

RUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT ST. PETER'S ROOMS ON TUESDAY 29th JUNE 2010 AT 7.30PM

Membership

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

County Councillor Reg Adair
Mrs. J.A. Goodbody Clerk to the Council
Mrs. L.M. Cooke Deputy Clerk
5 members of the public
3 members of the NCC Local Improvement Scheme

DEATH OF FORMER PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Chairman advised Members that former Parish Councillor Stuart Hurman had sadly died on 2nd June 2010 following a long illness which he had borne with both dignity and humour.

Stuart had been a Parish Councillor for 8 years, having first been elected to the Parish Council in May 1999. During his time on the Parish Council, Stuart served on both the Amenities Committee and the Finance & Policy Committee, and was in fact Chairman of the Amenities Committee for a period of one year.

As a token of respect, Members observed a one minute silence in remembrance of Stuart.

Members of the Committee agreed to move Agenda Item 20 forward on the Agenda to enable representatives from Nottinghamshire County Council to present their proposals in respect of the improvement to High Street. It was agreed that the item would be considered immediately following Agenda Item 8.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D. Bakewell, Mrs. S. Kaur Samra, P. Lyons-Lewis and D.E.G. Williams.

C. 10/1337 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.

Councillor J.V. Norton declared an interest in Agenda Item 16.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2010, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

C. 10/1338 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

C. 10/1339 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 David Brown, Tim Cullen and Michael Bye advised Members of their concerns regarding the outline planning application in respect of 14 dwellings on land situated at the end of Paget Crescent. The issues raised were as follows:

- By creating a through-route from Paget Crescent to Ashworth Avenue this could cause disruption and nuisance to residents of Paget Crescent, which is a quiet cul-de-sac, specifically from scooters and motor bikes
- The safety of pedestrians is questioned as there are no footways on Paget Crescent and the road is only wide enough for one car
- There are a number of mature trees within the development site which must be preserved
- This development will have a negative impact on existing wildlife within the area
- The amenities of neighbouring properties will be adversely affected
- There will be excessive noise emanating from the site in an area which has previously been peaceful & tranquil

COUNCIL IN SESSION

C. 10/1340 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

90th Birthdays

The Chairman advised that the Vice-Chairman of the Council, Councillor Mrs. B.M. Venes, had delivered a planted arrangement for Mrs. Hilda Moss, a former resident who is currently in a care home at Radcliffe-on-Trent, to her daughter Mrs. Lesley Shaw so that she could take it to her mother on the occasion of her 90th Birthday on Saturday 26th June 2010.

The Chairman also advised that on Monday 28th June 2010 the Clerk, along with Councillor Mrs. Margaret Grice, had delivered a planted arrangement to Mrs. Marjorie Crooks of Shrimpton Court on the occasion of her 90th Birthday.

C. 10/1341 COMMUNICATIONS

2010 Garden Competition

The Clerk read to Members the contents of a letter from Mrs. Margaret Heatherley asking whether the Parish Council would consider judging the 'Bee Garden' at Rushcliffe Country Park as an entry in the 2010 Garden Competition. The letter advised that it had been created and funded by the Friends of the Country Park, many of whom are residents of Ruddington.

The Clerk advised that there are only two categories in the Garden Competition, namely 'Window Boxes, Baskets & Planters' and 'Front Gardens', and also that the competition is aimed at residential properties. She reported that she had been approached by a representative from the Methodist Church prior to receipt of this letter and had advised that there was no longer a category for this type of entry.

Members agreed that the entry in respect of the 'Bee Garden' could not be accepted for the 2010 Garden Competition. It was agreed, however, that the categories within the Garden Competition be considered when the Environment & Committee discuss proposals for the 2011 Garden Competition.

JG

C. 10/1342 QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 8

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

C. 10/1343 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO HIGH STREET

County Councillor Reg Adair introduced Sue Jacques, an officer with the NCC Local Improvement Scheme Team and advised Members that the County Council had put together a suggested scheme to improve

the look of the High Street, especially since the main road into the village had now been re-surfaced.

