RYHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 1oth March 2010 In the Methodist Church Schoolrooms, Ryhall.

PRESENT

Mr C Parsons (Chairman)	Mr P Finch	Mr G Lloyd
Mrs S Smith	Mr R Rushby	Mrs S Hickman
Mr N Bellairs	Mr S Fenn	Mr P Huddleston

Ms C Jones – County Councillor and 16 members of the public were present.

APOLOGIES Mrs C Gardiner

WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Sarah Bysouth to the meeting to contribute to the discussion on the RMPF Roadway, agenda item 6, which he moved forward in the meeting schedule.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the regulations, Councillors were invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interest they may have and the nature of those interests .They completed the Declaration of Interest Book.
Mr Lloyd - Francis Court & Neighbourhood Watch
Mr Rushby - Neighbourhood Watch & Parish Plan
Mr Parsons – Planning in Belmesthorpe
Mr Bellairs - Playing Fields
Mr Fenn – Allotments, the Old Mill Planning and Ryhall Football Club
Mrs Hickman – RCC Youth Service and School Governor
Mr Huddleston- Village Hall, Playing Fields, PC Newsletter and RMPF Roadway

MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting

It was proposed by Mr Lloyd, seconded by Mr Rushby and agreed by seven councillors that the Minutes of the Meeting held on **13th January 2010** were a true record. 1 abstained and three non vote due to non attendance.

PUBLIC TIME

Francis Court

Due to the government scheme of supportive selective housing, a number of new residents had been moved in needing considerable daily outside care. This was deemed by residents as worrying for the original residents who had chosen to live in Francs Court for the social sheltered housing facilities.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Ryhall Meadows Playing Fields - Update on Roadway

Mr Lloyd gave an update on the current situation on the playing fields, noting that the proposed roadway upgrade was too big an issue for the small volunteer team of RMPF Committee members & the Parish Council

The roadway is suitable for its primary purpose of track to access the playing fields for low level traffic of bowls, tennis, and play area and football clubs. It was not suitable for up to 100 cars a day driving at speed, thus contributing significantly to the decline in the surface. This has to be maintained at a cost of approx £1,000 per year from the RMPF funds.

Mr Lloyd in his capacity as Chair of the RMPF Roadway Project Sub Committee had written to the Head teacher on the 8th February 2010 but had not received a reply. He had outlined the concerns and suggested that if an acceptable solution could not be achieved then the gate may have to be closed, subject to the agreement of the Parish Council. Every effort has been made to try not to affect this but with no signs of progress; at that point it was looking likely. This would in effect revert the roadway back to its primary use. The Parish Council felt it is not their duty to ensure the safety of school user's travel to school but RCC state that there duty was to safeguard the children within the school perimeters. It was noted that users of the RMPF are covered by the Parish Council public liability.

Various possible sources of funding had been approached by the sub committee. 'Miles in the Community' had declined, 'Cory Environmental' - a decision was still pending, and 'Grassroots' may consider a donation in June. The 'Awards for All' remained a possibility however a donation was dependant on planning permission on the roadway from RCC which would take considerable time. The only secure funds were the £6,000 grant from the Parish Coucil which has been ring-fenced from the 2011 precept application and would only be accessed if match funding had been achieved from other sources.

Mrs Bysouth thanked the Parish Council for the invitation to attend the meeting and put forward the views of the Education Department of Rutland County Council (RCC) Caroline Sanderson, Property Services, had sent her apologies.

Mrs Bysouth proposed that the Parish Council lease the roadway to the school and thus RCC could access funding to upgrade it. It was noted that the land is already leased to the RMPF committee on a thirty year lease which could be complicated by a joint lease but it was a possible solution. It was suggested by the Chairman the RMPF Committee that any lease should stipulate its effect only during the hours of school and in term time. Maintenance of the roadway and solicitors fees would have to be agreed.

The school would be asked to actively promote and encourage walking buses, to promote the use of the school buses from other villages with the suggested re-introduction of the bus rangers and generally reduce the usage of the Parkfield Road access.

Mrs Bysouth noted that a Travel Plan has to be in place by the end of March 2010 which the school are working on currently and that the Diocesan Office may be approached for additional funding. As users and with possible shared ownership of Vicarage Lane, the Diocesan Office is involved.

