RYHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
on
Wednesday 8th May 2013
In the Methodist Church Schoolrooms, Ryhall.

PRESENT

Mr C Parsons (Chairman)	Mrs E Sismore	Mr G Lloyd
Mr P Huddleston	Mr S Fenn	
Ms R Miller	Mr A Gombault	Mrs S Smith

Thirteen members of the public were in attendance and Mrs C Vernon, County Councillor

APOLOGIES Mr N Bellairs, Mr R Rushby

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 in relation to the one item on the agenda. They completed the Declaration of Interest Book.

Mr Huddleston- Village Hall, Playing Fields, PC Newsletter, Parkfield Road resident
Mrs Sismore- Ryhall PTA
Mr G Lloyd – Francis Court
Mr A Gombault- Belmesthorpe NHW
Ms R Miller – Parish Plan
Mr S Fenn- Allotments
Mr C Parsons – Playing Fields
Mrs S Smith – Balk Road

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS

It was proposed by Mrs Smith seconded by Mrs Sismore and agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2013 were a true record.

Election of Chairman

Following a resolution at the May meeting 2012 regarding the succession of the Chair by the Vice Chairman, Mr Huddleston indicated that was willing to accede to the role of Chairman. This was seconded by Mr Parsons and agreed unanimously. Mr Huddleston took the chair for the remainder of the meeting. He began by thanking Mr Parsons for his 8 years as Parish Council Chairman especially coping with the demanding role alongside his position as County Councillor.

Election of Vice Chairman

It was proposed by Mr Lloyd and seconded by Mr Parsons that Mr Gombault be elected Vice Chairman. There were no further nominations. All in favour.

Notification of Resignation

Mr G Lloyd tendered his resignation, effective as of the end of the meeting. He thanked fellow councillors for their patience and declared serving on the Parish Council had been a very valued experience. He hoped that when his personal circumstances changed that he would be able to return to serve again on the Parish Council. The Chairman thanked Mr Lloyd for his profound contribution to the meetings and numerous projects and expressed the hope that he would be able to join again. The Notice of Vacancy will be displayed for 14 days. If 10 electors come forward then there will be an election. If not after that date the Parish Council can co-opt. It was agreed to include notice of vacancy in both the Village news and the 'Stamford Mercury' for wider circulation.

Co-option of Councillor

Following the resignation of Mrs White, Mrs M Hitt had come forward to be co-opted onto the parish council. She had submitted a profile of her experience and desire to join the Parish Council. The Parish Council were able to co-opt in her absence due to a previous work commitment. It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mrs Smith and agreed to co-opt Mrs Hitt. 6 in favour, 2 abstained (SF & RM) The Clerk to issue the relevant paperwork for signatures before Mrs Hitt can commence.

PUBLIC TIME

Residents from Crown Street attended the meeting to voice their concerns about damage they claim has been caused by traffic diverted through Crown Street during the resurfacing on the A6121 that took place over three days. They said the flow of traffic eroded the gravel surface which when winter returns could be potentially dangerous . Having approached Rutland County Council to have the situation remedied the response had been disappointing as RCC did not accept any responsibility although they had offered to fill in potholes. It was said that RCC claimed they did not wish to set a precedent however the residents' argued that it was a unique situation.
The question arose as to whether Crown Street was a private road maintained by residents but allowing reasonable access to the public or an unadopted road. Crown Street residents sought the assistance of the Parish Council to lobby RCC to action. It was agreed to define the status of the road in the first instance and to revisit this issue at the July Meeting. In the meantime County Councillor Chris Parsons will speak directly to Dave Brown at Highways to ascertain the definition of the road and for the RCC viewpoint.
It was further agreed that both County Councillors, Charlotte Vernon and Chris Parsons would seek to lobby on the behalf of resident for action.

Balk Road- resident reported a fall on Balk Road, which is an unadopted road. Mr Parsons outlined the history of the road and the potential costs of upgrading it to a full adopted highway. It was noted that Rutland County Council remain responsible for the pathway.

