RYHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 13th January 2010 In the Methodist Church Schoolrooms, Ryhall.

PRESENT

Mr C Parsons (Chairman) Mrs C Gardiner Mr P Finch Mr G Lloyd
Mrs S Smith Mr R Rushby

Ms C Jones – County Councillor and 5 members of the public were present.

APOLOGIES - Mr N Bellairs, Mr J Whowell, Mrs S Hickman, Mr S Fenn, Mr P Huddleston

Guest Speaker. Ms Difalco sent her apologies; she was not able to attend the meeting to speak on Youth Services due to the inclement weather. She has been invited to attend the next meeting in March.

Parish Clerk. The Chairman welcomed back Mrs Adams and thanked Mr Patience for deputising in her absence. It was agreed to write a letter of thanks to Mr Patience.

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.
Mrs Gardiner – Personal Interest on Allotments, Snow Warden, Affordable Housing and Belmesthorpe Neighbourhood Watch
Mr Lloyd - Francis Court & Neighbourhood Watch
Mr Rushby - Neighbourhood Watch & Parish Plan
Mrs S Smith – Personal interest on Church Porch (Precept item)
Mr Parsons - Personal and prejudicial on land at Newstead Lane, Belmesthorpe (SKDC Consultation item)

Resignation of Councillor Jon Whowell

The Chairman reported the resignation of Mr Whowell effective as of 8th January 2010. The Chairman thanked Mr Whowell for all his hard work whilst serving on the Parish Council, for his objective opinions and assistance with technical papers. The Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Mr Whowell.

The Clerk has informed Rutland County Council Democratic Services that there is a vacancy on the Parish Council. The process is 10 electors can request an election within 14 days of the Notice to be posted on the notice board. If an election is not requested then the Parish Council can co-opt. If more than two candidates come forward, early PC thoughts of those present at the meeting indicated that the Councillors had a preference not to conduct a secret ballot by vote but would prefer a democratic election for the village to decide who they wish to represent them. However, an election would incur a cost of £700 - £1,000 with poll cards. It was agreed to proceed with the advertisement of vacancy and wait to ascertain the response before consultation with the full Parish Council.

MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting

It was proposed by Mr Lloyd, seconded by Mrs Smith and agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on **16th September 2009** were a true record.
With thanks to Mr Patience, the Minutes of the Meeting held on **17th November 2009** were agreed as a true record with the following amendments noted:
Phone Kiosks – no response on cleaning from the Ryhall NHW: Play Pod- Mrs Hickman reported on this item: Snow Warden – no further volunteers at this time; Precept requests Ryhall NHW request £150 not £50.

PUBLIC TIME

Public Time remains at the beginning of the meeting in accordance with NALC recommendations. The Chairman proposed that this should be limited to five minutes per person and to thirty minutes maximum in total. The public are invited to observe the meeting and will, at the discretion the Chair, be invited to make comments as and when applicable to an agenda item. Committee Representatives will be asked to make their comments on items pertaining to committees by the Chair.
At the vote, four in favour, I against. Carried.

Neighbourhood Watch

Ms Miller asked that all residents ensure that they report any NHW incident to the Police.

Parish Plan. Ms Miller stated that this would be handed over to the Parish Council for continued action. Clerk to circulate a list of remaining actions to Councillors for consideration at the next meeting. Certain items such as hedge cutting still outstanding were noted. Mr Lloyd, on behalf of the Parish Council, commended and thanked Ms Miller for all her hard work on the project.

Revised date for Grey bin collection.

County Councillor Charlotte Jones thanked the parish for their understanding and patience about the revised schedule for the bin collection times during the recent bad weather it was noted that additional recycling waste can be left for collection in bags at the next recycling date. Ms Jones thanked all Councillors and villagers who had passed the message on the revised collection date.

MATTERS ARISING

Swine Flu Action - no report

Snow Warden Scheme.

Ms Miller is considering acting as snow warden for Ryhall. If she decides to undertake this, she would be endorsed by the Parish Council and is required to undertake basic induction at RCC and be issued with the equipment. This would then entitle her to the RCC insurance cover and remuneration between £6.00 and £7.00 per hour based on a timesheet system. The Parish Council pay the snow wardens and re-coup the costs from RCC. People who use the grit from the grit boxes are volunteers undertaking ad hoc gritting on their own risk. Ms Miller to consider this role and advise the Parish Council at the next meeting.
Gritting Routes. Mr Parsons reported that he had received numerous complaints in the recent bad weather about the gritting routes and was still in discussion with Highways on this issue.