Action:

- Mrs Bysouth to investigate further the possibility of the Lease. She would also take back all the comments from the meeting about the necessity for the School to promote actively the need to reduce the traffic using the roadway and the need to reduce speed.
- Mrs Sanderson to attend the next Sub Committee meeting – open to all- on 19th April 2010 at the Methodist Church Rooms at 7.30pm.
- Clerk to continue to seek to establish the ownership of the Vicarage Lane along with a contact at RCC who had made initial enquiries
- Mr Lloyd & the sub committee to ascertain if there was any possibility of a grant from the Diocesan office
- Mr Lloyd proposed that a decision to close the gate would be deferred to the next Parish Council Meeting of 12th May, after the sub meeting which would hopefully bring matters to a conclusion. Agreed.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Bysouth for attending the meeting – she left at the conclusion of this agenda item.

MATTERS ARISING

Gritting Issues

Mr Parsons reported that Rutland County Council had agreed in principle to add a gritting route for the next season of gritting in Ryhall. This would cover New Road, The Square, Church Street and Rutland Way (the bus route); however, it was pending approval by Cabinet.

Snow Warden. No volunteer had come forward following the previous request for a village Snow Warden in Ryhall. Mrs Gardiner & Mr Flint cover some of Belmesthorpe as volunteers. Please contact the Clerk if you would like to consider this for next winter. If appointed, the snow warden is then covered by RCC insurance, the remuneration is £ 6 -7 per hour funded by RCC, with a health and safety induction, the issuing of a high Vis jacket and mobile gritting spreader. Any villager can access the grit bins to spread grit at their own risk as a volunteer.

Ryhall Highways Issues

Mr Rushby had undertaken a Dropped Kerb Audit with a member of RCC Highway team. Photographic evidence had been delivered to RCC by the Clerk who will chase up action on Crown Street junction and St Johns Close pathway.
Mr Rushby was thanked for his time and work on this project.

Tree Reduction – Foundry Road

RCC have cut back the overhanging trees and branches along Foundry Road riverbank. This was undertaken with the stipulation that it did not mean RCC accepted ownership of the land. The ownership of the land abutting the river on the highways side needs clarification as it appears not to be under the ownership of the Environment Agency. Clerk to try to establish this.

Notice board(s)
The Planning Permission for the double notice board on Lilac Cottage, Main Street, Belmesthorpe has been submitted to RCC for their consdsieration.

Proposed Development on Stamford/ Rutland Boundary.
Concerns outlined by the Parish Council had been sent to South Kesteven District Council. Their reply indicated that comments would be noted in the Local Development Framework.

Review of Important Open Spaces, Frontage and Green Corridors
The Planning Sub Committee had met to discuss and agree comment on this document. The Parish Council responded that they very much value the green space both within and outside the perimeters of the villages; the pasture between the two settlements of Ryhall and Belmesthorpe should be defined as a green corridor and retained for future generations. With regard to the verges, the Parish Council are aware of the need to preserve the integrity of the open street scene within the Parkfield Road. Rutland Way area with respect to the vista of the grass verges and the wider green areas.

Stiles & Gates Update
Reply from Charlotte Horner, Public Rights of Way officer at RCC. This year the public rights of way budget has been spent. Twenty three stiles across the county have been upgraded at a cost of £4,000 including the three in Ryhall. There are several further stiles for which RCC have secured consent, including the one remaining stile in Ryhall on the Meadows from Ryhall to Belmesthorpe. These will be prioritized early in the next financial year.

AGENDA ITEMS

ITEM 5 Affordable Housing Update.
Following an initiative to research into alternative sites for affordable housing RCC and the Housing Association are investigating the possibility of the site at the top of Essendine Hill, between 'Hilltop' and the Car Wash/Garage. The owners of the site have recently been granted planning permission for the erection of a dwelling house with access to their own house and the new one coming off the A6121 nearer the car Wash/ Garage. Any affordable housing development on this site would need to share this access road. The owner's would want to retain access to the rest of the field.
A meeting is being arranged at the end of March between De Montfort, their architect, highways and housing to consider layout and design possibilities. Following this, and subject to the landowners being willing to proceed in principle on terms acceptable to the housing association, a report will be submitted to the Parish Council. As there is not a meeting in April, RCC requested that the Parish Council agree in principle to a public consultation event.
This would be hosted by RCC and the Housing Association at the Village Hall on Wednesday 28th April 2010 from 1.15pm to 6.00.pm.
It was proposed from the Chair, seconded by Mr Finch and agreed to the consultation event on that date.

