

RUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT ST. PETER'S ROOMS ON TUESDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2010 AT 7.30PM

Membership

Councillors	A	J.V. Norton	Chairman
		Mrs. B. Venes	Vice-Chairman
		D. Bakewell	
		Mrs. B. Breakwell	
		Miss S.A. Chambers	
		Mrs. M.G. Grice	
		D.J. Hall	
	A	Mrs. S. Kaur Samra	
		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

Mrs. J.A. Goodbody	Clerk to the Council
Mrs. L.M. Cooke	Deputy Clerk
5 members of the public	

In the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman took the Chair

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. S. Kaur Samra and J. V. Norton.

C. 10/1382 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 21st September 2010, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

C. 10/1383 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Rushcliffe Borough Council – Environmental Improvement Scheme – Elms Park (Vide Minutes C. 10/1370 & A. 10/824)

Councillor D.J. Hall reported that a meeting had been held on site between Tom Pettit, RBC Design & Landscape Officer, representatives from Proludic, the company carrying out the refurbishment of the Play Area, and the Parish Council's groundstaff.

A route has been agreed for the new path through Elms Park/Jubilee Field to link the business park with the centre of the village and work on this will commence in the New Year.

It is anticipated that the two schemes will work well together and compliment each other. Members noted this information.

Environmental Improvement Scheme on High Street (Vide Minute C. 10/1371)

Councillor D.J. Hall suggested that a letter of congratulation be sent to Nottinghamshire Council in respect of the improvements taken on High Street. He said that despite the slow start to the project, and taking into account some of the difficulties experienced whilst work was in progress, it would appear that the scheme will be completed ahead of schedule.

Members agreed to this suggestion but recommended that the letter be sent once the project had been completed.

JG

The Green (Vide Minute C. 10/1381)

The Clerk advised Members that she had not yet contacted Nottinghamshire County Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council regarding the apparent lack of knowledge by the emergency services of a road in Ruddington called 'The Green'. She promised to do this without delay.

JG

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Special Parish Council Meeting held on 19th October 2010, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

C. 10/1384 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Elms Park Play Area (Vide Minutes C. 10/1383 and F. 10/980)

Councillor D.J. Hall advised that work on the refurbishment of the Play Area will start w/c 29th November 2010 and should be completed by 17th December 2010, weather permitting. He reported that since additional funding through the Rushcliffe Community Grant Scheme had been promised the Parish Council has been able to place an order for the whole project cover both the Toddler & Teen Areas and the Vitality Gymnasium which is suitable for all age groups.

Members noted this information.

C. 10/1385 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:

Mike Fegredo, the Baptist Minister, advised the Council of his delight with the work taking place on High Street and said that despite the temporary inconvenience caused it would be a great improvement to that area of the village. He added that in his opinion the temporary one-way system had worked very well and had improved the flow of traffic through the village. He would fully support any moves the County Council may wish to make with regard to making the one-way system a permanent feature.

Mr. Fegredo reminded Members of the Baptist Church's endeavour to work in the community and asked that if anyone has knowledge of any community activity with which the church could become involved to either phone or email him with details.

David Hollingworth suggested that when the Council discusses planning application 10/01861/FUL they should consider the prominent position at which the four grain stores will be sited and recommend to the Borough Council that trees be planted as a screening measure in order to improve the visual impact on the landscape in that area.

COUNCIL IN SESSION

C. 10/1386 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rushcliffe Community Awards

The Vice-Chairman reported that the Rushcliffe Community Awards 2010 had taken place at the Becket School, West Bridgford on Thursday 11th November and said she was delighted to announce that Councillor Barbara Breakwell had won the award for Building Stronger Communities.

At the awards ceremony it was reported that “*Barbara volunteers as a Ruddington Parish Councillor and a school Governor. Barbara is an asset to her community, she cares for and supports young people and families, organises events and activities and helped the village get a new play area. Barbara is very pro-active and frequently helps at a school and nursery*”. The Parish Council would like to offer congratulations to Barbara and thank her for all her help in the village.

Members unanimously applauded Barbara Breakwell.

95th Birthday

The Vice-Chairman advised that the Clerk had delivered a planted arrangement to Mrs. Vi Duffy of Leys Court on the occasion of her 95th Birthday on 1st November 2010.

