

REMPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 8th January, 2007.

Present: Mr D M Walker (in the Chair) Mr J Santoro
Mrs L Craven Mr R Beeby
Mr N Humphries Mrs J Schober

In attendance: Mrs J M Walker (Clerk to the Parish Council)

Also present were eleven members of the Public

1. **Apologies** from County Councillor Mrs L Sykes, Councillor Mr P Atkin and Mrs B Mee.

The Chairman welcomed Mr Jason Croke of Cooper Parry (VAT Adviser) to the meeting to speak on Item 4.

2. **The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 13th November 2006** were accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

3. **Chairman's Review**

(a) **Footpath in front of New Cottages, Wysall Lane**

Resurfacing of remade footpath in front of the new Cottages has been temporarily improved until such time as the final top surfacing can be completed.

(b) **Overhanging Branches on the A60 towards Costock**

This problem has been addressed with no further complaints.

(c) **Interactive Sign A6006 Wymeswold Road**

We continue to press to remain a priority on the 2007/8 NCC budget.

(d) **Kerbed Footpaths in the Village**

Top surfacing and widening to all kerbed footpaths in the village programme are running late due to wet weather but completion is due during January or February.

(e) **Village Sign and Landscaped Areas**

Licence is signed and completed by both parties. Landscape works have restarted, hopefully to be followed by construction to plinth and base work.

(f) **Letter and Telephone Boxes**

Letter Box replaced; not new but fulfilled the village needs in time for Christmas posting. BT have not yet completed their work to the Telephone Box.

(g) **New Government Initiative : Speeding**

Local Councils are to review speed limits within their areas. We have forwarded our response to County Councillor Mrs L Sykes requesting that both the A60 and A6006 be included and she has confirmed that these have been submitted.

4. **Open Discussion Time**

(a) **Village Hall Future Ownership**

Mr Jason Croke spoke summarising that although the Parish Council owned the Village Hall they could not claim back the VAT if it were used for business purposes and lettings come under this category. He understood that the estimated costs for replacing the Village Hall were £250,000 with a VAT bill of £50,000. It was therefore advisable for the Parish Council to give away the Village Hall and the best way was for this to become a charitable organisation that would be exempt from VAT. The benefits of this would be that VAT would not be incurred in the first place as Charities do not register for VAT and that more funding could be obtained from different organisations as Charities are viewed more sympathetically than Parish Councils. There would need to be a minimum of three Trustees appointed with representation from the Parish Council and there would be a Village Hall Management Committee of about six with a Constitution in place. Ultimately it was possible for the Village Hall to be gifted back after seven years should this be desired.

Mr Croke answered questions and then left the meeting with thanks from the Parish Council for attending and giving his professional advice. The Chairman then asked for a show of hands from the floor to gauge public support for proceeding down the route to transfer the Village Hall to a Charitable Trust. The result was all in favour with none against.

The Chairman then proposed the following Motion to the Councillors:

“That Rempstone Parish Council having taken professional advice seeks to proceed to apply to transfer the ownership of Rempstone Village Hall from the Parish Council to a Charitable Trust”.

Mr N Humphries proposed and Mrs J Schober seconded that the Motion be accepted. All were in favour and none against.

(b) Project Team Update

Mr Humphries confirmed that the Bid is ready to go in and had been held up until the VAT position had been resolved. Now that the Motion had been accepted the Bid could be processed immediately and go forward.

(c) Other Items raised from the floor included:

- (i) heavy lorries not having room to pass each other to which the Chairman confirmed that he had photographic evidence of this that had been submitted;
- (ii) the policy regarding wind turbines and as applications for these were likely to become more prevalent it was agreed that this subject would be discussed as an agenda item at the next meeting;
- (iii) the policy regarding shrines to which the Chairman confirmed that as these are on Highways land there is nothing we can do as there is no legislation in place and Nottinghamshire County Council do not want to be the first to highlight this issue though it is believed they are illegal: this was a statement following previous enquiries from Rempstone Parish Council.

5. Planning Issues

- (a) P/06/2324/2 Glebe Farm Barn, Narrow Lane, Wymeswold, Leics. LE2 6SD. Installation of 660kw wind turbine with horizontal axis rotor, with 3 blades up to 23.5 radius and rotor axis height up to 55m. Consultation from Charnwood Borough Council via Rushcliffe Borough Council. Response from Rempstone PC was returned. Awaiting decision.
- (b) 05/01074/FUL Stanford Hall Development Proposals. Response from Rempstone PC was returned. Awaiting decision from RBC who now say that there has been a change of ownership and because of this there is likely to be a totally new planning submission that could be quite different from the one already seen.
- (c) 03/311/REM Mr D Hunt, 14 Wymeswold Road, Rempstone, Loughborough, Leics. LE12 6RN. Vary wording of Condition 1 to permit retention of workshop building for purposes incidental to agriculture and occupation of 14 Wymeswold Road. Permission refused. To appeal but no further news to date.

6. Finance and Audit

- (a) **Bank Reconciliation for the quarter 01 September to 31 December 2006**
To be tabled at the next meeting as the Clerk had not been able to prepare the figures as she had not received all the necessary bank statements.
- (b) **Payment of Cheques**
Cheque No. 311 was made payable to Mrs J Walker, Clerk, for remuneration (£650.00) and expenses (£251.97) totalling £901.97 for the financial year 2006/7.

(c) **Statement of Accounts and Draft Precept for 2007/8**

The Clerk tabled the draft accounts and the suggested precept of £4,780 that was a slight increase on the previous year in line with the increase in costs that the Parish Council was expecting such as insurance, necessary publications and affiliation fee increases. It was proposed by Mr R Beeby and seconded by Mrs L Craven and agreed unanimously that this figure be accepted and that the Clerk make the necessary application to RBC. It was recognized that an amount of £500 that would be required for Cooper Parry for VAT advice and future help would be paid for out of the Village Hall funds and that a further amount of £500 in the event of an election would be met from the Parish Council reserve funds.

7. Correspondence

- (a) The Clerk read a letter from Mrs P Luff, Rose Cottage, Wysall Lane concerning wood chippings that were causing a nuisance to the residents of Wysall Lane outside no 21. It was agreed that the Parish Council would act on this.
- (b) The Clerk read a letter from The Royal British Legion indicating that £38.96 had been raised this year from The White Lion Public House but no house-to-house collection had been taken in the village.
- (c) Correspondence from the Nottinghamshire Police Authority included reply postcards regarding Police budgets that were handed to Councillors for their attention.
- (d) The Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council had sent details of their Training opportunities and the Clerk handed copies to Councillors.
- (e) RBC had sent information and posters regarding the non smoking campaign to take effect in most workplaces from July 2007.

8. Any Other Business – none.

9. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 26th March 2007 (Annual Parish Meeting).

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and for their contribution to the proceedings and the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____