Sue Jacques circulated to Members a copy of the proposed scheme which it is anticipated could be in place by Christmas 2010. The basis of the scheme is to block pave the footways on both sides of High Street from the junction with Easthorpe Street to Kirk Lane on the east side (including up to the end of the Bricklayer's Arms building on Kirk Lane) and from the junction with Church Street through to the corner of Parkyns Street on the west side. The paving will be done in two colour-ways, one for the main walking area and one which will outline the original shop frontages. The Parish Council will be able to decide on the two colours of paving stones it would prefer to see on the High Street and in order to make the choice easier, mock-ups of the various options will be supplied.

In addition to the block paving, it is intended that new street furniture will be provided, including bollards and bins.

It was pointed out that it will be necessary to operate a one-way system for vehicular traffic whilst work is in progress and this will be from Kirk Lane, left along The Green and then right into Church Street to the junction with High Street. There will be temporary traffic lights stationed at the junctions of Kirk Lane/High Street and Church Street/High Street. It was suggested by Councillor W.A. Wood that it may be advisable to erect 'No Entry' signs at the High Street junctions with Charles Street and Parkyns Street to prevent vehicles using them as a short-cut onto Church Street whilst the one-way system is in operation.

The County Council will be in a position to amend arrangements temporarily to accommodate other activities which may affect traffic flow whilst the work on the High Street is being carried out.

Steve Marston, the scheme designer, agreed to consult with the Highways Manager with regard to flooding which it was pointed out happens along the western side of the carriageway on High Street.

The majority of the property owners have been consulted and are in agreement with the proposals. Members were advised that the Parish Council's assistance may be required with regard to contacting the remaining four or five owners, but the County Council will take the financial risk if those owners cannot be consulted. It was pointed out that there will be no recompense to businesses whilst the work is being carried out.

Once the Parish Council has given its approval for the scheme to proceed, it is anticipated that work will commence early September with the aim of completion by the end of November, culminating with a big Christmas Opening with the Press and Traders present.

Members unanimously agreed to the proposed scheme and agreed to discuss the preferred colour-ways at the Amenities Meeting scheduled to take place on 13th July 2010.

RESOLVED:

1. That the proposals in respect of improvements to High Street be approved, subject to the choice of paving colours.
2. That NCC provides plans with various colour-ways superimposed onto them to allow the Parish Council to choose its preference.
3. That this matter be further discussed at the next Amenities Meeting.

NCC

JG

C. 10/1344 DEVELOPMENT

New Applications

RESOLVED:

That the observations contained in Planning Schedule 627 be adopted.

C. 10/1345 COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

Amenities Committee	11 th May 2010
	25 th May 2010
Environment & Community Committee	11 th May 2010
	8 th June 2010
Finance & Policy Committee	11 th May 2010
	15 th June 2010

RESOLVED:

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

Councillor K.S. Piggott left the meeting at this point.

C. 10/1346 RUDDINGTON MEDICAL CENTRE

Copies of a memo from John Hallatt, the Architect acting on behalf of Ruddington Medical Centre had previously been circulated to Members.

The Chairman advised that the contents of the memo had been discussed at the working group meeting held on 15th June 2010.

The Clerk reported that the crane arrived on site at 6am on Thursday 17th June 2010 and once it was in position the area surrounding it was cordoned off, leaving car parking spaces available. Two men were on duty organising parking, one at the entrance and the other guiding vehicles into available spaces and out again. There was constant

communication between the two men as to the number of spaces available.

The Parish Council received no complaints at all regarding the operations being carried out or parking – in fact some members of the public remarked how nice it was to be directed into the car park. The only known problem was caused by inconsiderate on-street parking at the end of Church Street, near The Green, which held one of the buses up for several minutes.

