RYHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 16th September 2009 In the Methodist Church Schoolrooms, Ryhall.

PRESENT

Mr C Parsons Chairman	Mrs C Gardiner	Mr P Finch
Mr N Bellairs	Mr G Lloyd	Mrs S Hickman
Mr J Whowell	Mrs S Smith	Mr R Rushby
Mr P Huddleston	Mr S Fenn	

Ms C Jones – County Councillor and 13 members of the public were present.

APOLOGIES - None

WELCOME The Chairman welcomed Mr Derek Patience- Clerk to Great Casterton Parish Council who will be covering for Mrs Adams in her absence.

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. Councillors were also invited to update their original register of interests and had been issued with an update of *'Personal and Prejudicial Interests'* from the LAPLC.

Mrs Gardiner – Allotments, Snow Warden, Affordable Housing and Neighbourhood Watch
Mr Whowell- EMRA and Regional Spatial Strategy
Mr Lloyd - Francis Court & Neighbourhood Watch
Mr Rushby - Neighbourhood Watch & Parish Plan
Mr Bellairs – Playing Fields (Parkfield Road resident)
Mrs Hickman – RMPF Roadways (School Governor)
Mrs S Smith - Playing Fields (Parkfield Road resident)
Mr Bellairs – RMPF
Mr Finch – Personal Interest - Back Lane
Mr Huddleston- Village Hall and RMPF & Parkfield Road resident, prejudicial interest in Parish Council newsletter.
Mr Parsons - Personal and prejudicial on land at Belmesthorpe for Affordable Housing and Personal on Land at the Mill site.
Mr Fenn –Land at Old Mill Site

MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meetings

It was proposed by Mr Lloyd seconded by Mrs Smith and agreed to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting of **15th July 2009** as a true record. Mr Fenn and Mr Huddleston abstained.

PUBLIC TIME

In accordance with NALC recommendation on best practice, public time was moved to the beginning of the meeting. This would enable the public the early opportunity to voice any concerns and to allow Ms Miller – representing the Parish Plan, Neighbourhood Watch and Youth activities - the arena for her reports earlier on in the meeting.

Gala Day A sum of £3,000 had been raised after a very successful Gala Day. All the RMPF committee and volunteers were thanked for their hard work.
Council Properties It was noted that the transfer of properties takes place on 9th November. Francis Court has, at present, five vacant flats and the warden's house remains empty. It was further noted by Mr Lloyd that the vacant flats were not very welcoming and that there had been no refurbishment ready for any perspective new tenant. One applicant had allegedly been informed that SKY TV was not available although in fact there is a SKY aerial.
Mr Parsons to seek further information on the vacancies of the flats.
Drains. RCC to jetty the drains as agreed at the Highways Walk
Kerbing Mill Street. RCC to tarmac the width of the kerb at the junction of Crown Street and Mill Lane
New Cemetery. To request a grey recycling bin for the Cemetery.
Hedges – RCC to cut back Spinney Hedges abutting the A6121 footpath.
Neighbourhood Watch – Next meeting due shortly.
Parish Plan – On the next Parish Council agenda

GUEST SPEAKER

Mrs Catherine Whitehouse – First Responder for LIVES – Lincolnshire Integrated Voluntary Emergency Service
This is a voluntary organisation reliant on donations, covering a three miles radius of Stamford including Ryhall. Mrs Whitehouse is recently trained and carries full emergency kit, with defibrillator and oxygen. She is trying to build up the group with volunteers and fundraising evenings.
Mrs Whitehouse can reach a patient within 6 minutes to reassure the patient whilst waiting for the ambulance. She is on call as much as possible as she works from home and has the assistance of an intermediate colleague in Barnack and a newly trained Responder in Stamford.

The Parish Council welcomed this initiative, concluding that it is very reassuring to have this facility in the locality. Mrs Whitehouse is seeking funding from various businesses in the Stamford area and other Parish Councils. The project needs £2,000 to continue operating 24 hours a day – at the moment she has to share with Stamford leaving her off duty on occasions. It was proposed by Mr Whowell, seconded by Mr Finch as agreed unanimously to donate £1,000 to the cause as a one off contribution.