County Councillor, Charlotte Jones left at the meeting at the conclusion of this agenda item

Item 7 Cemetery Extension
It was proposed by Mr Fenn, seconded by Mr Lloyd and agreed to pay the application fee of £ 167.50 for 'change of land use'. The application has been completed by the Clerk and subject to permission and the environmental survey to ensure the suitability of the land for purpose, negotiations can continue with the landowner.

Item 8 Street Lighting Upgrades.
It was proposed by Mr Fenn, seconded by Mr Finch and agreed to proceed with the next two street lighting updates as listed by E-ON. These will be the street lights on Foundry Road opposite Dunster House and cottage opposite the bridge. E-on will replace the old pole brackets with new brackets complete with 35 watt sox lanterns controlled by all night photocells including new plastic supply boxes and overhead services, at a cost of £446 each plus VAT.
The Clerk has asked RCC to ring fence an allocation of £400 street lighting rebate for the financial year ending March 2010. The further three upgrades precepted for 2010/11 will take place after April 1st 2010 and the Clerk will seek a further rebate from that financial year.

Item 9 Grit Bins
Following a request for a grit bin on the green area outside The Crescent, Spire Homes have agreed to fund 50% of the purchase of new bin and have contributed £80.00. It was agreed to proceed with the purchase of a green grit bin @ £158.53 plus VAT. Thanks to Mr Fenn who will install it.

Request for Grit Bin – Highlands residents had submitted a signed request for a grit bin and suggested a location within the cul de sac. It was proposed by Mr Finch, seconded by Mr Bellairs and agreed in principle to purchase one at cost as above. However, Councillors were divided as to the location of a grit bin. If it were placed at the end of Highlands it could also be accessed by residents of New Road and used for the A6121/ New Road junction; however this location would require the consent of RCC. It was then noted that, earlier in the meeting, Mr Parsons had indicated that RCC may include New Road on the gritting route. The decision as to where to locate the grit bin for the maximum advantage for all residents was not forthcoming.

ITEM 10 Dog Fouling
Councillor were issued with the latest legislation on the dog fouling laws and new Brochure on dog ownership responsibility were available at the meeting and copies will be in the Library.

Item 11 Benches
Bench by the Library. It was agreed to place a note in the Village News asking for the views of villagers about the possible location of a bench on the green area by the Library as Councillors were divided about the merits of the actual location. A decision about the type and purchase of a bench was deferred to the May meeting.

Bench refurbishment.
The Parish Council thanked Mr Allen who has previously maintained the benches in the villages. Mr Virgin had kindly offered to take on the role and had submitted a quote £37.99 for 2.5 litres of sadolin. It was proposed by Mr Bellairs, seconded by Mrs Smith and agreed in principle to this expenditure.

ITEM 12 Allotments
A new Parish Council representative to replace J Whowell will be appointed at the May Meeting.
It was proposed by Mr Lloyd, seconded by Mr Finch and agreed to purchase of new combination padlock for the main gate at an approximate cost of £25.00. Mr S Fenn abstained.

ITEM 13 Grass cutting Contract 2010/11
Veolia had submitted their quotations for the grass cutting season for the areas under the Parish Council remit. These are the new Cemetery grass and hedges, the RMPF grass cutting, strimming and weed killing.
(All other grass areas are cut by Rutland County Council contractors)

RMPF Grass cutting Fortnightly	£22.71 per cut ex VAT
Play Equipment strimming fortnightly	£12.44 per cut ex VAT
Roadway Weed killing Monthly	£23.79 per cut ex VAT
Burial cemetery Grass cutting Fortnightly	£23.79 per cut ex VAT
Burial Cemetery Hedge cutting 2 per year	£69.22 per cut ex VAT

It was proposed by Mr Fenn, seconded by Mr Belliars and agreed to the 2010/11 quotations.