Golden Wedding Anniversaries

The Vice-Chairman advised that the Clerk had delivered a flower arrangement to the following residents who had recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary:-

- 8th October 2010 Judith & Ian Murdoch of
Devon Drive
- 22nd October 2010 Barbara & Brian Dickman of
Kirk Lane

C. 10/1387 COMMUNICATIONS

Thank-you letters

The Clerk read to members the contents of thank-you letters from the following recipients of gifts:-

- Margaret Bingley
- Judith & Ian Murdoch
- Vi Duffy

C. 10/1388 QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 8

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

C. 10/1389 DEVELOPMENT

New Applications

RESOLVED:

That the observations contained in Planning Schedule 637 be adopted.

Planning Appeal – 50 Kirk Lane – Two storey extension to side and rear; single storey extension replacing garage; new detached garage
Planning Application No. 10/01117/FUL

Copies of the Notification of Planning Appeal in respect of the refusal by Rushcliffe Borough Council to grant permission for the above application had previously been circulated to Members. Members were reminded that although the Parish Council did not object to the planning application it was at liberty to support Rushcliffe Borough Council in its decision following consideration of the reasons given for refusal of the application.

RESOLVED:

That the Planning Inspectorate be advised that the Parish Council supports Rushcliffe Borough Council in its decision to refuse permission in respect of the above application.

JG

C. 10/1390 COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

Amenities Committee	5 October 2010
Environment & Community Committee	19 October 2010
Finance & Policy Committee	2 November 2010

RESOLVED:

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

C. 10/1391 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.

Members were advised that prior to the discussion of the content of the memo by the working group an inspection of The Green had been carried out by the Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Parish Council Groundstaff and John Hallatt. A copy of the observations made at the time of the inspection incorporating a list of items requiring both urgent attention and future attention had also previously been circulated to Members.

The Clerk advised that there is a potential trip hazard on one of the paths across the Green which John Hallatt is endeavouring to get rectified without delay. However, despite several calls to the contractor, the work has still not been carried out. The Clerk further advised that this matter had also been reported by a member of the public at the Parish Council Surgery on 13th November.

RESOLVED:

1. That the contents of the architect's report be noted.
2. That the architect be reminded of the urgent repairs required to one of the paths across The Green.

JG

C. 10/1392 AUDIT OF ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDED
31st MARCH 2010 (Vide Minute C. 10/1368

Annual Return for Year Ended 31st March 2010

Copies of the Notification of the conclusion of Audit of the Return for Year Ended 31st March 2010, together with the external Auditor's Certificate and Opinion had previously been circulated to Members.

Members noted the comment regarding the Council's failure to review the risks facing it during the period to 31st March 2010. It was pointed out that Risk Assessments are currently being produced in preparation for approval by the Parish Council at the meeting scheduled to take place on 1st March 2011.

Members acknowledged that the Clerk had kept them fully informed of all correspondence and queries raised during the period of audit.

RESOLVED:

That the above information be noted.

Initiatives proposed by the Coalition Government

Copies of an article which had appeared in Issue 32 of 'Countywise' had previously been circulated to Members. The article reads:-

"Councils will have become aware through media articles of a variety of initiatives being proposed by the Coalition Government which are likely to affect our sector. In particular, it has been confirmed that both the Standards Board for England and the Audit Commission are to go. The government has also recently consulted on changes to the 'capping' system which currently applies to higher tier authorities, but may well be applied in future to parish and town councils."

"There are any number of suggestions as to how the above will affect our sector, but nothing has been confirmed yet (other than the close of SBE and AC) and we await the Localism Bill which is expected in November and which is likely to be the first indication of how we will be affected."

"However, it should be stressed that it is clear that there will be no change to the audit regime for the next financial year – whatever is agreed will not be introduced before this financial year end."

“Also, we understand that the government is considering changes to the manner in which parish councils deal with payments, and this may lead to the ability of parish and town councils to use internet banking for payments.”

“As soon as any or all of the above is made clear we will issue briefing notes to bring members up to speed on changes and how our sector will be affected”.

RESOLVED:

That the above information be noted.

C. 10/1393 2011 CENSUS

Copies of correspondence from the Census Liaison Manager for Nottinghamshire County Council had previously been circulated to Members.