Stile- Footpath E172. A resident reported problems in scaling the stiles on the Footpath running from Foundry Road to Back Lane. This is already being processed by RCC who are seeking the permission of the landowner to replace the stile with kissing gates or remove entirely. It was agreed that the Parish Council would seek to hasten the process.

MATTERS ARISING

Open Spaces update

James Frieland will be writing a report to the Development Control and Licensing Committee in May 2013, where it will be considered by members. All being well a decision will be made at the meeting. Rutland County Council hopes to include the report at the Development Control and Licensing Committee being held on 28 May 2013.
A copy of the report will be made available on the RCC website 5 working days prior to the meeting.

Vicarage Wall and access to school

Following initial patch repairs and a continued review of the options in December 2012 the Capital Allocations Group has considered and scored a proposal to part fund works to upgrade the road from the DfE grants allocated to RCC for school projects. The Group scored the project sufficiently highly to enable it to be forwarded as a Priority Project, with a good chance of success.
A report presented to Cabinet on the 2nd April will seek the release of funds of £3,500 as a contribution towards costs (as part of a wider recommendation for expenditure across schools).If funding is approved then works could be undertaken during the summer break.

However, as the funding is for part only then contributions from the frontagers may also need to be sought, and this could affect any timetable.
The Diocese, as one of the frontagers, is exempt from contributing under the Private Street Works Code, and their share would have to be borne by RCC.

Note: The ownership of the road is unknown and cannot be identified despite extensive investigations. However, the owners and occupiers of the adjoining properties have used the road for a period exceeding 20 years, and will have obtained a prescriptive right to cross it. But, there are no implied obligations on those frontagers to maintain the road. The road has been used as a public highway without challenge by the [unknown] land owner for in excess of 20 years, so can be considered to be an unadopted highway. The status of the road as an unadopted highway would give RCC the power under the Private Street Works Code to carry out the works and charge the frontagers for the expense.

The total cost of upgrading the road is estimated to be £10,000, based on resurfacing and a small amount of full depth patching.Contributions to the works will need to be sought from the frontagers. Contact will be made prior to the works being carried out to agree contributions and the maintenance and management by the school going forward.

Rutland County Council confirmed on 1st May that the recommendation of the Capital Allocations (Education) Board presented to the Cabinet on the 2nd April 2013 were approved. This includes approval of the project list to release a further trance of funding maintenance schemes at various school and include in the proved project list is an element of the funding towards the resurfacing of the access road that leads to Ryhall School and other properties. RCC would be contacting the residents in the next month and would provide County Councillor Parsons with a further update. Noted that the included two properties on the road and the farmer who accessed the fields.

Ryhall Parish Council meeting noted that the issue of the wall had not been addressed at all in the above correspondence. Mr Parsons in his capacity of County Councillor, to stress the increasing timescale and urgency of the wall situation and to seek a written response from RCC on the issue of the wall repair/removal

Drains in Belmesthorpe
Rutland County Council is intending to put in a new drain at the east end of the village – the drain cover to be located where the old BT kiosk was situated.

Highway Issues Dropped kerb and white lines
An email of 19th April confirmed that RCC will arrange for the work to install the dropped kerbs when the budget for access improvements has been approved. The situation will be monitored and they will instruct their contractor to carry out the work once approved. Rutland County Council reported that all lining works have been suspended until April due to budget and weather conditions.

With regards to marking a white line to the front of the pedestrian crossings, RCC state that this is not normal practice and is only done if there is an obvious issue of vehicles parking in front of them.

RCC are unable to provide a sign 'Slow Children Playing'. The Traffic Signs and General Direction 2002 regulations permit signs that are prescribed within them only. The warning sign held within the regulations showing children is specific to children going to or from a school or playground ahead and is not permitted to inform motorists that children may be playing in a street (for which there is no prescribed sign).
Foopath E178 - New Road to Waterside. RCC suggested retaining one gate

Salt Bin labelling - New labels for all the salt bins have been put in place.

AGENDA ITEMS

Parish Councillors roles
The following roles were allocated to Councillors for the forthcoming year. It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mrs Sismore and agreed.