John Hallatt reported on the morning of Friday 18th June, that the roof steels had all been put in place by 4.30pm on the 17th and therefore the crane would not be returning on the 18th. He said that in all the years he had been overseeing projects he had never come across such an efficient crew and he was therefore proposing to write to the company concerned to express his appreciation and to congratulate them on the efficiency of their employees.

RESOLVED:

That the above information be noted.

C. 10/1347 FINAL ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2010

Copies of the Final Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2010, together with the Internal Auditor's Report, the Annual Return and the Annual Governance Statement had previously been circulated to Members.

Councillor P.F. McGowan, Chairman of the Finance & Policy Committee, advised Members that over the last few years many changes have taken place in respect of the presentation of Final Accounts and supporting documentation which has necessitated additional work by the administration staff. He expressed his thanks to the staff for encompassing these changes so effectively.

Internal Auditor's Report

Members noted the comments made by the Internal Auditor in his report. The Clerk confirmed that the minor alterations required to the final accounts had been carried out to the Internal Auditor's satisfaction. She explained that the software suppliers had 'talked her through' the programme in order to correct the inaccuracies which had occurred within the programme.

RESOLVED:

That the Internal Auditor's comments be noted.

Annual Governance Statement

Members duly answered the questions contained within the Annual Governance Statement.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Annual Governance Statement be approved.
2. That the Annual Governance Statement be signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

Final Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2010

The Chairman pointed out to Members that the accounts reflected the additional income received during the year in respect of the Jubilee Clubhouse Project. He said the accounts also reflected a cost control efficient year.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Final Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2010 be adopted.
2. That the Chairman and the Clerk sign the Final Accounts and the Annual Return.
3. That the Clerk and Deputy Clerk be thanked for the efficient manner in which the Final Accounts had been produced and presented for audit.

C. 10/1348 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – DELIVERY OF LOCAL SERVICES

Copies of correspondence from Nottinghamshire County Council highlighting those highway services which Parish Councils could consider delivering on behalf of the County Council had previously been circulated to Members.

The services suggested are:-

- Maintenance and repair of public footpaths and rights of way
- Grass cutting, tree and shrub work on highway verges
- Cleaning low level non-illuminated signage (eg direction signs)
- Bus shelter cleaning and maintenance
- Street lighting patrols/reporting of faults
- Reporting problems in snow conditions
- Refilling of grit bins

It was suggested that this matter be discussed in detail by the relevant committees in order to assess the merits and drawbacks associated with the Parish Council delivering any of the services.

RESOLVED:

That further discussions on this matter take place at the Amenities Committee and Finance & Policy Committee.

JG

C. 10/1349 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Copies of a correspondence, together with information regarding the development of the third Local Transport Plan and a questionnaire, had previously been circulated to Members.

RESOLVED:

1. That the information be noted.
2. That Councillors respond on an individual basis if they so wish.

ALL

C. 10/1350 ELMS PARK PLAY AREA

Councillor D.J. Hall, Chairman of the Amenities Committee, advised Members that the working group had looked at a number of proposed schemes but discussions were still ongoing. He reported that following information received from a member of the NCC Local Improvement Scheme Team, he had visited the Playfair Exhibition held recently at Stoneleigh and as a result of this, two further proposals are being prepared by two suppliers who had had stands at Playfair.

The next meeting of the working group is scheduled to take place on Thursday 8th July 2010 and a report will be presented at the Amenities Committee Meeting on 13th July 2010.

He advised that the bids for possible funding have been submitted to both Rushcliffe Borough Council and NCC Local Improvement Scheme, and expressed his thanks to Councillors Mrs. B. Breakwell and J.V. Norton for putting the bids together.

The Clerk had contacted Rushcliffe Borough Council Development Control to ascertain whether planning permission would be required if the Parish Council went down the lines of providing a large multi-sports play area. She had been advised that such a project would probably fall under 'permitted development' but it had been suggested that the Borough Council be kept abreast of progress on this matter in order that advice can be given as and when appropriate.