CORRESPONDENCE

From RCC- Nominations for attendees for the Queens Gardens Parties summer 2010. Three nominees had been submitted by Ryhall Parish Council, Mr P Huddleston, Mr S Fenn and Mr Burrows of Highlands. RCC stated that due to the huge response across the County and the finite available places, it has not been possible to submit Ryhall's nominees this year. However, they would be kept on file and considered again next year.
From RCC Bonfires on the Allotments. RCC advised the Parish Council that a complaint had been received by them of smoke nuisance as a result of bonfire(s) on the allotments. RCC advised that were investigating this allegation. It was agreed that the Clerk would send the RCC recommended leaflet about bonfires on allotments to all the allotment holders.
Rural Community Council Membership & Village Community Awards. This had been circulated. Declined.
From Arts for Rutland –'The Hippos are coming' Document had been circulated to all for consideration. The 90cm (large) fibreglass hippo produced by Wild in Art is offered to community groups, businesses and schools to sponsor at a cost of £650 undecorated. Hippos are then intended to be located and secured by the sponsor, decorated by art groups, then added to a Hippo Trail throughout Rutland. This project would be launched in Oakham on June 18th. Councillors agreed that the cost prohibited supporting this initiative / art project with parish funds. Declined.
From CVS Community Partnership - Older Peoples' Month will be held in September 2010, and they were seeking a donation. Declined.
From RCC – Best Kept Village Competition. Declined.
From Rutland Neighbourhood Watch – seeking a donation: It was proposed by Mrs Hickman, seconded by Mr Finch that £20.00 be donated. At the vote, five in favour, 4 abstained (GL, SF, BR, PH)

Documents in current circulation
Review of Parish Walks – Leaflet by Mr Rushby
LAPLC January & February Newsletter
Minerals Core Strategy – Development Plan Doc and DVD
Information transfer of residents homes in Leics for info
The Playing Fields Magazine & Allotments Magazine
Local Development Framework Supplementary Planning Doc (Comment by 26th March)
Energy Saving Trust – Green Communities

FINANCE

Income received into Parish Account

Allotment rents 22/1/10	40.00
Spire Homes contribution to grit bin	80.00
E-on Way leave rebate	2.30

It was proposed by Mr Finch, seconded Mr Lloyd and agreed to pay the following with the exception of Smith's of Derby until it had been ascertained that they had definitely undertaken the maintenance.

Expenditure:	**Net**	**VAT**	**Total**
Mrs. C Adams March Salary			408.37
Mrs C Adams Expenses			120.66
Ryhall Methodist Hall			10.00
Membership of Rural Community Council			40.00
Membership of LRALC			322.34
Membership of Leics & Rutland Playing Fields Association			17.00
Smiths of Derby Maintenance of Church Clock 175.00		30.63	205.63
Rutland County Council Planning Fee			167.50

It was proposed by Mr Fenn, seconded by Mrs Smith and agreed to endorsed the payments made since last meeting

Mr. G Lloyd for hire of hall for RMPF/ Roadway meetings x 2			20.00
Eon Electricity	458.87	68.83	527.70
Mrs. C Adams February salary			408.37
Eon Repair	23.47	4.11	27.58
Ryhall Methodist Hire of Hall for planning meeting			10.00
Eon Repair	23.47	4.11	27.58

Payments made from Burial Accounts- None

Income received into Burial Account - None

PLANNING

Full Planning Permission granted
Mr A Hindmarch, March House, New Road,Ryhall, Stamford, Lincs
Erection of single storey pitched roof garage The Blue Bell Inn, Shepherds Walk, Belmesthorpe, Stamford, Lincs (Application withdrawn 13.01.10)

Mr D N Mabutt, 18 St Johns Close, Ryhall, Stamford, Lincs for Construction of extension to conservatory to the north elevation.

Mr & Mrs Van Greesdale, Hilltop Cottage, Essendine Road, Ryhall Stamford, Lincs PE9 4HE for the erection of a two storey detached dwelling and associated double garage for front (north) of new property and creation of a new access to the north.

Listed Building Consent-Alterations - None

Notification of decision in respect of Section 211 Proposing works to a tree or trees in conservation area- None

Refusal of Full Planning Permission
PAL Property Services, 4 Gwash Close, Ryhall for erection of two storey detached dwelling house with integral double garage. Former Old Mill, Mill Street, Ryhall.

