

REMPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held in the CHURCH at 7.30 pm on Monday 13th September, 2010

Present: Mr D M Walker (in the Chair) Mr J Santoro
Mr R Beeby Mr D Bunker
Mrs A Lovett Mrs J Taylor
Mrs N Dalton

In attendance: Mrs J M Walker (Clerk to the Parish Council)
Three members of the Public were also present.

- 1. Apologies** were received from County Councillor Mrs L Sykes.
- 2. The Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 12th July 2010** were accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J Taylor and seconded by Cllr D Bunker.
- 3. Appointment of Parish Councillor**
The Chairman explained that permission had now been given from Rushcliffe Borough Council for our Council to co-opt and that one written application had been received. As the application from Mrs N Dalton was unanimously supported, she signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office form that was witnessed by the Clerk and then joined the Councillors to take part in the meeting.
- 4. Chairman's Review**
The summer months have reflected a downturn in workload in general parish council matters and is reflected in the brevity of these notes.
Local Improvement Scheme A60
New footpath south from traffic lights to county boundary
Our application supported by County Cllr Mrs Lynn Sykes is to be considered during January 2011 with a decision during April/May 2011.
The Future of the Self-Set Conifer
Councillors were asked to consider if this was causing a lack of visibility issue as we are required to respond to Notts County Council Highways if there is a problem. As vehicles are now parking on the area near to the pub it was felt the conifer did pose a threat in some situations. This is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.
Bus Shelters
Both polycarbonate shelters on the main A60 are to be given a clean up by Notts County Council Transport Services Department as a matter of urgency.
- 5. Police Matters and CCTV Village Hall Security**
The meeting was attended by PC Kelly Warwick who said that there was a low crime rate in Rempstone. The Police have a new team trying to work with offenders to help them for when they are released but unfortunately there are added difficulties because of the proximity to the Leicestershire boundary and they need to liaise with the Leicestershire Police. Crime is committed from very early in the morning and often by the time the Police have been contacted the perpetrators have moved on but she specifically asked for information about cars and not necessarily about people.

The subject of CCTV for the new Village Hall was then discussed and PC Warwick confirmed that not only are cameras a big deterrent but if the pictures are good enough they do help to make arrests. She was in favour of the installation of CCTV. The Chairman said the issue was the definition between the protection of the Village Hall and not general surveillance of the village. PC Warwick confirmed that Andy Shepherd from Action Alarms would always come out to give a demonstration of the type of camera recommended that was already in place at other village halls. For Rempstone he had identified the need for three cameras, two on the front and one on the entrance side, but there was concern about covering the back of the building that could be vulnerable from the Welfare Field. It was also pointed out that as we would be likely to have alcohol on the premises there was a good chance we would be required to have CCTV to comply with having a licence.

PC Warwick was asked about the turning off of street lighting to save money and said she would be against it. It was felt that as we are bounded by two 'A' roads it was unlikely this would happen. She was then alerted to the fact of possible drug dealing taking place at present in the slip road. When asked about individual house security checks PC Warwick confirmed that she would be happy to send someone out to make such a check. The Rushcliffe Community Watch has replaced the Ringmaster Scheme and is proving to be very positive. There followed some discussion about the community use of speed guns but Rempstone had not been supportive of this when it was first aired. She strongly recommended the use of Smart Water for marking equipment and belongings but this is quite expensive.

The Chairman concluded by informing the meeting that he had received two telephone objections to the CCTV and that there were probably one or two other people also that were not comfortable with it but it was felt that this was because they did not understand what the objectives really were. When asked for their decision about the installation of CCTV all Councillors were in favour and this was to be minuted.

6. Open Discussion Time

The Chairman felt that as everyone had had a good opportunity to speak during the preceding item he did not feel this item any longer to be necessary.

7. New Village Hall – project update

The Chairman said that progress was visible and that the plasterers have been working inside and will be doing the outside rendering this week. He referred to a little difficulty in getting a lighting scheme that was acceptable to the Managing Group but it now looks as if a good scheme has been produced. Decisions are now to be made on the final colour of the floor. In the last week the windows have gone in but not doors due to leaving room for the moving around of heavy equipment. The plumbing first fix is all completed and we do now need all the electrical first fix in place. The kitchen choices have been made and this is coming along very well but we have disappointment from the bar fitters who are not responding. The Chairman then arranged to take anyone present to view the inside of the village hall on Wednesday 15th September when he was due to meet up with a contact who was to advise about Audio Visual equipment.

8. Planning Issues, including

- (a) 10/00885/FUL Mr D Hunt, 14 Wymeswold Road, Rempstone, Leics. LE12 6RN. Retention of steel container for use as garden store. No objection returned by Rempstone Parish Council. **Permission Granted.**
- (b) 10/00988/EXT Mrs L Porter, The Manor House, 28 Main Street, Rempstone, Leics. LE12 6RH. Application to extend the time for implementation of planning permission 07/01503& 07/0513/LBC for a triple garage (with studio over); second floor extension on rear elevation. No objection returned by Rempstone Parish Council. **Permission Granted.**
- (c) 10/00874/FUL Mr A Porter, The Coach House, 32 Main Street, Rempstone, Leics. LE12 6RH. Convert and extend coach-house to form separate dwelling with double garage and vehicular access. Renewed Application with no objection returned by Rempstone Parish Council.