DH/JG

RESOLVED:

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

JG

The Chairman, having declared an interest in the following item, took no part in the discussion, and the Vice-Chairman therefore took the Chair

C. 10/1351 VICARAGE LANE PLAYING FIELD – FOOTPATH TO BARTON CLOSE

Copies of a quotation from City Asphalt in respect of widening and resurfacing the footpath which leads from Barton Close to the 2nd gate into the Play Area had previously been circulated to Members.

The Clerk was requested to obtain two further quotations, preferably from smaller companies, in respect of this matter.

RESOLVED:

That two further quotations in respect of the widening and resurfacing of the footpath leading from Barton Close to the Play Area be obtained.

JG

The Chairman took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting

C. 10/1352 RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL – STREET LITTER BINS

Copies of correspondence, together with mock-up copies of the style of bins proposed, had previously been circulated to Members.

The Clerk advised that the Borough Council would like to replace some of the existing street litter bins with Recycling Bins and was seeking the Parish Council's permission for this proposal to take place.

It was pointed out that the style of recycling bin proposed would not be in-keeping with the Conservation Area, and it was therefore suggested that this matter be further discussed at the next meeting of the Environment & Community Committee.

In the meantime the Clerk suggested that she ascertains from the Borough Council whether there are more suitably styled recycling bins available.

JG

RESOLVED:

That this matter be discussed more fully at the next meeting of the Environment & Community Meeting.

JG

C. 10/1353 RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL – PARISH SUMMER SPORT OFFER

Copies of correspondence from Rushcliffe Borough Council detailing opportunities available to Parish Councils in respect of the Parish Summer Sports Offer, including provision of Cricket Tickets, Coaching, Equipment and Grants had previously been circulated to Members.

Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell, who is heavily involved in the provision of summer activities in Ruddington, advised that if funding could be obtained there is a piece of equipment which the organisers would like to hire i.e. a climbing wall. It was suggested, and agreed, that Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell complete the application form on behalf of the Parish Council.

It was also agreed that the decision as to how, and when, to use the Cricket Tickets should be discussed at the next meeting of the Amenities Committee.

RESOLVED:

1. That Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell be authorised to act on behalf of the Parish Council and complete the application form in respect of the Rushcliffe Borough Council Parish Summer Sport Offer. BB
2. That the distribution of the Cricket Tickets provided under the above scheme be discussed at the next meeting of the Amenities Committee. JG

Councillor N.J. Tegerdine left the meeting at this point

C. 10/1354 RUSHCLIFFE COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Copies of correspondence from Rushcliffe Community & Voluntary Service advising of the work of the Rushcliffe Voluntary Transport Scheme, and the efforts being made to secure additional funding to maintain the current level of service and meet the growing demand for the service, had previously been circulated to Members.

The Chairman suggested that the Council should be mindful of the current climate and the probable increase in similar types of requests when deciding whether to make a contribution to this service.

Several Members reported that the service is used extensively by many residents of the parish and therefore suggested that it would be fitting for the Parish Council to make a donation.

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 and Voluntary Service	£50.00
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JG

C. 10/1355 PARISH COUNCIL SURGERY

The Clerk presented a verbal report in respect of the Parish Council Surgery held on 8th June 2010 at which Councillors Mrs. B.M. Venes and Mrs. M. Woodhead had been in attendance:-

1. Mrs. Sayers – Elms Close – re letter about preventing building in gardens and advising that she will go to the appeal on 23rd June in respect of development at rear of 220 Loughborough Road