Mr Rufus & Ms Schoon, 49 Kirk meadow, Bretton, Peterborough for Retrospective application for construction of vehicular access to storage shed/barn and temporary siting of mobile home. Land to the East of Newstead lane, Belmesthorpe.

Planning applications received & considered:
Erection of two storey dwellling and associated works - The Old Station, Main Street Belmesthorpe.
Ground Floor extension to the east and disabled access to the south – 14 St Tibba Way
Outline application for erection of one detached dwelling on land at New Road, Ryhall adjacent to March House.
Outline application for two storey dwelling and detached double garage on land adjacent to 1 Back Lane, Ryhall
Ground floor extension to the front elevation – 7 Meadow Lane, Ryhall
Two storey extension to the rear elevation of South View, Mill Street, Ryhall
Erection of two storey dwelling and adjoining double garage – Land to the rear r of South Riding, Essendine Road, Ryhall

OPEN FORUM

Ryhall Walks Leaflet.
Mr Rushby announced that the leaflet is in its final stages and will be printed/launched shortly. He proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Michael Whetstone for his assistance and for promoting the Walks Leaflet in the Village News.

Potholes/ Highways
Complaints have been directed to Councillors about the potholes in the roadway to Waterside: Clerk to check the ownership of this section of the road.
It was noted that erosion has cause potholes and uneven surface in The Square. Mr Parsons suggested that The Square should be resurfaced. It was noted that residents had filled potholes Balk Road. RCC will be asked to reinstate the crumbling kerb outside the Village Hall.
Mr Rushby suggested another Highways Walk in the Spring with members of the RCC Highways Team to identify new problems.

Youth Bus.
The Rutland Ranger Bus will be returning to the RMPF on Monday 15th March – fortnightly. The Parish Council agreed to place posters around the village to advertise its return.

Bus Passes
Mr Rushby commented on the current bus pass situation outlining that at present Rutland County Council allow use before 09:30 in the county of Rutland.
This is acceptable for travel from Ryhall to Grantham on the 09:20 or to Stamford on the 08:12
However, should residents wish to travel to Oakham, they would have to wait in Stamford to the 09:30 to travel free, however, if you alighted the bus at Toll bar/Great Casterton you could travel free from the first bus at 07:27
This is the same for travel to Peterborough, necessitating a wait in Stamford for the 09:35 to travel free from Stamford, however catching the bus at Toll bar/Great Casterton means travelling free from the first bus at 08:07
For travel to Uppingham, there is no alternative other than to wait in Stamford until the 09:35
Mr Rushby highlighted this for when residents have an early appointment, as another example where Ryhall, due to its position in the County, is affected.

Agendas for the Meetings.
It was suggested that it would be helpful to the villagers attending the meeting to have access to copies of the agenda during the meetings. Agreed.

Police Presence in the Villages.
Noted that the police log the dates that they are in attendance in the villages and have a regular blog on the internet. Inspector Monks hopes to attend the next PC meeting in May.

RMPF Lease Ideas Mr Lloyd welcomed any input on the proposal of the Lease (Agenda Item 6)

Co-option of Parish Councillor
Following the vacancy on the Parish Council created by the resignation of Jon Whowell three candidates put their names forward for co-option. At the meeting, Miss S Roberts and Mrs B White made a presentation to the Parish Council and members of the public. Miss K. Altham had sent apologies and asked for her name to be withdrawn.
The councillors agreed that Miss Roberts and Mrs White were both of an extremely high calibre but they were divided on the voting.
Mr Lloyd said it was important that the council should ensure that the valuable contributions offered by both candidates be secured. Following Mr Lloyd's proposal seconded by Mrs Smith, councillors agreed that Mrs White be co-opted and that Miss Roberts be invited to sit as the Youth Advisor to the Parish Council as the voice of the younger generation. She would be able to make contributions to council discussions and debates, although in a non-voting capacity.
The present council line-up will now stand until the May 2011 local elections

NEXT MEETING
Inspector Monks intends to attend the next Parish Council Meeting on 12th May. This will commence at 7.00pm at the Methodist Church schoolrooms, Mill Street, Ryhall.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm.