

# REMPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 9th July, 2007.

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

In attendance: Mrs J M Walker (Clerk to the Parish Council)  
Also present were eleven members of the Public

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Before commencing the meeting the Chairman explained that two late planning applications had been received that would be dealt with under correspondence and that he felt everyone had had sufficient time to see these plans before the meeting. He then welcomed Mrs Joanne Taylor who had been co-opted to the Council at the last meeting and invited her to join the Councillors at the top table thanking her for her interest in Rempstone Parish Council.

1.     **Apologies** from County Councillor Mrs L Sykes and Mrs B Mee
2.     **The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 14th May 2007** were accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record. Proposed by Mrs L Craven and seconded by Mr N Humphries.
3.     **Chairman's Review**
  - (a)    **Dales Farm Development**

Concerns had been expressed to two Councillors regarding the 10m tree belt around the Dales Farm development and its future management. Bloor's, the developers, had been contacted regarding the planting and maintenance plan which had not yet been received. This document, together with the conditions of the planning approval, need to be understood together in order to clarify the interests of the Dales Farm development residents and the residents of Wysall Lane.
  - (b)    **Road Gullies**

In May this Council submitted a defects report regarding the blocking up of a gully on Wymeswold Road and the poor general state of the remainder. Wymeswold Road was investigated by Notts. County Council as considerable damage had been done to the drain and connection. It was decided by the Highways Department that this gully was unnecessary at present but would be replaced by a kerb gully when the road is resurfaced. All the remaining seventy gullies in the Parish were to be cleaned imminently.
  - (c)    **Footpath Pavements**

We continue to push for improvement to the A60 footpaths and are strongly supported by County Councillor Mrs Lynn Sykes. Some work has been started but siding up has still to be done. Renewal for all footpaths in total has not yet reached the top of the priority list.
  - (d)    **Village Sign**

The Golden Jubilee Committee have agreed the wording for the York stone paving slab to be engraved and installed when the remaining paving is carried out. However, the quote received from the Stone Mason is too high at £656 + VAT and a compromise has to be reached for a way forward.
  - (e)    **Rempstone Steam Engine Rally**

The Chairman said he was sure you would all join with him in sharing the disappointment of Mr Mike Beeby and his team following the cancellation of the Steam Engine Rally due to inclement weather. The financial loss to both the Village Hall and the Church would be significant.

#### 4. Open Discussion Time

- (a) The issue of speed cameras was again raised and it was confirmed that we are still awaiting an interactive sign for the Wymeswold Road end of the village. The Police have not been for a while but it was agreed that we should contact them again as we could not afford to be complacent.
- (b) Cllr. N Humphries was keen for us to reconsider introducing the neighbourhood speed watch system and it was agreed to make this a main agenda item for the next meeting.
- (c) The issue of the functioning of the traffic lights was again raised together with comments about the 30mph sign starting in the village side but that this is not seen and should be extended. Agreed we should write again explaining the on-going concerns about the traffic lights and requesting they look at the 30mph speed sign.
- (d) Attention was brought to the poor state of the school lane footpath and to the area near to the steps on to the main road close to the bed and breakfast property. There were also overhanging bushes up the Wymeswold Road that required attention.

#### 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) 03/311/REM Mr D Hunt, 14 Wymeswold Road, Rempstone, Loughborough, Leics. LE12 6RN. Retain extended domestic cartilage and barn. **Permission refused.**
- (c) 07/00775/LBC (**New Application**) Mrs H Whyte, Stanford Hall, Melton Road, Stanford On Soar, Leics. Change of use of Hall and ground/first floors of Abbots Wing to form single dwelling; demolish 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors of Abbots Wing; refurbishment/restoration of windows. The Chairman explained that it was the intention of the owners to return the Hall to residential use. Agreed not to object but to observe that the listings and preservation orders must be respected.
- (d) 07/01262/FUL Mr D Allsopp, Hill Farm Cottage, Wysall Lane, Rempstone, Loughborough, Leics. LE12 6RW. Two-storey front and side extension. There had been no letters of objection received. It was agreed not to object but to query the depth of Highway verge in front of the property.
- (e) 07/01263/FUL, East Midlands Helicopters, Oaklands Farm, Loughborough Road, Costock, Nottingham. LE12 6XB. Extend hangar. The Chairman commented that this was not going to mean an increase in the number of helicopters kept there and that there had been no objections from the neighbours. It was agreed not to object.
- (f) 07/01395/FUL Chek Whyte Industries T/a TFD Midlands, Oak Court Offices, Stanford Hall, Melton Road, Stanford-on-Soar, Notts. Change of use of buildings from office (B1)/residential institution (C2) to business use (B1); external alterations; erect balcony on south elevation. After discussion it was agreed not to object but to comment that it is understood that there would be thirty private vehicles to support the staff with no mention of extra commercial vehicles to support the businesses and that this would pressurise the vehicles access problems.
- (g) 07/01347/FUL Mr M Beeby, Tindale, 2 Wymeswold Road, Rempstone, Loughborough, Leics. LE12 6RJN. Side extension to form garage (revised proposal). Councillor R Beeby expressed an interest in this application and withdrawn from the discussions. The Chairman explained that this was a second application to rectify a miscalculation on the first application that they had supported. It was agreed not to object.

## 6. Code of Conduct

The Clerk referred the Councillors to the recent new Code of Conduct Guides they had received and to the information that had previously been circulated to them. She explained that the new Code of Conduct replaced four separate model Codes that had been in place for members of Principal Authorities, Parish Councils, the National Park and Broads Authorities and the Police Authorities and that it was a clearer, simpler and more proportionate code with amended rules on personal and prejudicial interest to remove current barriers to councillors speaking up for their constituents especially on planning and licensing issues and for public bodies on which they have been appointed to serve.

After discussion the Chairman proposed the following resolution:

“That this Council accepts and abides by the new Code of Conduct including Clause 12(2) that was concerned with the effect of prejudicial interests on participation”.

This was proposed by Cllr. R Beeby, seconded by Cllr. N Humphries with all in favour.

The Clerk would inform The Standards Board and the Borough Solicitor, ensure that a copy of the Code was available for inspection by the public and publish details in a local newspaper.

## 7. Footpath No. 15

We had received an NCC Modification Order to reinstate defunct footpath (ex. No.4) from Warren Lodge (A60) to join with Footpath No.5 at the rear of the Manor House.

The Chairman explained that early in 2006 we had already been informed by NCC of their decision to register this public footpath and that we had replied strongly objecting. The Clerk read out this letter written in February 2006 and the reply received denying that any attempt to delete the path from the draft map in 1959 did not cause a bar to making a modification order. NCC had therefore proceeded with such an action and comments were invited by 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2007.

General discussion revealed the following points:

- That Mr Hart, the Definitive Map Officer from NCC, had already indicated to one of the neighbouring landowners that it was possible to divert the proposed line of the footpath around his land so as not to inconvenience him.
- Is the proposed line the actual line that was shown on the original map before deletion. This must be checked against the maps.
- There is no workable solution as to where the footpath could go as the public need to be away from the horses kept there.
- From the centre of the village there are four footpaths with access to the eastern side of the A60. Why do we need a fifth?
- Could we refer to a Health and Safety angle emphasizing this even though Mr Hart, NCC, had specifically said it would be ignored?
- We should not acknowledge that there is a footpath there.

It was agreed to respond along the lines of our previous letter but also to include some of the above additional points that were raised at the meeting.

## 8. Village Hall

### (a) Charitable Status

The Chairman explained that the Village Hall Deeds were now with the Solicitor and we were waiting to hear from him. Meanwhile he asked for three volunteers to consider coming forward to become members of a Board of Trustees and that he would prepare a guidance note for the next meeting.

### (b) Insurance

The Chairman said that it looked from the figures received as if it was going to be beneficial to join the Village Hall insurance on to the Parish Council's policy. The Village Hall's insurance was due for renewal in September and it would be considered by then.

### (c) Lottery Bid Update

Cllr. N Humphries told everyone that the Lottery Bid people were still behind schedule but that they hoped to hear something before the next meeting in September. He then tabled a prepared draft letter to be sent to approximately fifteen local companies asking for sponsorship as extra money will be required and asked that any further suggestions or amendments could be sent back to him before the next meeting.

**9. Doggie Bin No. 2**

A request had been received for a second doggie bin for the centre of the village. This would be paid for by County Councillor Mrs Lynn Sykes out of her allocation of monies but there was some confusion about its exact location. After discussion it was agreed that the side of the wall by the Manor House at the entrance to the field by Footpath No. 5 was the best solution but that the owners of the nearby properties must be consulted first.

**10. Finance and Audit**

**Payment of Cheques**

- (a) Cheque No. 316 for £200 was made payable to Rempstone Parochial Church Council in respect of annual grant for churchyard maintenance for the financial year 2007/8.
- (b) Cheque No. 317 for £1,250 was made payable to Rempstone Village Hall in respect of annual grant for the financial year 2007/8.
- (c) Cheque No. 318 for £1,750 was made payable to Rempstone Village Hall Refurbishment Fund for the financial year 2007/8.
- (d) Cheque No. 319 for £36.04 was made payable to Rushcliffe Borough Council re charges for uncontested election.
- (e) Cheque No. 320 for £47 was made payable to the Society of Local Council Clerks for Mrs J Walker to attend Regional Conference.

**11. Correspondence**

- (a) The Clerk read a joint letter from Mr & Mrs D Jebson and Mr & Mrs G Holmes of School Lane, Rempstone expressing concern at the increased spread of the rabbit population in their vicinity. She also read out a petition signed by fourteen residents living nearby relating to the marked increase in rabbits this year. It was recognised that two areas seem to contain a large predominance of rabbits, i.e. the Anabaptist Graveyard and the site of the oil well close to this. The Chairman explained that the East Midland Baptist Trust Company Limited were holding a small sum of money for the maintenance of the Churchyard but that they and the Parish Council had been unable to find anyone to manage it for them. Two possible contractors were put forward and these would be contacted. Star Energy are responsible for the Oil Well site and the Clerk would write to them about the problem.
- (b) The Clerk had received a letter from Rushcliffe Borough Council regarding the Small Environmental Improvement Schemes Programme for 2007/8 for Parish Planting and inviting us to respond to the value of £500. As Cllr. R Beeby had suggested the planting of lime trees up the Wysall Lane he agreed to take this forward and to consider the possibility of making an application.

**12. Any Other Business**

Cllr. J Santoro said that the Police had asked him to report that they are expecting a further terrorist attack anywhere and at any time and that we must all be vigilant. Anything at all suspicious must be reported and he gave the number of a hot line to be used: 0800 789 321.

**13. Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 10th September 2007 at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and for their contribution to the proceedings and the meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