Street Lighting Rep	Mr S Fenn
Street Lighting Delegation	Mr S Fenn
	Mr A Gombault
	Mr N Bellairs
Planning Committee	Mr P Huddleston (Chairman)
	Mrs E Sismore
	Mrs S Smith
	Mr N Bellairs
	Mr R Rushby
Allotment Committee	Mr S Fenn (Chairman)
	Mr D Pearce-Hunt
	(former Councillor seconded in an advisory capacity)
Village Hall Rep	Mr P Huddleston
RMPF	Mr N Bellairs to continue to undertake play area safety checks . Mr C Parsons to represent at the RMPF Meetings
Snow Warden	Mr P Link (Parishioner)
Burial Administrator	Mr D Toone (parishioner)
Leics & Rutland Association of Parish Councils	
Parish Forum Rep	Mr R Rushy plus another
Community Plan	Vacant- may need conclusion

Parish Councillor Surgery
Mr G Lloyd and Ms R Miller hosted the first Parish Council surgery in April at the Ryhall Library. It was agreed that it was worthwhile with five residents attending to highlight a variety of issues.
Highway issues have been referred to RCC, new cemetery issues are being addressed by the Clerk, Church and RMPF issues will be forwarded to the relevant committees. It was agreed to put a suggestion box in the Library for residents to post comments in for discussion at the next PC meeting. It was agreed to organise a village walk to assess issues in the parish including the maintenance of the benches. It was agreed to host another Surgery on Saturday 6th July. Ms Miller and Mrs Smith will represent the Parish Council.

Grit bin for Belmesthorpe east and for St Ebbas Close
Following two requests, it was proposed by Mr Fenn, seconded by Mrs Sismore and agreed to purchase two grit bins for the above locations at a cost of £187.46 each plus VAT. Mr Fenn to arrange the installations .7 in favour one abstention (RM)

New dog bin for A6121 corner of New Road.
Ms Miller had conducted a survey of dog walkers and ascertained the need for a bin as above. This would improve the situation on New Road and Balk Road. Subject to a favourable response from the nearest neighbour, it was proposed by Mr Fenn, seconded by Mr Lloyd and agreed unanimously to purchase a new dog bin at a cost of £132.89 plus VAT., plus installation.

Licence & installation of new bench
The Licence has been completed, awaiting installation.

Capital Projects
Allotment Community Plot
The allotment committee wish to create a community plot, toilet, shed, greenhouse and garden to encourage new people to take up a nursery plot, have greater access and spend more time on the allotments. The committee will move towards self financing, raising funds with social events once established. The communities plot would be used by the school, Guides, Francis Court Ryhall Gardeners who would be invited to the allotments. No planning permission required as all are moveable structures and the site has been located and agreed by the allotment holders. The costs are £980.33 for the shed and £2,530 for the green toilet (for the use of allotment holders and their guests only) Total Cost £3,510.86. It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mrs Sismore and agreed unanimously to proceed with this project. Mr Lloyd and the allotment holders leading the project were congratulated on the impressive bid.
Community Orchard
A four page documents outlining the proposal of a community orchard was presented to the Parish Council by two residents. If agreed the orchards would benefit the community with food for free, a benefit with prices rising and reducing the carbon footprint. Community participation would be encouraged with cohesion across the generations from 0 – 100. Chosen species would be indigenous and aesthetically pleasing bringing colour and interest to the village. It would encourage community sharing of skills.
Three areas were suggested. The green area on Parkfield Road for a line of fruit trees, apple plum and greengage. (cost £1,084) The RMPF for a single line of fruit trees of cherry parallel to the existing hedgerow (£461) and Rutland Way green space from St Tibba to Coppice Road(£776)
The total cost was £2,321 as a ball park figure and the hedgerow planting stock would be obtained from the Woodland Trust under their community planting scheme.
The Parish Council commended the residents for this interesting and well presented project. However it was noted that only the RMPF land was under the remit of the Parish Council and permission would need to be sought for the other two areas form Rutland County Council and Spire Homes. It was further noted that if the green on Coppice Road was granted Open Spaces status under the Parish council then this area might be a possible future location. It was proposed by Mr Fenn, that subject to the agreement of the RMPF Committee, the Parish Council move ahead with the second proposal for the cherry trees on the playing fields. This was seconded by Mrs Smith and at the vote 6 in favour two abstained RM and CP.
The two other proposed locations would be discussed further at a future meeting.