MATTERS ARISING

Highways Traffic Calming Consultation
RCC had conducted traffic calming consultation outlining the design for traffic calming scheme which included a bus pull in at the Library, gateways on the entry to the village and Speed Indicator Devices (SID's) on approaches to the village on A6121.The consultation graph supplied by RCC indicted that the majority of respondents were in support of the above. It was proposed by Mr Lloyd, seconded by Mr Finch and agreed to support the installation of the above. RCC would be asked to include a dropped kerb for the disabled located by the new street light on Church Street/ bus pull in.

RCC had invited residents to make any comments on the consultation sheet, which have been passed to the Parish Council for review. The Parish Council note the comments and will be looking at them for any necessary action points in the future.

Gritting Routes and Snow Warden Scheme
Mr Parsons reported that he had requested a review of the gritting routes in the villages adding Ryhall village and the bus routes to the route. This had been considered at the RCC Cabinet meeting but it had not been accepted. If members of the public wish to contact RCC with their concerns about the gritting route they can contact RCC directly. Mr Parsons to write a brief report for the Village News.
Snow Warden – The Parish Council has snow warden operating on a voluntary basis, although there is remuneration from RCC at £6 - £7 per hour. It was agreed that it would be beneficial to have one person operating in the village of Ryhall. Clerk to add an appeal in the Village News.
The request for a new grit bin to be purchased by the Parish Council and located outside The Crescent would be on the next agenda.

Spire Homes Estate Inspection
Mr Rushby joined Mr Kirby the Estate inspector, on his tour of the council properties which was a visual inspection only. A full report was circulated to Councillors. Francis Court was not included because of the Spire Homes transfer and 'the warden presence'.

George Philips Award.
This award is presented annually to the owner of a domestic , commercial or industrial development extended, refurbished or new build which is considered to have made a significant contribution to conserving the character of the built environment in Rutland. The award is organised jointly by the Rutland History Society and Rutland County Council. Dunster House in Foundry Road was nominated. The Awards will be presented on 10 December 2009 at Oakham Castle.

Action in the event of swine flu in the parish
Mr Whowell had proposed that the Parish Council organise a ' flu friend system' to a assist residents in the village in the event of a swine flu epidemic. 'Flu friends' would collect medication from local surgeries. Mr Whowell will continue to co-ordinate this initiative, possibly in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Watch scheme street leaders. Rachel Miller to liaise with Mr Whowell as to the practicality of offering this service.

AGENDA ITEMS

Affordable Housing
Mr P Huddleston Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Planning Sub Committee took the Chair for this agenda item; Mr C Parsons left the room in accordance with his earlier Declaration of Interest.

Councillors had each received a copy of the Waterloo Homes Consultation report based on the results on their parish consultation on 15th July. It was noted that 35 residents had been in favour of the development on behind The Crescent accessed off Back Lane. However, here have been varying levels of opposition to the proposed site and the receipt of a petition from residents in the vicinity. The petition cited 51 signatures against the development, with a request that the Parish Council did not endorse the site.

The Parish Council have always been, in principle, keen to support affordable housing in the parish. Equally the Parish Council wished to represent the views of the petitioners and noted the strong objections.
It was further noted that since the July meeting certain criteria had changed. The site on Essendine Hill was suggested again, as since the initial visit which had ruled out the site for development on highways objections, three developments had been granted highways access off the A6121. Furthermore, the new hand car valeting service was busy with numerous cars accessing on and off near the proposed site. With a recent planning application submitted adjacent to the site, the Parish Council were keen to explore if this site may now be an alternative proposal.
The Rutland County Council Housing Manager had also indicated that there may be other sites which might possibly be suitable for affordable housing but as yet no landowners had been approached. Whilst mindful of Waterloo Homes desire for a decision to move forward, the Parish Council felt that, with recent developments, all options should be explored before making a cast iron decision on one particular site.

With regard to the petition it was agreed to ask the petitioners to present the petition formally at the next meeting with a full explanation of their objections, which is standard practice. Mr Whowell commented that that the petition was unverified

It was proposed by Mr Huddleston, seconded by Mrs Hickman that the decision on this site be deferred to the next meeting. The Parish Council would ascertain the exact nature of the possible alternative sites from Rutland County Council and Waterloo Homes and ask for a full update. The petitioners would be invited to the next meeting as above.
At the vote, five in favour, one against, two abstained.