Ryhall Highways Issues
Dropped kerb Audit. Mr Rushby and Mr Slater RCc had undertaken a dropped kerb site visit audit. The RCC report had not been received yet by the Clerk but Mr Rushby reported verbally at the meeting and exhibited photographs of the various kerbs that require attention by RCC. The Parish Council await the report from RCC which will be circulated and this item be re-visited at the next meeting.

Mill Street/Crown Street – Mr Richards at Highways had replied that as Crown St. is unadopted it was not RCC's responsibility. He has offered to meet on site to discuss, Clerk to arrange this.
Pavement of St Johns Close. Mr Rushby reported that he perceived the problem to be outside No 13 not Number 26; He will re-investigate and report to the clerk who will report to Highways.

A6121 Ryhall Traffic Calming
It was noted that, having conducted the speed consultation with village residents and asked for their comments in summer 2009, RCC advise that following further site investigations the proposed gateway installations at the village entries on the A6121 cannot be carried out due to insufficient verge space and visibility issues. An alternative would be to lay a length of Ripple print or high friction surfacing. RCC asked the Parish Council to consider this alternative. It was proposed by Mr Lloyd, seconded by Mr Rushby as agreed that the Parish Council had little option but to accept this alternative proposal. Clerk to inform RCC.

Belmesthorpe Highways Issues
Speed limits –The request to move out the 30 limit at the West end, but not at the East End, and the speed limit on Newstead Lane went to Cabinet on 15th December. To date the Parish Council had not been informed of the outcome. Clerk to contact Head of Highways.

Play Pod
The Play Pod arrived on the RMPF on 2nd. December and appears to be well received. A resident had suggested an alternative site but with the advent of the activity of camp fires for outdoor cooking, this means that the Play Pod need to remain on the enclosed playing field site.

Christmas tree Festival.
Mrs Smith and Mr Bellairs were thanked for their hard work in obtaining and decorating a Christmas tree for the Festival on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cycle path continuation at Borderville to Stamford.
Correspondence had been sent in July 2009 to Lincolnshire County Council to confirm Ryhall Parish Council's request for the cycle path continuation from the Ryhall path to the Gwash industrial estate on the same side. This would mean that people would not have to negotiate crossing at the Borderville junction on the brow of the hill in a 50mph limit. Safer crossing would be established at the Gwash Way junction within the 30mph speed limit. Mr Huddleston as Vice Chairman had continued to endorse this request by contacting the Divisional Highways Manager at Lincolnshire County Council, who had responded verbally. He stated that the decision would be made in 2010 and they had taken note of the Parish Council recommendation. There will also be a consultation on the dual use.

Stamford/ Newstead Development.
Mr Parsons declared a personal and prejudicial interest as he lives on the lane and owns land. He left the room for the duration of the discussion.
It was proposed by Mrs Gardiner, seconded by Mrs Smith and agreed unanimously that the Parish Council could write to the relevant bodies to express Parish Council concern about the impact of the proposals on traffic levels on the Newstead lane, predicting that the lane could be used as a shortcut diversion.

AGENDA ITEMS

Affordable Housing
Petition against the proposed site at Back Lane. It was agreed to write a letter of acknowledgement to the petitioners to acknowledge receipt of the petition at the last meeting and confirm that the petition would be taken into consideration when a decision on this site were made.
It was noted that a decision on endorsing this particular site had not been made as the Parish Council had asked RCC and the Housing Association to consider any other possible sites first. They are researching the possibility of the alternative site at the top of Essendine Hill between 'Hilltop' and the former garage. The landowner is being consulted and if agreeable then talks would commence with Highways about the best access solution. Moving forward would be reliant on the backing of the Parish Council and local community, and potential traffic management order to relocate the 30mph sighs and that all planning issues round the development would be to the satisfaction of Buildings Control.

Housing Lists & application to De Mont fort Homes.
Mr Parsons explained that everyone who applies for an affordable home on the Councils' waiting list follow that same process and are treated equally on the points system. Need to ascertain if the housing waiting list is managed by Spire Homes or RCC.

Precept Requests
Parish Council Running Costs.
In view of the zero interest rate and increased costs it was proposed by Mr Parsons , seconded by Mr Rushby and agreed to £15,000 allocation for Parish Council running costs (an increase of £1,000)

Village Hall Request.
The Village Hall Committee has been active in fundraising over the year and the Village Hall remains the hub of the community. The Committee had asked for a precept allocation of £2,500 for running costs (as last year). It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mrs Smith and agreed unanimously.