2. Ian Wilbraham – 143 Ashworth Avenue – re Ditch on estate – no action yet; Centre light in passageway 67/69 still not done; Housing 6/7 Paget Crescent – Hawthorn Hedge not cut
3. David Hall - Re: Local Improvement Scheme doing “something in Ruddington”
4. Mrs Parsons – re Trimming of her hedge – 49 Bladon Road – she does not want her hedge trimmed which backs onto Churchill Open Space by PC Groundstaff – advised cannot leave one part of the hedge not trimmed – not practical – also how would staff know which is 49 Bladon Road from Churchill Open Space side of hedge
5. David Hollingworth – Elms Close - Bin men have delivered battery bag for used batteries – can we have a bin here instead of battery bags?
6. John Harper - the gardener at Lane House, Vicarage Lane Tarmac missing from road, next to their boundary – the highway wants scraping out and tarmacking; also overgrown with foliage. He wants something to tell owners that it has been investigated - Highway matter
7. Phil Brown – 6 Shaw Street – re: Stop sign not painted on car park exit; query as to whether the hump is too near Shaw Street exit; drains not working - no gully draining from Shaw Street – Highways informed; Ian (street sweeper) not litter picking on Shaw Street; gulleys need cleaning

C. 10/1356 PLANNING MEETINGS DURING SUMMER RECESS

The Chairman advised that due to the imminent summer recess in respect of Meetings, it is necessary to provisionally agree dates for meetings to take place in the event that any planning applications are received during this time.

The Clerk suggested one or two dates when these meetings could take place and the following was agreed.

RESOLVED:

That Planning Meetings be provisionally booked to take place on:-

Tuesday 3rd August 2010 commencing at 7.00pm
 Tuesday 17th August 2010 commencing at 7.00pm

JG
 JG

C. 10/1357 THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE 2012

The Clerk advised Members that the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations will centre around the first week in June 2012. It is understood that this will entail the Spring Bank Holiday being put back to Monday 4th June 2012 and an additional Bank Holiday being granted on Tuesday 5th June 2012.

The Clerk explained that this item had been put on the Agenda to allow the Parish Council to consider whether it wished to organise, or help to organise, any special events to commemorate the occasion of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

RESOLVED:

That this matter be discussed in more detail by the Environment & Community Committee.

JG

C. 10/1358 REPORTS

Borough Councillors

Councillor Mrs. B.M. Venes reported on her attendance at the following meetings:-

- The Planning Appeal hearing at the Civic Centre in respect of the development to the rear of 220 Loughborough Road – construction of 8 dwellings – the hearing took all day, including a visit to the site
- Environmental Law Foundation meeting at the Civic Centre at which information was given on what residents can do about planning applications and the new regulations regarding building in gardens, although the precise details of the latter are not yet known
- Due to the deferment of the upgrade to the A453 it is unlikely that the proposed Clifton Pastures development will proceed

Councillor P.F. McGowan reported that he had attended the Emergency Planning Meeting which had proved to be quite interesting. He advised that he would write a report in the near future on relevant matters.

Members noted all of the above information.

Sharphill Woods Development

Councillor Mrs. M. Woodhead reported that she attended the Public Exhibition in respect of the Sharphill Woods Development recently held at Rushcliffe Leisure Centre and advised that a public consultation is to be held in September 2010. Members noted this information.

Planning Appeal – land to rear of 220 Loughborough Road

Councillor W.A. Wood, on behalf of Members, expressed sincere thanks to Councillor Mrs. B.M. Venes for representing the Parish Council at the above hearing.

Summer Activities

Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell, on behalf of SureStart and Extended Services, expressed their thanks to the Parish Council for supporting the holding of summer activities in Ruddington.

Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell advised Members that she had received a cheque in the sum of £200.00 from County Councillor Reg Adair towards the cost of some of the activities which are being held.

The Clerk advised that the cheque has been paid to the Parish Council and a specially created income code has been created to deal with this. Similarly all expenditure associated with this activity will be paid out by the Parish Council from a specially created expenditure code.

Members note the above information.

Fire at dwelling on Musters Road

Councillor P.F. McGowan reported that a fire had recently occurred at a dwelling on Musters Road rendering it uninhabitable and the residents were now staying with relatives until renovations can be carried out. He suggested that it might be a thoughtful gesture for the Parish Council to send flowers to the 'lady of the house' expressing the Parish Councils concern for the predicament in which the family find themselves. The Chairman agreed to discuss this suggestion with the Clerk.

JN/JG

The meeting closed at 9.52 pm

Chairman