At this juncture, Mrs Charlotte Vernon left the meeting.

Ryhall Village Hall
Submitted a proposal on behalf of the village, to preserve village archive photographs given to them by Mr Whetstone former head teacher of the Primary School. The project is self sustaining and match funding is available if needed. The projects costs are £222.00 to scan the originals and bind the copies in binders. Originals would be kept at the County Records Office at Glenfield to preserve their integrity.
The photographs had been bequested to the village hall committee for the benefit of the community. RM questioned the reasons behind seeking funding when the Village Hall had significant reserves. PH responded that the Village Hall had reserve monies for their major repair bills and had responded on behalf of the parishioners to the invitation to capital bids project. It was proposed by Mrs Sismore, seconded by Mr Parsons and at the vote 6 in favour, PH abstained RM against.

Village Walks Plinth.
Rachel Miller presented the request for a Plinth to accommodate maps and routes to be located in the centre of the village ideally on the green by the Library. Rutland County

Council would donate £700 towards the costs, therefore the ball park figure requested was 1,300. It was agreed to get two more alternative quotes for comparison purposes. It was proposed by Mr Lloyd, seconded by Mrs Sismore and agreed to support the project in principle subject to the best quote and siting agreement.All in favour.

Bowls Club.
The Bowls Club submitted a request for £2,000 to lay a concrete pathway from the gate entrance to the Bowls Club across the playing fields. This would benefit the bowls members to use their mobile bowls bags and also to be used by the tennis club members and children going to the play area. The Parish Council were would like more details about the use of concrete verses matting surface which might be more aesthetically pleasing. It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by M Lloyd and agreed to hold the offer open and discuss further.
The bowls club would be invited to the next parish council meeting.

Conclusion
The Parish Council were pleased with the response from the community to their capital bids initiative and thanked the residents who had presented to the meeting.

Ryhall Meadows Playing Fields signs
It was proposed by Mr Lloyd, seconded by Mr Parsons and agreed to fund the six signs previously discussed for the playing fields to reconfirm to users to the need to have dogs on leads and use the perimeter. Six signs at £17.00 each in green were approved. It was noted that the Dog Warden would be invited to the next meeting.

Cemetery update – agree funding for refurbishments of benches, front fence
Awaiting a quotation
Clay Pile – all undertakers have been asked not to leave clay there following an excavation. Hedge on far side needs cutting back after the nesting season, but it is still unclear as to the ownership of this hedge. An earlier quote from Veolia was £540 plus VAT. Agreed that Councillors would visit the cemetery to inspect the site before the July meeting.

Bins at Cemetery
It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mrs Sismore and agreed to the commencement of the fortnightly emptying of the black and Green bins as from 13 May 2013. Clerk to complete a schedule and payment is direct to Cory. Cost is £7.98 black, £6.62 Green. New Notices have been placed on the bins urging villagers not to put anything other than biodegradable green waste in the green bin or it will not be collected.

Cemetery Extension - Costs for post and rail fencing
The Planning permission states that to qualify as 'commencement', some work must have started. One of the conditions attached to the approval states:
Unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority, the boundary treatment for the extended burial ground hereby approved shall consist of post and rail fencing, and match the height of the existing fencing on site, as detailed in the submitted design and access statement.
RCC advise that some of the fencing needs to be erected before August 2013.
Having discussed fencing and access with Mr Flint, the clerk suggested obtaining three quotes for post and rail fencing and a gate to allow access. The Parish Council felt that it was not prudent to fund a fence that might not be required for many years and that a selection of posts could be put in place to define the boundary and indicate the commencement of work. It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mrs Smith and agreed that Mr Fenn would purchase and install posts to define the boundary.

Decision on Flagpole position
Mr Bellairs will update on this issue at the next meeting.