9. Finance and Audit

(a) The Effectiveness of the Internal Audit : Risk Assessment Schedule

The Clerk tabled a new Risk Assessment Schedule and explained that this would need to be reviewed each year and recommended this be done at the November meeting when the Precept is prepared. There were three items that were still to be put in place – extra signatories for the banking arrangements, a contract for the Clerk and a contract for the Allotment holders

It was resolved that the Council was satisfied with the current arrangements for Risk Assessment and that the outstanding items would be progressed by the end of the financial year. It was proposed by Cllr R Beeby and seconded by Cllr Mrs Lovett that the Schedule be accepted.

The Clerk said that she had now received the Notice of Conclusion of Audit but was asked to notify the Council that this year on the Annual Return the level of reserves exceeded twice the annual precept and for this reason had been queried. The Clerk explained that an amount of £1,515 (money raised from a village residents' appeal for the new Village Hall) was still in the current account and had yet to be spent causing the extra and that if we were to take this out we would be looking at a total more in line with our previous annual returns.

(b) Payment of Cheques

- (i) Chq. 428 for £37,187.58 was made payable to W R Bloodworth & Sons Ltd, Building Contractors, for Village Hall rebuild.
- (ii) Chq. 429 for £1,468.75 was made payable to Collinshallgreen, Structural Engineers for 4th Interim Fee Account for Village Hall rebuild.
- (iii) Chq. 430 for £235.00 was made payable to Collinshallgreen, Structural Engineers for 5th Fee Account for Village Hall rebuild.
- (iv) Chq. 431 for £49,246.60 was made payable to W R Bloodworth & Sons Ltd, Building Contractors, for Village Hall rebuild.

(c) Payments Received

- (i) Payment of £37,188.00 (inc. VAT) received from Big Lottery as at 9b(i).
- (ii) Payment of £35,906.00 (inc. VAT) received from Big Lottery as at 9b(ii-iv).
The balance of £15,044.35 being taken from the VAT refund to date of £18,824.24 and now currently standing at £3,779.89.

10. Councillor J Santoro

(i) Neighbourhood Watch

Over the last two months there had been a total of fifty-one crimes throughout the fourteen villages in our Police patch. Cllr Santoro had attended an interesting meeting where all Parish Councils had the opportunity to meet the Police and from this he understood that a budget of £200m is to be reduced to £145m though these cuts do not affect any of the front line services and staff. Due to the cuts the benefit to residents is that the Police will be on the streets where we want them to be. The Police are to give priority to communications from Parish Councils.

(ii) East Leake Health Centre

The Health Centre is joined on to the Library and the land that the premises are on is currently valued at £250,000 with the building valued at £400,000. Despite looking at other sites it has been decided that they should stay where they are. The Library wants to continue with the same arrangement that they have at present in that they do not pay any rent. The Primary Care Trust that own it may be disbanded in 2012/13 and are not enthusiastic about the project but have been invited to the next meeting in October. So far two private firms have shown an interest and one is preparing a drawing. A new Health Centre would cost £3m.

11. Correspondence

- (a) NCC had written reminding Parish Councils that anyone wanting to install Christmas decorations would need to apply for a Seasonal Decorations Licence. Agreed that this did not apply to Rempstone this year.
- (b) NCC had written requesting any areas of problem locations for gully emptying and cleansing that required attention. Four were identified – two at the crossroads, one on the Wymeswold Road and one outside the Village Hall – that were to be reported.
- (c) An invitation had been received from RCAN to the Town and Parish Council Forum on Community Partnership to be held on 21st September. Cllr. R Beeby said he would consider attending this.
- (d) NCC were intending to investigate some environmental weight limits and it was agreed that Wysall Lane should be submitted for consideration.

12. Any Other Business (from Councillors)

- (a) Once again complaints had been received about dog fouling on the Wysall Lane. The dog warden was to be notified.
- (b) Overhanging branches to footpaths were causing trouble and it was agreed that an informal word with the landowner/householder was the best approach.
- (c) In respect of the Village Hall Management Development Team it was noted that the weekly Tuesday meetings were being very productive.
- (d) The oak public footpath sign at the top of School Lane has been down for some weeks and requires repair. It was agreed to notify the Rights of Way Officer.
- (e) Regarding the area alongside the Old Wall that had been suggested for inclusion in the 2010 Small Environmental Improvement Scheme it was agreed to consider this for 2011.
- (f) Leaf Minor has been identified on the horse chestnut tree near to the bus stop and NCC are monitoring this. Horse chestnut trees at the Manor House also appear to be affected.
- (g) We are now officially looking for a new village webmaster. Advertisements would be placed in the village and on the website but it was suggested that word of mouth is a good medium.
- (h) It was reported that the BT telephone box is now looking tatty and has broken panes. It was agreed that we wish to keep the box but that BT should be notified to repair it.

13. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 15th November 2010 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: _____