The next census for England and Wales takes place on Sunday 27th March 2011 and the Parish Council is being asked to spread the information to as much of the population as possible through websites, newsletters, discussion etc.

The Clerk advised Members that she had printed off a copy of the document referred to in the correspondence, “2011 Census: Councillor Handbook” which is available in the Parish Council Office should any Councillor need to refer to it.

RESOLVED:

1. That the above information be noted.
2. That the information in respect of the 2011 Census be published on the Parish Council’s website and in the Village Newsletter.

LC

C. 10/1394 RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL – A PARTNERSHIP WITH PARISHES

Copies of correspondence together with a draft copy of the Partnership with Parishes ‘refreshed’ document had previously been circulated to Members.

RESOLVED:

That the above information be noted.

C. 10/1395 RESIGNATION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Clerk read to Members the contents of a letter from D.E.G. Williams tendering his resignation from the position of Parish Councillor. The letter advised that during the past summer Mr. Williams had been an infrequent attendee at Parish Council Meetings

and when he examined his schedule for the next few months he realised that his attendance will be less frequent still during that period. For that reason, Mr. Williams felt it was in the interest of the Parish Council that he tenders his resignation from his position as Councillor. Mr. Williams passed on to Councillors and staff his regret that he feels obliged to leave the Council and said he had learned a great deal from them in the brief period he had been their colleague.

Members reluctantly accepted Mr. William's resignation. The Clerk was requested to write a letter to Mr. Williams expressing the Council's appreciation for the work he had undertaken whilst being a Parish Councillor.

JG

The Clerk explained to Members that as there was less than six months to go before the Parish Council Elections take place it is not necessary to replace Mr. Williams. However, the Parish Council could, if it so wished, co-opt someone onto the Council for the remainder of the current term of office of the Council.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Parish Council accepts the resignation from Mr. David Williams as a Parish Councillor representing Easthorpe Ward.
2. That the vacancy for a Parish Councillor to represent Easthorpe Ward be left vacant for the remainder of the current term.
3. That Rushcliffe Borough Council be advised of the resignation of David Williams.
4. That Rushcliffe Borough Council be advised that the Parish Council does not intend to fill the vacancy on Easthorpe Ward.

JG

JG

C. 10/1396 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – SEVERE WINTER WEATHER

Copies of correspondence from Nottinghamshire County Council advising of actions being taken following consultation with local councils regarding their experiences, suggestions and requests following the severe winter weather over the last two years had previously been circulated to Members.

Members noted that the Clerk had completed a request form for the following to be supplied:-

- 5 no. 25kg bags prepacked salt (free of charge)
- 1 no. 1 tonne bag of salt at a cost of £55.00 (to be kept at the Maintenance Unit)
- 1 no. Grit Bin at a cost of £150.00 (to be sited at St. Peter's Rooms)

Members agreed that the Parish Council Office should be the main contact point in an emergency situation.

RESOLVED:

1. That the action taken by the Clerk to obtain supplies of salt plus a grit bin be approved.
2. That the County Council be advised that emergency contact should be made via the Parish Council Office.

C. 10/1397 AWARDS FOR ALL WORKSHOP – HOW TO WRITE A GOOD APPLICATION

Details of a workshop taking place on 2nd December 2010 at the Civic Centre, West Bridgford had previously been circulated to Members.

Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell advised that she had attended the previous workshop on this subject and found it to be most useful.

RESOLVED:

That the above information be noted.

C. 10/1398 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – INSTALLATION OF BUS STOP CLEARWAYS – RUDDINGTON AREA

Copies of correspondence from Nottinghamshire County Council, together with a copy of a letter which has been sent to all residents in Ruddington who have a proposed bus stop clearway outside their property, had previously been circulated to Members. Members noted that the residents concerned had been given until 5th November 2010 to respond to the proposals. The outcome of this consultation is not yet known.

RESOLVED:

That the above information be noted.

C. 10/1399 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – SERVICE REVIEW PROPOSALS 2011/2012

Copies of correspondence regarding the County Council's proposals to fundamentally change the way that it delivers services had previously been circulated to Members. The consultation period runs until 21st January 2011 with the final decision regarding any changes being made by the full Council on 24th February 2011.

The Clerk reported that due to the size of the document she had not produced a hard copy, but advised Members that the document can be accessed, and comments submitted, via the County Council's website.

RESOLVED:

That the above information be noted.

C. 10/1400 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BUILDING PRESERVATION TRUST LTD.

Copies of information regarding the Annual General Meeting of the Trust which will be taking place on 22nd November 2010 at The Minster Centre, Southwell commencing at 7.00pm had previously been circulated to Members.

The Clerk advised that anyone wishing to attend this meeting could obtain a copy of the Minutes and Report from the 2009 A.G.M. from the Parish Council Office.

Councillor P.F. McGowan advised that his wife would be attending the meeting in her capacity as Treasurer to the Trust.

RESOLVED:

That the above information be noted.

C. 10/1401 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION 2011 (Vide Minute 10/983)

Copies of Minute No. F. 10/983 showing details of the proposed timetable for the preparation of relevant information prior to its publication on the Parish Council's Website and in the Village Newsletter had previously been circulated to Members.

It is intended that publicity be given to the upcoming Parish Council Election in May 2011 in order to advise local residents of the benefits of being a local Parish Councillor, together with the criteria which has to be met.

Councillors P.F. McGowan and W.A. Wood agreed to liaise in order to produce a draft copy of the information to be published which will initially be approved by the Finance & Policy Committee on 18th January 2011 and subsequently ratified for publication by the Parish Council at the meeting scheduled to take place on 25th January 2011.

RESOLVED:

That Councillors P.F. McGowan and W.A. Wood prepare the draft copy of relevant information for publication.

C. 10/1402 APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT AID

Vitalise

Copies of correspondence from Vitalise, an organisation which provides respite care breaks for disabled people that enable their carers to have a rest from their vital role, had previously been circulated to Members.

Members considered the request for a donation but agreed that since the local Skylarks Centre had now closed the Parish Council would not support this organisation at this time.

RESOLVED:

That the Parish Council does not accede to the request for a donation by Vitalise.

HELP Appeal (County Air Ambulance Trust)

Copies of a correspondence from the HELP Appeal, which provides funds for the operation of the Air Ambulance helicopters in the Midlands, had previously been circulated to Members.

Members considered the request for a donation but agreed that as this organisation did not operate locally the Parish Council would not support this organisation at this time.

RESOLVED:

That the Parish Council does not accede to the request for a donation by the HELP Appeal.

C. 10/1403 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – HIGHWAYS INFORMATION PACK

Copies of correspondence from Nottinghamshire County Council regarding the launch of the Highways Information Pack for Parishes had previously been circulated to Members.

The Clerk advised that the information had been sent by email and therefore it had been necessary to run off a hard copy of the document. She expressed her concern regarding this especially in respect of the smaller parishes, as the document extended to 87 pages.

Councillor W.A. Wood advised that he had read the document on behalf of the Parish Council and felt that it would prove to be most useful as it sets out all aspects of 'who does what'. He suggested that copies of the information in respect of the Parish Contact List for Highways South (Broxtowe, Gedling & Rushcliffe) together with the alphabetical list of 'Subject and Contact Number' be circulated to Councillors for future reference.

The Clerk suggested that a full copy of the document be produced and kept with the Parish Council Surgery Book for use at the Saturday Surgeries and this was agreed.

RESOLVED:

1. That the above information be noted.
2. That copies of the relevant information contact numbers be circulated to Councillors.
3. That a full copy of the document be made available for use at Parish Council Surgeries.

C. 10/1404 PARISH COUNCIL SURGERIES

9th October 2010 – County Councillor Reg Adair; Borough/Parish Councillor P.F. McGowan; Beat Manager Ann Gill

1. Mr. Brocklesby of Wilford Crescent – regarding the cycle path on Wilford Road, near the dentists, not being completed and therefore not being used, plus the bus shelter.
2. The Beat Manager confirmed that neither herself nor the PCSO have been allotted to West Bridgford, despite rumours to the contrary.
3. County Councillor Reg Adair asked whether the Parish Council had received a letter from the County Council regarding the clearance of gulleys to prevent flooding.
4. Mr. & Mrs. Kelly of Landmere Lane – regarding the bus stop on A60 Loughborough Road, opposite the golf course – a footpath is required across the corner from 'old' Loughborough Road to the bus stop.
5. Mr. Knight – regarding the letter from Nottinghamshire County Council in respect of changes at bus stops in the village.
6. Mr. George Lyons of The Avenue, Mere Way – dog fouling on the road – advised to contact the Dog Warden at Rushcliffe Borough Council to act as a deterrent.

13th November – Borough/Parish Councillors P.F. McGowan and Mrs. B.M. Venes (apologies received from County Councillor Reg Adair)

1. Mrs. Christine Saxby of Sheepfold Lane – concern regarding the danger associated with a raised manhole cover on one of the pathways across The Green. Also High Street flooding.
2. Mr. David Hollingworth of Elms Close – concern regarding bins without lids being left out; information regarding how to use the various bins; mess left by refuse collectors. Hedge cutting required – Nottingham Knight/Wilford Hill and outside the telephone exchange on Kirk Lane.
3. Mr. George Lyons of The Avenue, Mere Way – dog walkers parking on Mere Way.

RESOLVED:

That the above reports be noted.

C. 10/1405 REPORTS

Village Hall

Members agreed to hold an informal meeting for Councillors to discuss future plans in respect of the Village Hall on Tuesday 14th December 2010 at St. Peter's Rooms, commencing at 7.30pm.

St. Peter's Rooms

The Clerk reported that an email had been received from a local 12 year old girl requesting the use of St. Peter's Rooms to hold a coffee morning to raise funds for Leukaemia Research. The Clerk had advised that the cost for hiring the room for such an event would be £42.00 and this is the price paid by all hirers irrespective of whether the event is for charity. The resident had asked whether there was any chance that this cost could be reduced? Members agreed that the normal charge would apply for this booking, but individually offered to give raffle prizes if the event went ahead.

Policing

Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell reported on her attendance at the last Police Priority Settings Meeting held on 22nd October 2010 at which the priorities for Ruddington were set. These are anti-social behaviour and speeding. She advised that she will be attending the next meeting on 26th January 2011. Members noted this information.

Greening Campaign

Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell reported that she had received an email from Julian Bentley, who has recently moved to Ruddington from Edwalton and is a Ridewise instructor and a member of Pedals. Mr. Bentley was advising that a campaign is underway regarding opening the underpass on the A52 to pedestrians/cyclists as part of the infrastructure development to support the proposed redevelopment of the Sharphill site.

Councillor Mrs. B. Breakwell reported that she had also been approached by another campaign member whilst attending a conference on Saturday 13th November 2010 and was advised that the campaign group are contacting County Councillor Reg Adair. Members noted this information.

Temporary one-way system in Ruddington

Councillor D.J. Hall said he wished to make a statement that he is in no way, shape or form campaigning to keep the one-way system despite rumours to the contrary. He reported that whenever he is approached by members of the public regarding this matter he advises them that it is not a matter on which the Parish Council can make a decision.

Members noted this information.

Borough Councillors

Councillor P.F. McGowan reported on his attendance at the Rushcliffe Community Awards Ceremony and said that the Ruddington Cadet Force, who he had nominated for an award, did not win but did receive a Commemorative Certificate.

With regard to the improvements to High Street, Councillor McGowan suggested that once the project was completed, if posts were not erected to prevent parking on footways, the County Council should be approached with regard to installing them. Particular mention was made of the Royal Mail van which parks on the paved area opposite the Post Office when collecting mail from the Post Office/Box and he suggested that mention be made to the Postmaster regarding this issue.

Councillor Mrs. B.M. Venes reported that she had also attended the Rushcliffe Community Awards Ceremony which had been held at the new Becket School on Wilford Lane.

Councillor Mrs. B.M. Venes had also attended the following meetings:-

- Fairham Brook Inland Drainage Board at which it had been reported that checks for mink are being carried out
- Rushcliffe Borough Council Budget Meetings at which proposals had been put forward to cut costs and these included the possibility of some services being carried out privately
- Licensing – the bill is changing with regard to the licensing of Sex Shops, although there are none located within the Rushcliffe Area
- The Big Healthy Debate with the PCT, Principia and GPs. Changes are taking place regarding GP collectives but Rushcliffe is well organised through Principia.

The meeting closed at 9.07 pm

Chairman