Ryhall Meadows Playing Fields
Have requested £3,000 for running costs as per last year. It was noted that the Parish Council as owners of the Playing Fields covered additional unexpected expenses such as the asbestos roof repairs and the donation towards the temporary re-surface of the roadway in addition to the pavilion insurance and grass cutting.
It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mr Lloyd and agreed unanimously to a precept of £3,000.

The Gala Day fundraising has generated enough funds to commence with a proper refurbishment of the Pavilion and work on the upgrade has commenced. This will attract new users to the playing fields and be a benefit to the whole village as an alternative meeting place.

Methodist Church.
Have not requested a precept contribution since 2002 and although it is predicted that a new organ will become a necessity in the forthcoming years no request was submitted this year. The Methodist Church will consider submitting a request next year 2011/12

St Johns Church
The PCC have requested a contribution towards the ongoing cost of the toilet and utilities provision project. To date they have fundraised £3,000 this year towards a cumulative total of £70,000. The final target is £110,000. Residents who would like to know more about the project are directed towards the fundraising committee. It was noted that the Parish Council have contributed £8,000 towards this project over the past three years and it was agreed that, with the other demands on the parish purse, this year a small contribution should be made. It was proposed by Mr Lloyd and seconded by Mrs Gardiner that the Parish Council contributes £200. A counter proposal by Mr Finch of £1,000 was not seconded.
At the vote on the first proposal three in favour, 1 against, 2 abstained.
It was noted that it was regrettable that there was not a larger representation of Councillors for the voting procedure.

Senior Footballers.
The Committee, representing two senior football teams have requested a contribution towards the £1,200 running costs for the season. Costs include pitch & affiliation fees, insurance & entering League & cup fees. It was noted that the Senior Football members, most of whom are residents, have been actively fundraising and are instrumental in the pavilion refurbishment programme.

Junior Footballers.
Over the past 18 months the junior football teams have invested in excess of £2,000 in the maintenance of the football field facilities including £1050 spent on the new goal posts and £1,200 bringing the floodlights up to standard. They did not submit a request last year towards these costs.

It was proposed by Mrs Smith, seconded by Mr Lloyd that £500 each be allocated to the Senior and Junior Football teams. Agreed unanimously.

Ryhall Neighbourhood Watch.
On behalf of the Neighbourhood Watch, Ms Miller requested an allocation of £150 as last year. This would be spent on NHW related costs with the proviso that the Parish Council were notified in advance as to the nature of the costs and receipts were submitted.
It was proposed by Mr Finch, seconded by Mrs Smith and agreed to allocate £150.

LIVES
Mrs Whitehouse representing the LIVES First Responder Network for the area had requested a contribution towards ongoing costs next year. It was noted that the Parish Council had made a significant contribution of £1,000 in November 2009 towards to the £2,000 set up costs for this worthwhile charity. Whilst noting the

work of the LIVES team as a valuable asset to the community and to the surrounding area, it was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mr Lloyd and agreed not to grant any further precept funding for 2010/11.

Street Lighting Upgrades.
The Parish Council are responsible for some parish street lighting and are working on a planned upgrade. There are 7 lights remaining which require new pole brackets, 35 watt sodium lanterns, new plastic control boxes and overhead services at a cost of £446 plus VAST each. It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mrs Smith and agreed unanimously to precept £1,300 towards the next three lights on the list compiled by E-on in the order of priority. This work will be undertaken in the next financial year 2010/11.

Burial Ground
The Parish Council have been considering the purchase of land directly behind the current burial ground in Belmesthorpe Lane to extend the cemetery capacity for future generations. The Parish Council thank Mr Flint the landowner who is in agreement in principle to sell the land for this use. It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mr Finch and agreed unanimously to purchase the land estimated at £3,000 from the PC reserves held. The money from the Burial Account (held as a contingency for any unexpected expense) would then be transferred across at a rate of £1,000 per annum for three years. No money would be precepted for this purchase.

RMPF Roadway
This is an ongoing project to which the Parish Council has a responsibility to contribute as the landowners. Research has revealed that some grants applications may not be accessed and some users may not able to contribute much towards the overall cost of £32,000. Mr Lloyd had previously asked the PC to ring- fence £6,000 towards the costs of resurfacing the roadway. It was proposed by Mr Lloyd, seconded by Mrs Smith and agreed to precept £6,000 towards the roadway costs to be held in a separate account and only used if other contributors paid their share. If not used it would be transferred to the general accounts for 2011/12 and thus would be funds carried over & impact on the precept set for that year.