Mr Huddleston relinquished the Chair and Mr Parsons returned to the meeting.

Youth Bus and Play Pod on RMPF Roadway/ Carpark
The Big Lottery Funded mobile play provision or 'The Fun Pod' as it will be known will soon be visiting villages throughout Rutland offering free high quality open –access play opportunities outside school hours primarily for children aged 8 – 13. Opportunities will be varied with sports, games, snooker circus skills, arts crafts and music. The Van will be staffed by Rutland Play Rangers who are fully qualified and experienced working with children and young people. The whole family are encouraged to come along and join in. The Play Rangers will be on site throughout the sessions to facilitate the activities but children will be free to come and go as they please so they remain the responsibility of their parent/ guardian. The plan is for the van to visit Ryhall on a Wednesday. It will arrive at 4.30pm and the session will finish at 7.30p.m. The Parish Council wish to inform the nearby residents of Park field Road and St Johns Close of the start date when it becomes known.
The Youth Bus which comes to Ryhall on a Monday is run by the Youth Service.

Ryhall Meadows Playing Fields - Roadway/ car park & Footpath re-opening
Mrs Hickman, Mr Lloyd and Ms Miller (replacing Mr Bellairs and representing the Playing Fields Committee) had formed a sub committee to investigate sources of funding for the refurbishment of the car park. Mrs Hickman reported that between £25 – 100 thousand was available through grants subject to criteria and the committee were seeking to sufficient grants to cover the entire project. However, should that not be possible Mr Lloyd had produced an alternative plan. All the organisations, who were primary users of the playing fields, would be asked to make a proportionate contribution to the resurfacing project. Mr Lloyd had prepared a

comprehensive paper and there would be a meeting of all the playing field users on 22nd September to consider the proposals, including maintenance costs.
The Parish Council would retain the ownership of the roadway/car park. A refurbishment would benefit the school (integral to the village), all users and improve conditions for the residents of Parkfield Road.
Mr Lloyd asked for the support of the Parish Council with an initial ring fenced amount. It was proposed by Mr Huddleston, seconded by Mrs Smith that the Parish Council indicate to the subcommittee that £6,000 would be considered at the next meeting with the other precept requests.
At the vote, seven in favour, two abstained. Carried.
The issue of the footpath would be discussed again at a future date pending a decision on the roadway as it was noted that the access was now directly into the schools wild flower garden. In principle, it was agreed that an alternative walking route into school would be a benefit to reduce cars.

Consideration of fencing
The Clerk had ascertained that the requirement to fencing off the roadway was not mandatory but advisory. Therefore the Parish Council would defer this until the roadway/carpark situation was resolved.

Asbestos roof repairs.
Following advice gained in the risk assessment, the RMPF Committee had undertaken an asbestos survey This had proposed removal and environmental clean of suspended ceiling tiles, disposal of contaminated glass fibre insulation , environment clean of void and encapsulation of underside of asbestos cement roof within the Ladies, and Gents WC, showers and corridor measuring 30m2 floor area. The cost quoted by a specialist company was £1,670.00 plus VAT. The RMPF Committee had requested a contribution towards this necessary project. All other works to refurbishment of the Pavilion had to be halted until the asbestos situation was resolved. The Parish Council acknowledged the hard work of the Playing Fields committee. It was proposed by Mr Lloyd, seconded by Mr Finch to fund the works thus leaving the funds raised at Gala Day for their original purpose. At the vote, ten in favour. One abstained. Carried.

Proposed Senior Football Team
The RMPF Committee had been approached to host a senior football team on the fields, but they would require the use of an upgraded showering facility.

Proposed Development on Stamford/ Rutland Boundary
(Noted Mr Whowell Declaration of Interest as a member of EMRA)
Mr Parsons had invited a representative to the Parish Council meeting but this invitation had not been taken up. Some individual Councillors had attended the public exhibition at the Arts Centre but no formal communication had been received by the Parish Council at this stage. It was noted that at present the proposals are a Local Development Framework request and had not reached the first stage of consultation. The housing and bypass development at Newstead borders the Rutland Boundary. The Parish Council awaits a formal approach and consultation.