Belmesthorpe Issues
Street Light outside the Blue Bell Public House – to be replaced by an ornamental black column and lantern.
Mr Gombault has been working on this project. RCC have offered £750 contribution which would fund the ornamental lantern. The Parish Council would fund the same as a standard replacement column. Mr Gombault to gain the agreement of the village committee and the publican. It was proposed by Mr Gombault, seconded by Mr Parsons and all in favour of proceeding as above.
Speed Restrictions (Belmesthorpe)
At the March parish council meeting the issues of speeding along Main Street and on the road leading South from the village towards Newstead, which at present has no speed restriction at all, despite the presence of houses and a number of livery and stock-keeping establishments along the route.
In the case of the Newstead Road, it was proposed that a 40 mph speed restriction be imposed between Belmesthorpe village and Cobb's Nook corner and the Clerk wrote to RCC to request this RCC confirm that this is on the list for review. The next stage will be for the Road Policing Unit to visit the site to determine if they have any objection to the requested change.
Mr Gombault reported that the NHW committee may consider the 'speed watch' initiative in Belmesthorpe, in conjunction with Leicestershire Police.

Parish Plan
Ms Miller updated on the final parish plan initiatives. The gate to the sheep field on the walk from RMPF is not classed as broken by RCC who will therefore not replace it. With £236 money remaining from the Parish Plan RM proposed that this was used to fund a replacement gate. She has obtained the consent of both the landowners. Mr Flint has offered to install the new gate free of charge. It was agreed to order the gate and have it delivered directly to Mr Flint.

Allotment Constitution and Trees
Trees in area adjacent to allotments – the Clerk had obtained a quotation for a survey of the trees from the contractor used by RCC. To carry out a health and safety inspection and confirm the findings in writing @ £275 plus VAT. The Meeting decided to readdress the issue of ownership before commissioning an inspection.

The Allotment Constitution had been circulated to all Councillors for consideration. It was proposed by Mr Lloyd, seconded by Mr Parsons and agreed unanimously to accept.

CORRESPONDENCE

Emailed & Circulated to Councillors
RCC Walking Festival leaflet
RCC Diary of Village Events 2013
RCC Parish Forum
Rutland Culture & Leisure Strategy Consultation
Rutland Consortium Agenda
Football Stadium plans
RCC Weekly Bulletin
Broadband for Ryhall – J Whowell
LRALC Newsletter March
Consultation on LRALC Strategic Plan
Farewell Message from Local PCTs NHS
RCC Community Re-use event
RCC Site allocation and Policies Document – proposed submission Consultation

SKDC Draft Wind Energy supplementary Planning document
RCC Evaluation of Fun Pod Project

RCC Adult Social Care Reform Consultation
RCC Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (
RCC Bus Stop Enhancements
Rutland CAB Request for donation (May 2012 donated £50)It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mr Lloyd and agreed to donate £50 as last year.
Leics County Council Local Highway Authority and role in planning process
RCC Proposals to introduce a Community Infrastucture Levy on New Development in Rutland

Income received into Parish Account

Precept payment from Rutland County Council		29,150

Payments made since last meeting

Mrs C Adams April Salary	408.37	
BJ Printers Leaflets	30.00	
Anglian Water Allotment Tap	14.84	
Rutland County Council Grit Bin refills		50.00
E-On Street Lighting	552.19	
Veolia Grass cutting	44.52	

It was proposed by Mr Parsons, seconded by Mrs Sismore and agreed to pay the following:
Payments to be made at meeting:

LRALC Annual Subscription	331.46	
Mrs C Adams May Salary	408.37	
Ryhall Methodist Hall Hire	15.00	
LR Playing Fields Association membership	20.00	
Mr Peter Link Snow Warden backdated pay	4.76	
Mr Peter Link Snow Warden for April (3 hours)		21.57
Lamin & White Fee for salary administration	36.00	
National Allotment Association Membership	66.00	
Insurance annual fee (item below)		

Precept grants agreed at January meeting

Village News	800	
RMPF	1,953	
Library		2,500
St Johns Church	2,000	
Belmesthorpe NHW	100	
Ryhall United Football Club (to be match funded and paid at future date on receipt of match funds evidence)		1,500

Payments made from Burial Accounts since last meeting

Rutland County Council Rates for Cemetery	65.60
Veolia Grass cutting	30.13
Anglian Water	11.98

Payments to make from Burial Account - None

Income received into Burial Account

E Gainford Internment Grave		275.00
J Coulsey Added Inscription	45.00	
F Fordham Internment Cremated	56.00	
Coulsey Admin		52.00
W Toulson Headstone	51.00	

OTHER FINANCE ISSUES
Note: Snow Warden rate for 2013 is £7.19. Previously was £6.91
Therefore owe Peter Link £4.76 RCC to refund the Parish Council £122.23

ANNUAL AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS
Copies of the end of year statement of accounts had been circulated to all Councillors along with the Annual Governance Statement which was completed at the meeting. The accounts and the AGS was approved at the meeting by the full council and signed on behalf of the parish council by the Clerk and the Chairman. The external audit of accounts will take place on the 17th June 2013 conducted by Grant Thornton. The Notice of Appointment of date for the Excercise of Electors rights will be on the Ryhall Notice board. Any persons interested has the right to inspect the accounts and make copies of the annual return, all books deeds contracts and vouchers relating to the accounting statement for the year ending 31st March 20123. These documents will be available on reasonable notice on application to Mrs C Adams, Clerk to the Parish Council. It was proposed by Mr Huddleston, seconded by Mrs Sismore and agreed unanimously to approve the annual audit of accounts.

Alternative Insurance Quotation by Came & Company
The Clerk presented the meeting with an alternative quotation following two insurance training sessions with the LAPLC and a meeting with a representative of the company. The quotation was for £975.00 for a matching level of cover as opposed to £1,325.77 form the current insurers. Acceptance of this quote was approved under the vote to accept the accounts.

Note new Burial Fees 2013/14
The Burial Fees for April 1st 2013 for the forthcoming year were highlighted to the Parish Council. They have been forwarded to Mr D Toone, Burial Administrator. Two Councillors requested a copy.
It was proposed by Mrs Smith , seconded by Mr Fenn and agreed to accept the burial fees.

PLANNING

Full Planning Permission granted
Mr J Baley, 9 New Road, Ryhall PE9 4HL for single storey extension to rear elevation.
Mr G Cullum, 33 Balk Road, Ryhall for construction of two storey extension to the rear of dwellinghouse

Listed Building Consent-Alterations

Notification of decision in respect of a section 211 Notice proposing works to a tree or trees in a conservation area
Ms Jane Carter Jonas Hayward, 12 Waterside Way, Bedford Road, Northampton
Crown thin 1 No Holm Oak by 20%. Crown reduce 1 No Ash Tree by 2 metres in height and 1.5meteres laterally. Crown thin group of Ash Trees by 15% The Vicarage, Church Street, Ryhall Stamford Lincs PE9 4HR

Determination as to whether the prior approval of details is required (Agricultural and Forestry development)

Refusal of Full Planning Permission- None

Appeal Decisions- None
Withdrawal of planning application - None
Planning applications considered:
400kV electricity substation and associated electrical equipment
Uffington Lane, Essendine, Rutland

OTHER BUSINESS

RM suggested moving public time back to the start of the meeting. Over the years it has been debated as what time was preferred by the members of the public attending. It was agreed that in future the time allocated would be at the discretion of the Chairman – to decide on the night if the public wished it at the start or end of the meeting by a majority decision.

Digital Broadband – Ryhall is served by the Stamford Connection – agreed to investigate speeds in line with the current broadband issues in neighbouring parishes in Rutland. Both County Councillors will be attending a meeting on broadband provision.

Bus parked in lay-by the Cemetery – ongoing with some possible alterations in policy by RCC.

Pavements (1) Balk Road – pavement is raised by Number 18 – Clerk to bring this to the attention of RCC.(2) Parkfield Road – need attention of RCC and (3) the A6121 pavement from New Road to Balk Road needs resurfacing.

NEXT MEETING-
Wednesday 10th July 2013 at 7pm in the Methodist Church Schoolrooms, Ryhall.