Final Precept request to be submitted

Parish Council running costs	£15,000
Village Hall	£ 2,500
RMPF	£ 3,000
St Johns Church	£ 200
Junior Footballers	£ 500
Senior Footballers	£ 500
Ryhall NHW	£ 150 ring fenced
RMPF Roadway Upgrade	£6,000 ring fenced
TOTAL	**£29,150**

Mr Lloyd commented that the total equated to £6.88 per household council tax per annum (1p per day)

Parkfield Road
Comment had been received and duly noted about the state of a section of Parkfield Road. Mr Parsons had visited on the date of the complaint and had continued his efforts to liaise with RCC Education Department about the ongoing roadway situation

on the Playing Fields. Residents should be reassured that this is very much on the PC agenda and it was hoped that a satisfactory conclusion will be attained. A temporary gravel surface on the Playing Fields roadway had been laid to resolve the immediate problems.

Open Spaces.
The Parish Council wishes to be consulted on the transfer of communal land and had written to Spire Homes on this issue. The Parish Council were now consulting on the document Review of Important Open Spaces, Frontage and Green Corridors.

Girt Bin for outside the Crescent
Spire Home has indicated that they would pay a contribution to ward the purchase of a grit bin. The Parish Council agreed in principle to fund 50% of the grit bin if Spire Homes would agree to this.

Stiles
Ms Miller, acting on behalf of the Parish Plan, has asked RPC to endorse her request to RCC for a kissing gate on the Belmesthorpe Ryhall Meadow. She reported that the landowners are happy with the proposed new gates which are installed by Rutland County Council. RPC to ask RCC to action and to circulate the completed Parish Plan list of stiles to all Councillors for information.

Bench at the Library.
Discussion on the value of a bench in this conservation location. Clerk to check with RCC and to ascertain prices of benches. It was agreed this item should be on the next agenda when more Councillors were present.

Consultation on Post 16 Education.
It was noted that Casterton Business and Enterprise College would be managing the admissions process for the 6th form course at Casterton and other Rutland College locations. The Consultation Document is currently being considered for comment by Ryhall Parish Council.

Consultation on Spending.
Mr G Lloyd will attend this meeting on behalf of the Parish Council. He will circulate a note of the draft question to be submitted concerning finance and the gritting routes in Ryhall.

FINANCE

Income received into Parish Account

Allotment rent	40.00
Eon Way leave	2.30

It was proposed by Mr Finch, seconded by Mr Rushby and agreed to approve the following expenditure.

Expenditure:	**Net**	**VAT**	**Total**
Mrs. C Adams January Salary			408.37
Ryhall Methodist Hall (12 & 13th January)			20.00
Mr. D Patience Acting Clerk			129.90
Voucher for Mr.Richards for Xmas Tree lighting costs			25.00
Voucher for Mr T Elsigood for internal audit of accounts			50.00

RMPF Contribution to intermediate roadway repairs			1,000

Payments made since last meeting

BT kiosks	600.00	90.00	690.00
C Adams Dec Salary			408.37
LRAPLC Training Fee			20.00
Eon Electricity Maintenance	290.28	43.54	332.82
Veolia Hedge cutting (Turnpike)	99.00	14.85	113.85

Payments made from Burial Accounts - None

Income received into Burial Account

AL Coulsey	62.00
JM Hallam	62.00
Markwell	62.00
B Spicer	404.00
War Graves Commission	24.00

OTHER MEETINGS – None to report

17. PLANNING

Full Planning Permission granted

Mr D Lambert, 29 Rutland Way. Construction of two storey extension to the east elevation and ground floor extension to the south elevation (revised scheme FUL 2009/0665)

Mr & Mrs Bourne, Home Farm Little Casterton Road Ryhall for Erection of two storey attached garage with first floor games room to side elevation. Construction of two storey extension to the west elevation to replace existing porch.

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, Mills Street, Ryhall.

Open Forum

Concrete pillar on Park field Road – Clerk to chase action by Anglian Water
Village News – Clerk to submit an article on precept funding

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th March 2010 at the Methodist Church schoolrooms, Mill Street, Ryhall. This will be the **Annual Parish Meeting** where organisations are invited to report on the past years' activities.
The Guest Speaker will be Ms Difalco, Rutland County Council Youth Services.