

Rampton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at 7.30 pm on 9 February 2009 in Rampton Village Hall

Present: Cllr J Wilkinson, Chairman
Cllrs Ingamells, McIlwaine, Morris BEM, Russell, Sheppard,
Also present: D Landon, Clerk of the Council
4 members of the public

1 Apologies for absence

Cllr Rickells.

2 Declarations of interest

All members present declared a personal interest in item 5

3 Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 12 January

Approved.

4 Police Report

PC Bailey, who is on leave this week, apologised that there is no crime report. He will provide crime details for two months at the March meeting. Members reported various crimes of which they were aware. The Council noted a press release from the Police warning about a spate of rural burglaries and asked the Clerk to include details in *Roundabout*.

5 Sports & Leisure Facilities

The Chairman reported that she had been contacted by Bob Castle of the County Council's Highways Department who had taken photographs showing the position of the (relatively) new 30 mph sign and the additional street lights which were erected as required by a condition of the planning permission. The Council agreed to hold an informal meeting on 16 February to discuss ideas for the development of the field followed by an open meeting on a Saturday or Sunday morning. The Council decided that it would be sensible to make provision for vehicle access and asked the Chairman to find out the cost of lowering the kerb.

6 Other matters arising from the meeting held on 12 January

a) Health & Safety

Nothing to report.

b) Footpaths and Other Highways Issues

The Council noted a letter from the County Council advising that it is not possible to widen the footpath on Treswell Road without reducing the width of this narrow road. Following a recent inspection the Highways Inspector concluded that footpaths are generally not unsafe but that the path opposite the Eyre Arms will need 'some minor patching in the not too distant future'. The Chairman commented that this footpath is dangerous precisely because it has been patched so many times. The Council agreed one or more members should

accompany the inspector on his next visit in April. The Clerk will write to Nottinghamshire County Council to ask for a 30 mph roundel to be painted on the carriageway.

c) Summer Fayre

The Council decided to ask the Village Hall Committee to discuss the organisation of this event at its next meeting. Cllr Russell advised that, once a date is fixed, he will contact the Bishop's office for formal approval of the use of the land at the rear of the Village Hall

d) Notts ALC - training seminars

The Clerk reported that he had passed on to Notts ALC the Council's comment that it would be easier to identify training needs if a list of topics had been provided. In reply Notts ALC had said that they have a traditional programme of such things as planning, budgeting and finance, new councillor events, etc, but the reason for asking councillors and clerks is that some people might put forward topics they haven't thought of.

e) Dog Fouling

The Chairman reported that she had received a telephone call from the Dog Warden who has delivered leaflets to the school for children to take home. He is willing to erect additional signs in the village and the Council suggested that they should be placed on all the roads in the centre of the village and on 'inner footpaths'. Cllr Russell commented on the disgusting state of the path from Laneham Street to The Pastures.

f) Surfacing Approach to Village Hall

The Chairman commented that Mrs Vallance had donated the cost of the daffodil bulbs but not planted them. This had been done by Margaret Dobson and her partner, and the Council expressed its appreciation to them and also to Neil Jones and Barrie Doyle for tidying up the approach to the Village Hall.

7 Planning

a) Planning application at the former Royal Oak

The Council welcomed an assurance from the Chief Executive that it is not the District Council's intention to penalise the village for the Parish Council's actions in opposing a payment in lieu of the provision of open space within this development, quite the reverse. The Clerk was asked to write to the District Council saying that, bearing in mind the Chief Executive's comments, the Council looks forward to a favourable response to its request for up to 100% of the proposed S106 payment to enable it to provide play facilities on the field on Retford Road.

b) Correspondence

None.

c) Applications considered by the Planning Committee

- Diversion of High Marnham to West Burton 400kV overhead line, Outgang Lane, Cottam
- no objections although the Council was concerned about breeding pairs of barn owls and little owls which use both the owl box and the scattered trees in the area of the proposed works.

d) Decisions by Bassetlaw District Council

None.

8 Handyman's Report

Nothing to report.

9 Village Hall

The Chairman reported that the Village Hall Constitution had been signed by M Arden and GE Morris in 2000 but that the constitution of the Sports & Leisure Committee, dated 25 April 2005 incorporating the responsibility for the management of the Village Hall was not to have been signed. In 2006 when the Sports & Leisure Committee adopted a constitution to deal purely for sports & leisure matters, it does not appear as though the Village Hall Committee constitution was reinstated. As a result the Council may have been making grants to, and paying bills on behalf of, an organisation which does not exist. Cllr Morris commented that this is not true in that although the Committee may not have a constitution the Council has been making nominations to it at each annual meeting in May. The Chairman also reported that a senior employee of the insurance company had advised that members of the Village Hall Committee, including Parish Councillors serving on the Committee, may not be adequately insured. Cllr Ingamells reported that the Village Hall Committee is working with Katie Wilson of NAVACH to prepare an agreement which clearly sets out the relationship between the Committee and the Parish Council and the responsibilities of each. The Council agreed that the Village Hall Committee should not pursue charitable status. Hopefully this agreement will also lead to resolution of the queries relating to insurance.

10 Accounts & Audit

a) Receipts

None.

b) Accounts for Payment

None.

c) Bank balances

The balances of the Council's accounts are:

	£
NatWest Bank	3008.76
Nottingham Building Society	<u>36755.88</u>
	<u>39764.64</u>

11 Correspondence

a) Village resident - Signs to Rampton Hospital

The Council noted a letter commenting that the original sign to the hospital has been removed and, because of its colouring, the finger sign is very difficult to read in daylight and impossible to read in the dark. The Clerk was asked to write to Nottinghamshire County Council with a request for better signage to Rampton Hospital both in the village and at Rampton Crossroads.

b) Bassetlaw District Council - Spring Clean

The Council noted that this year's spring clean is being held from 20 April to 5 May.

c) Local Involvement Network

Passed to the Chairman.

12 Any Other Business

a) Gritting

Cllr Sheppard commented that the roads in the village have not been gritted despite being on a bus route.

b) Torksey Ferry Road

The Clerk was asked to write again to Nottinghamshire County Council about the condition of this road.

c) Land belonging to Pinder & Moorpools Charities

Cllr Morris commented that the proposal by Lafarge to restore part of the quarry as a pond will reduce the charities' income (because the interest received from investing the money received from selling the land will be lower than the rent if the land were to be let). He added that, if someone leaves land to a charity, then the charity should continue to own the land in perpetuity. Members agreed and the Clerk was asked to write to Wardell Armstrong to ask them to approach Lafarge with a view to a land swap.

13 Date of next meeting

Monday 9 March 2009 at 7.30 pm.

The Clerk reported that 13 April, the scheduled date of the April meeting, is Easter Monday. The Chairman advised that she is away on the previous Monday and the Council decided to defer the meeting until 20 April.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.54 pm.

Signed.....



Date.....

9/3/09