RYHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
Wednesday 12th March 2014
In the Methodist Church Schoolrooms, Ryhall.

PRESENT

Mr P Huddleston (Chairman)	Mrs E Sismore	Mrs S Smith	Mr R Rushby
Mr A Gombault	Mr N Bellairs	Air Cdre D Wilby	

One member of the public was in attendance

APOLOGIES – Mrs C Vernon, County Councillor, Mr J Whowell

MINUTES

Minutes were acknowledged but due to Mrs Adams absence agreed to adjourn acceptance until a further meeting.

Parish Reports

Reports received and read for Village Hall, Ryhall Meadows Playing Fields, Neighbourhood Watch and Parish Council. All reports attached.
Mr Rushby proposed and Mr Bellairs seconded and it was agreed that all reports be accepted.

Addendum of Reports: added by Clerk

Chairman's Report

Our meetings during the year have been well attended by the majority of Councillors. This year,Chris Parsons stepped down from chair after five years and he was thanked for his time and input. There have been several councillors who have also had to leave the Parish Council and the Chairman thanked them . The Chairman welcomed back Jon Whowell and welcomed David Wilby to the Council.There is one place still outstanding but it is important to note that the parish council elections are due to take place next year.

The Chairman gave an overview of the year :
Opening times at the library changed from April 2013 RCC when it opened on a Saturday morning for three hours. This was paid for by the parish council.
The Parish Council have held successful Parish Surgeries and perhaps we need to consider continuing these.
In May Capital Projects were instigated. The ones completed include toddler swings on the playing fields & community shed and ecotoilet on the allotments. The Orchard project is ongoing.
July saw Lots of maintenance projects, benches, kissing gate/ dog bins etc
Improvements to cemetery, street light replacements including the ornate one outside the Blue Bell in Belmesthorpe.
September saw the Open Spaces Coppice Road finalised
In November National Grid announced its plans for a sub station and stated that a Community Funding initiative would be launched.
The council also purchased a Defibrillator which will now be sited at the village hall
January The precept was set at the same level as 2013 despite rising costs.
The Four Year Plan initiative was launched and this will now take in the future of Ryhall Library which RCC regard as in need of more creative use.
Planning has been active: We have had 32 Planning applications so far plus the Substation Tree applications 6 , 5 consultations on the Football stadium SKDC.
In conclusion, the Chairman said, ' I thank the representatives on the village organisation committees who work hard for the parish and the Clerk and the Parish Councillors for their valuable work on the Parish Council. You all give up your free time to serve the local community and I want you to know that you all do a great job. Well done and may the good work continue'

Ryhall Village Hall Report (12/3/14) During the last year the village hall has been improved internally by the redecoration of the main hall. Externally a new notice board and sign have been added to the guilding. The roof over the kitchen and tiles replaced to maintain the Hall to its current high standard.
The Treasurer reported that financial results for the year April 2013 to February 2014 show that the Hall continues to run on a sound financial basis. Incomes from lettering are down 11% on last year;

the lettings for both organisations and individuals showed s similar decline. Income from letting and fund raising is £10,490 against expenditure on running costs and routine maintenance of £11,198. This shows that 94% of routine costs are covered by regular income, a reduction of 5% points on last year but still a very credible performance.
Hiring fees were increased minimally this year but it is not thought that his has had a quantifiable effect on the level of occupancy. Running expenses show a welcome reduction of 4.5% ,after their seemingly inexorable rise for a number of years. Repairs and maintenance costs continue to be low of a building of this age (Main part was built in 1830's) The figure for last year is not comparable as it included £7,400 for major flat roof repairs. Capital expenditure included a new sign and new notice board.
The Village Hall continue fundraising with monthly bingo sessions the sale of the Christmas Calendar, two different postcards a regular lunch club and discussions are ongoing to once again introduce entertainment with stage and music shows.
The Village Hall has a dedicated and loyal committee but always welcome new people to help manage the Hall.
The Village Hall remains at the centre of the community and social life for many villagers and the committee endeavours to ensure that it is run smoothly for the benefit of all.

Ryhall Meadows Playing Fields Management Committee Report

Sports Area

The football pitches have recently had new grass seed applied and the Committee hope to return the goal mouths and apply top soil at the end of the season. The Committee is currently renting the pitches to six football teams three junior/ three senior.
The senior team use the portacabin which was given to them as extra changing rooms to use when they have two teams playing at home at the same time. The worsening state of decay is a concern to all and football teams want to see it replaced by having extra changing rooms added to the pavilion.
The RMPF Committee met with the Football Club who were asked to provide a set of building plans with quotations. Included in their request for ground improvements, the Football club also requested an additional dug out for away teams to use during matches. It was stressed that the Management Committee must be consulted before any work is undertaken.

Sports Pavilion

The tennis club now have keys and are free to make use of the building. Thanks to the Parish Council for granting the precept request, the Pavilion now have new tables and chairs which completes the pavilion refurbishment and anyone wishing to hire the Pavilion can do so.

Play Area

The Committee thank the Parish Council for providing the funds for the community funs to replace the toddler swings. This work was done in February.
The annual safety inspection and subsequent written report showed a number of other items of play equipment in need of repair or replacement. This work has either been done or will be completed shortly.

Public areas

The gate post at the entrance from school lane has been renewed
Signs have been placed at all entrances to the playing fields asking for dogs to be kept on leads
The parish Council have had a tree survey carried out and any work required has been completed.
The car park requires a top dressing of gravel and the old kissing gate is due to be replaced. This will be dealt with by the parish council in the coming year.

Community Orchard

The Committee have agreed on the planned community orchard and are looking at details and varies of trees available. It is hoped to involve the school children with the planting and also plan to incorporate some small wildlife havens and wild flower patches.

Gala Day

A new independent committee which includes a playing field representative, has been formed with the intention of organising a summer gala day on the playing fields in August.

No other reports submitted. **Next Annual Parish Meeting will be March 2015**.