

RUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Environment & Community Committee meeting
Held at St Peter's Rooms on Tuesday 17th April 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

Membership

A	N Tegerdine	Chairman
	K S Piggott	Vice-Chairman
	Miss S A Chambers	
A	Mrs S Kaur Samra	
	M S McGowan	
A	Mrs M Pell	
	Mrs M Robinson	

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
1 member 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, Mrs M Pell and N Tegerdine.

Declaration of Member's Interests

Councillor P F McGowan declared an interest in Planning Application 12/00450/FUL.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st February 2012, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

E. 11/850 Action List Update

Village Clean-up (See minute E. 11/843)

Councillor P F McGowan was concerned that his suggestion for members to be encouraged to help with a "clean-up" prior to the Best Kept Village judging had been misinterpreted and asked that this item be referred to the Annual Parish Council meeting on 15th May 2012.

Action

PCO =
Parish
Council
Office

PCG =
Parish
Council
Groundstaff

PCO

Information on Empty Properties (See minute E. 11/849)

The Chairman asked that the information supplied to Councillor Mrs M Pell be made available to members on request.

PCO

E. 12/851 Motion for Adjournment

Resolved that: The Committee adjourn to allow the member of the public present to make statements on agenda items.

Mr David Hollingworth expressed his concern about the lack of public toilets in the village and in Rushcliffe generally. Whilst he thought that a scheme encouraging businesses to open their facilities to the public was a good idea he added that there would still be nowhere for bus drivers to use near to where the buses park on The Green.

Committee in Session

E. 12/852 Development

New Applications

Resolved that: The observations contained in Planning Schedule 673 are adopted.

Decision Notices

Schedule DN 212 was presented to the Committee and the contents noted.

Planning Appeal

That the information in respect of appeal and subsequent withdrawal of ref: APP/P3040/A/12/2171350 regarding the conversion, extension and alteration of stables to form a dwelling at Southview Stables, Flawforth Lane is noted.

E. 12/853 Policing

The Deputy Clerk reported that the Police have confirmed that the Youth Centre on The Green is unsuitable for their requirements as a Drop-in Point. The Police are preparing a list of their requirements so that the Parish Council can give consideration to their request for use of the old IT room. This will be considered at the earliest opportunity.

It was also confirmed that Rushcliffe Borough Council would consider giving Listing Building Consent to the siting of a yellow emergency phone on the outside wall of St. Peter's Rooms but would prefer that the Police discuss their requirements before making an application.

Resolved that: The above information is noted.

E. 12/854 Highway Matters

There were no new highways matters raised.

Resolved that: The above information is noted.

E. 12/855 Garden Competitions

A report containing the information about the Garden Competition 2012 and the Photographic Garden Competition 2012 had previously been circulated. Members discussed the success of both competitions and the Presentation Evening which took place in 2011 and agreed to hold both competitions and the presentation event for 2012.

Resolved that:

1. The Clerk arranges the judging of the entries for the Annual Garden Competition in July 2012. PCO
2. The Photographic Garden Competition will run from 1st May to 31st August and that the Deputy Clerk arranges the judging after the closing date. PCO
3. A Presentation Evening is held on Tuesday 23rd October 2012 in the hall at St. Peter's Rooms to present certificates and prizes for the above competitions in addition to the Allotment Competition 2012. PCO

E. 12/856 Community Toilet Scheme

Details of a letter from Rushcliffe Borough Council in respect of Community Toilet Schemes had previously been circulated. The scheme, where local businesses, usually pubs or restaurants, are paid a modest sum to allow the general public to use their facilities has been taken up by some authorities although Rushcliffe advised that it is not their intention to do so.

Members considered in some detail whether it was a suitable project for Ruddington and discussed what is currently available. It was agreed that during normal working hours toilet facilities are available to the general public at St. Peter's Rooms. Outside of these hours, for example in the evenings, most public houses are open and therefore members of the public could approach the publican or bar staff and ask for permission to use their facilities.

It was also suggested that a note is put in the Newsletter reminding residents that they can use the toilet facilities at St. Peter's Rooms and that the issue is reviewed in six months' time.

Resolved that:

1. A note is put in the Village Newsletter advising residents that they can use the toilet facilities at St. Peter's Rooms when the Parish Council Office is open. PCO
2. That this issue is reviewed in six months. PCO

E. 12/857 Local Improvement Scheme Event

The Deputy Clerk reported that the Parish Council Office has reserved two places at the Nottinghamshire County Council's Local Improvement Scheme Event on Tuesday 15th May at the Cedric Ford Pavilion on Newark Showground. The event is intended to provide practical information on how to apply for LIS funding. Although no members present were free to attend, the Chairman asked that a note is circulated to other councillors who may wish to take up the places.

Resolved that: The Clerk circulates details of the event to other councillors who may wish to take up the reserved places.

PCO

E. 12/858 New Homes in Ruddington

Members had asked for this item to be retained on the agenda to enable any new information to be presented. The Deputy Clerk reported that at this time, the Parish Council Office had not received any new information about new housing development in Ruddington.

Councillor P F McGowan suggested that whilst it would appear that Ruddington will be required to accept around 250 new houses, decisions on where that housing might be situated could be influenced by the Parish Council. He recommended that the Parish Council thoroughly consider all available locations, the impact of development at those locations and decide what would be preferable for the village.

The Chairman thanked Councillor McGowan and asked that this issue be referred to the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 15th May for further discussion.

Resolved that: The issue of housing development in the village is included on the agenda for the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 15th May 2012, so that members can thoroughly discuss and consider all available locations, the impact of development at those locations and decide what would be preferable for the village.

PCO

E. 12/859 Ways to Improve the Look and Feel of Ruddington

The Chairman reported that Councillor N Tegerdine had asked to discuss the problems with littering in the village. Whilst it was apparent that the reduction in Streetwise services had its impact on the cleaning of the village, it would be more helpful if residents were encouraged not to drop litter in the first place. Councillor Tegerdine offered to represent the Parish Council at a local Pubwatch meeting to ask patrons to be more "litter aware". Members agreed that this would be a good way forward.

Councillor P F McGowan added that in his opinion, takeaways and cafes also have a responsibility to encourage their customers to use

waste bins or take their litter home with them. The Chairman asked that the Parish Council Office makes enquiries to see what legal obligations takeaways and take-out food establishments might have in this respect.

Resolved that:

1. Councillor N Tegerdine attends a meeting of the local Pubwatch on behalf of the Parish Council, to encourage patrons to be more “litter aware”.

PCO

2. That the Parish Council Office makes enquiries as to the obligations for takeaways and other take-out food establishments to provide waste bins.

PCO

E. 12/860 Other Environmental Matters for Report

New agenda / minutes format

The Chairman asked members whether they were pleased with the new “trial” presentation and format of agendas and minutes for the Environment & Community Committee Meetings. Members generally support the changes although Councillor P F McGowan asked that the Action List use the PCO format (for Parish Council Office) similar to those used on minutes.

Village Survey

Councillor Miss S Chambers wished it to be known that whilst she would be unable to circulate survey forms, she would be willing and able to assist with any of the document preparation at the Parish Council Office.

The meeting closed at 8.22 p.m.

Chairman

Committee Chairman