore provides a valuable service to the community. It was proposed by Councillor K.S. Piggott and seconded by Councillor P. Lyons Lewis that a grant of £100 be given to RCVS after 1st April 2011, and this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the Council, in accordance with its powers under Sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act of 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:

Rushcliffe Community & Voluntary Service	£100.00 (after 1 st April 2011)
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C. 11/1421 NALC – POLICY & PARLIAMENTARY BRIEFING – THE LOCALISM BILL

Copies of the National Association of Local Councils' Initial Briefing and 'Essential Guide' following the publication by the Government of the Localism Bill on 13th December 2010 had previously been circulated to Councillors.

RESOLVED:

That the information contained within the document be noted.

C. 11/1422 – NOTTINGHAM & NOTTINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL RESILIENCE FORUM – COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN – A COMMUNITY GUIDE

Copies of correspondence, together with a draft version of the Community Resilience Plan document, had previously been circulated to Members.

RESOLVED:

That the information contained within the document be noted.

C. 11/1423 REPORTS

The Chairman advised Members that the heading 'Reports' is not another name for 'Any Other Business' and therefore the question of what should and should not be reported under this heading had been discussed at some length at the last meeting of the Finance & Policy Committee.

It had been agreed at that meeting that the Chairman should remind Members that reports made at the Parish Council meeting should only be made by the County Councillor, Borough Councillors and officially appointed Parish Council Representatives on Outside Bodies. Reports made at Committee Meetings should concern ONLY matters relating to that Committee.

The Chairman advised that resolutions can ONLY be made on items which appear on the Agenda and CANNOT be made on matters considered under the heading 'Reports'.

Members noted this information.

Policing

Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell reported that she will be attending the next Police Priority Settings Meeting taking place on Wednesday 26th January 2011 at which the priorities for Ruddington will be set. These are likely to be auto crime, including petty vandalism and theft from cars. She advised that she will report back at the next Parish Council Meeting. Members noted this information.

Borough Councillors

Councillor Mrs. B.M. Venes reported that she had attended several meetings at the Borough Council regarding the proposed Budget. Councillors had been asked to forward suggestions to the Council where they considered cuts could be made, and in addition a small meeting had been held with members of the public to ascertain their views. The Borough Council are looking into what services other sectors can provide following the success of the privatisation of leisure

services such as Edwalton Golf Course and its Leisure Centres. A new Charity Organisation has been created which means that no business rates will be payable in respect of these services, and any profits will be shared equally between the private operator and the Borough Council.

Following the cut in the Government Grant the Borough Council is very concerned that in order to continue providing services to the standard required its reserves will be 'eaten away'.

The Customer Service Centre is being relocated to the West Bridgford Police Station building, but the contractors carrying out the renovations unfortunately went into liquidation, although a new contractor has now been appointed. Members of the public will be able to pay bills at the new Service Centre as well as at local Post Offices and other outlets.

Members noted the above information.

Radio Nottingham

The Deputy Clerk reported that she had been contacted by a producer from Radio Nottingham regarding an exciting new Afternoon Show which started on 4th January 2011 which will be broadcast every Monday to Friday from 12noon until 4pm. An article appeared in the January edition of the Village Newsletter asking for three volunteers from a cross section of our community to join them in the studio one Wednesday afternoon to suit to talk about village life in Ruddington, its history, how it has changed over the years, current news or issues (not political), the importance and availability of local facilities and how instrumental they are in village life etc. One person has already volunteered, but others are sought.

The Deputy Clerk asked whether any Parish Councillors would be willing to appear on the Show, and gave details of dates and times being booked at the moment during January, February and March. Councillor N.J. Tegerdine offered to be another volunteer.

Members noted this information.

The meeting closed at 8.31 pm

Chairman