Decision on BT Kiosks
Update on usage figures from Nov 1st 08 – 31 July 09
Ryhall = 161 calls, Belmesthorpe = 4 calls.
The one year contracts expire in November. It was agreed that the phone kiosks are a valuable community resource and a public amenity and should be retained at the

current annual fee of £270 per kiosk. The Neighbourhood Watch teams would be asked if they could 'adopt' the kiosks for maintenance.

Dog Bin
Although it was agreed at a previous meeting to move the dog bin on the A6121, a suitable location had not been agreed upon. It was further noted that the bin in its current position was very well used by dog owners. It was proposed by Mr Finch, seconded by Mr Fenn and agreed not to move the bin. All in favour.

Communication: Purchase of larger notice board for Belmesthorpe.
This item is ongoing with the need to gain planning permission in a conservation area. Clerk to action. A request for the smaller old one to be donated to Ryhall Neighbourhood Watch had been received (it had been stated that Francis Court had purchased their own notice board, although this had to be substantiated).
Mrs Gardiner submitted a verbal request for the old notice board to stay in Belmesthorpe for the Belmesthorpe NHW use. This item to be on the next agenda.

Annual cutting of hedges
It was proposed by Mr Fenn, seconded by Mr Lloyd and agreed that the Clerk should action the cutting of the Turnpike hedge by Veolia. This hedge is rapidly overgrowing the footpath. Agreed the ball park figure of £90.00 plus VAT as last year. The ownership of this hedge remains in dispute as RCC and the landowner do not claim ownership. The landowner is assisting the Parish Council investigation by locating his deeds to the land and boundary. Due to the urgency of the cut, the Parish Council will arrange to have the hedge cut back this year and wish to resolve this by the next hedge cutting season.
Clerk to request that the other hedges maintained by RCC are cut promptly

Request for funds for bulb planting initiative
The Gardening Club, established as result of the Parish Plan, have requested the sum of £28.04 including VAT for the purchase of bulbs to plant around the village. It was proposed by Mr Finch, seconded by Mr Bellairs and agreed unanimously to this request.

Purchase of Local Council Administration (Charles Arnold Baker)
It was proposed by Mr Bellairs, seconded by Mrs Smith and agreed to purchase the 8th edition of this book at the SLCC member's price of £53.60.

Clerks Contract of Employment and sickness cover
The revised contract had been reviewed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman – updating the clerk's contract since 1994. It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mr Huddleston and agreed to accept the updates. The Clerk will not be able to work for a period of at least 6 weeks following an operation on 5th October. Mr Derek Patience, Clerk to Great Casterton Parish Council, has kindly agreed to cover in her absence. He will be remunerated in accordance with the NALC rates, on the production of a timesheet/invoice of hours worked.
In the absence of Mrs Adams, correspondence and other matters should be directed to Mr Parsons, Chairman
Planning Matters directed to Mr Huddleston, Vice Chairman
Allotment Matters directed to Mr Whowell, Allotment Chair

Allotment Tenancy Agreements October 1st 2009
The new Tenancy Agreement has been issued early to the allotment holders for the period 1st October 2009 – 30th September 2010. Three new clauses have been included in line with recommendations arising from the risk assessment. Allotment holders are asked to respond swiftly with their agreements and payments to allow them to be processed before 1st October.

Precept Requests 2010
Village organisations who submit a precept request to the Parish Council annually are asked to submit them in writing to **the Chairman, Poachers Rest, Newstead Lane, Belmesthorpe, Stamford Lincs by 2nd November 2009** to be considered at the November Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

From CAB – Letter of thanks for donation
From RCC – Sleeping Rough in Rutland Survey. Completed . RCC are hosting a Homelessness Review Consultation Group meeting on 15th October 2009.
LRALC September Newsletter
From RCC – Closure of Bridge Street from 19th October for approx five days
Safer Rutland partnership – Consultation event 16th Sept – emailed to all on 24/8/09
Local Development Framework Mineral Core Strategy. Comment by the Chairman to be submitted by 15th October.
From RCC –The Big Switch Off
Leicestershire First – A new charity set up to encourage leadership, excellence and citizenship in our county. Nominations for Community Builder category. Winners will receive £3,000 to donate to a charity of their choice in Leicestershire. Information on www.leicestershirefirst.org.uk. It was proposed by the Parish Council to nominate Ms Rachel Miller.
RCC Parish Council Forum –on Tuesday 29th September 2009 at 7.00pm at Catmose, Oakham. Mrs Gardiner will represent Ryhall Parish Council. Ms Jones stated that there would be a public briefing before the Forum commenced.

Documents in current circulation
RCC -Minutes of Parish Forum 29/06/09
The Playing Fields Magazine
LARPLC – Newsletter July 2009
RCC Standards Board papers

Freedom of Information update
Rural Community Council AGM & Election of trustees. Postal Ballot by 24th Sept.
Village Voice Magazine
Details of EXPO – 8th October at Walker Stadium Laics – Greening the Economy'
Leicestershire First – Community Builder Awards Category – 30th Sept deadline

FINANCE

Income received into Parish Account

From Customs & Excise VAT	1,496.71
From Ryhall Meadows Playing Fields Annual Rent	10.00

It was proposed by Mr Whowell, seconded by Mr Finch and agreed to the payments below. Mr Huddleston abstained.

Payments made since last meeting

03.08.09 E-On Street Light Repair	184.61	27.69	212.30
03.08.09 Veolia Crosscutting June	22.05	3.31	25.36
03.08.09 Veoilia Strimming	12.08	1.81	13.89
18.06.09 Mrs. C Adams Salary August			408.37
03.08.09 Media waves			39.50
03.08.09 E-On Quarterly Electricity	1,069.80	160.47	1,230.27

Payments made from Burial Accounts

03.08.09 Veolia Grass cutting Cemetery	23.10	3.47	26.57
Anglian Water Burial tap			10.34

Payments to approve:

Expenditure:	**Net**	**VAT**	**Total**
Mrs. C Adams Salary September			408.37
Mrs C Adams Expenses			12.52
Ryhall Methodist Church Hire of Hall (2 x meetings)			20.00
Veolia ES Grass cutting July	44.10	6.62	50.72
Veolia Grass cutting August	44.10	6.62	50.72
Veolia Strimming August	12.08	1.81	13.89
Eon Energy Services Quarterly Maintenance	290.28	43.54	333.82

Payments from Burial Account

Vieolia Grass cutting at Cemetery July	23.10	3.47	26.57
Viola Grasscutting at Cemetery August	23.10	3.47	26.57

Income received into Burial Account - None

The Annual Return for year ending 31 March 2009 with the Auditors

OTHER MEETINGS

LAPLC Councillor Training Session – at Ketton 9th September – attended by Mr Rushby & Mrs Gardiner.

PLANNING

Full Planning Permission granted

Mr B Gamblin, Langcroft Waterside Ryhall for construction of garden room to rear elevation and erection of two bay garage

Listed Building Consent-Alterations

Mrs P Lowe, Christmas Cottage, Main Street, Belmesthorpe, for Erection of Satellite dish to the rear elevation

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

Refusal of Full Planning Permission

21.7.09 Apeal by applicant – Mr M Buxton for construction of two storey extension to the side elevation and west elevation including demotion of outbuildings and various minor alterations – South View Mill Street, Ryhall.

Current Planning under consideration - August

Double garage to replace existing and 2 storey detached dwelling and garage to the north of property at Hilltop, Essendine Road, Ryhall

Ground Floor extension to the rear elevation – 17 Turnpike Road, Ryhall

OPEN FORUM

Power of Wellbeing. The extension of the well being power to Local Council was one of the measures affecting local councils in part 4 of the Local Government and public Involvement in Health Act 2007. To use this power, Council must meet certain conditions to become an eligible Council. Clerk to check the details and criteria.

Village Hall.

The photo competition was well supported and Mr Huddleston thanked all who took part. Greetings cards now on sale. A Calendar is being produced showcasing the photos from the competition. Mr Whowell gave advance notification of the Village Pantomime ' Cinderella in Ryhall' to be produced in January 2010.

St Johns Close – hedge over footpath. Mr Rushby to contact.

Highway issues in Belmesthorpe. Mrs Gardiner thanked RCC for the newly painted fingerposts. Highways have not responded satisfactorily to concerns about signage on the outskirts of the village. Clerk to write formally to RCC reiterating concerns.

Horse Manure on footpaths. Clerk to action.

NEXT MEETINGS

Wednesday 18th November 2009 – Clerk Mr Derek Patience Great Casterton

Dates for 2010

Wednesday 20th January 2010

Wed 10th March 2010