

Whatton in the Vale Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday August 10, 2009, at the Jubilee Hall, Whatton in the Vale at 7.30pm

Coun. Gregg Redford (Chairman)	
Couns. Ray Dawson	Ernest Parsons
Vikki Harper	Barbara Harris
Carole Key	Malcolm Seagrave

Also in attendance: The clerk Mike Elliott, Notts County Council member Coun. Martin Suthers and Rushcliffe Borough Council member Coun. Mrs Jackie Marshall.

1. **Apologies** There were none.
2. **Declarations of Interest** There were none.
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on June 29, 2009**, were accepted as circulated and signed by the chairman.
4. **Open session for members of the public, limited to 15 minutes**
No members of the public were present.
5. **Clerk's report**
Allotments: The matter would be discussed later in the meeting.
It was agreed to suggest September 17 as the date for a meeting with Lynda Ogilvie of NALC to undertake Well-being training. A suggested time of 6.00pm would be put forward.

6. **Planning Matters** **Planning Applications**

09/01088/FUL Mrs L Bateman; Single storey side extension; Cedarwood, Burton Lane. No objection
 09/01096/FUL Mr and Mrs A Smith; Livestock building; Fox Vane, School Lane. No objection
 09/01203/VAR Mr N Bajwa; Variation of condition 1 of planning permission 07/01082/COU to allow opening on Sundays and Bank Holidays 10am til 4pm; Elton Road Farm, Grantham Road. No objection

Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions

09/00967/FUL Mr P Rogers; Single storey front and rear extensions, double garage; 8 Belvoir Close. Grant Permission
 09/01096/FUL Mr and Mrs A Smith; Livestock building; Fox Vane, School Lane. Grant Permission

7. **Playing Field / Play equipment**

The chairman gave a report in which he said that Aslockton Parish Council and Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council had signed a Deed of Dedication on May 10, 2006. One affect of the Deed was to create a charitable trust and to appoint Aslockton Parish Council and Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council ("the Councils") as the sole trustee.

The councils undertook in Clause 4 (5) of the Deed to secure the registration of the Trust with the Charity Commission in accordance with the Charities Act 1993. As far as the chairman could determine no such application for registration had been made. This was clearly an issue for the Councils, not the Playing Field Committee and the councils might wish to resolve this oversight. The clerk was asked to discuss the mater with the Aslockton Parish Council clerk Amanda George and to organise a sub-committee to be established between the two councils and for it to be given executive powers to act.

The council discussed the matter of land adjacent to 1 Dark Lane on which two ash trees stand and which were, it was alleged, causing damage to the adjacent property. The council accepted the land had always been felt to be part of the playing field and although the final step to officially accept it was still to be confirmed the council accepted it was a matter for their insurance to deal with.

Coun. Mrs Harris reported that discussion had been held with Rushcliffe Borough Council in regard to a possible grant towards a project to provide additional play equipment. It was understood the Borough Council had £59,000 available for schemes but this would be available for calling on by all parishes.

The chairman said all tickets for the Help the Heroes event on the playing field had been sold.

8. **Correspondence**

Spirita Housing, Nottingham (successor of Rushcliffe Borough Council), wrote in regard to empty properties and elderly residents and their letting policy which would be discussed at a Rushcliffe Borough Council and Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire parish council forum on September 29. The chairman said he would attend. The council agreed to support where possible the Rushcliffe Borough Council 'The Big Picture' project but felt it was not able to offer a suitable event at which its travelling Roadshow could attend.

Mrs D Allen wrote in regard to the state of gardens etc at 20 Green Walk and the clerk was asked to contact Rushcliffe Borough Council again. Notts County Council confirmed the Footpath 18 Modification Order.

9. Environment including grass cutting

The chairman presented a comprehensive report on the verge and green maintenance work in the village, saying that for two years the council had maintained at its own cost a number of verges and the Green Walk 'Green'. As a result of Rushcliffe Borough Council undertaking to maintain the Green to the extent of 12 cuts a year, the capacity could now be used to maintain the eastern verge of Dark Lane.

Coun. Redford said with the council accepting the additional cutting areas virtually all the verges in the parish would be maintained by a combination of residents, adjacent land owners and the parish council. The most notable exceptions would be Granby Road, a small portion of Manor Lane close to the A52 and the A52. The chairman said the additional work would cost around £680 per year and this could mean a 6 per cent increase in the precept for 2010-2011.

The council agreed to adopt the proposals as included in the scheme submitted to the meeting and attached to the minutes.

Coun. Parsons raised the subject of road surfacing work and said he was disappointed that Conery Lane and Conery Gardens were still not in a programme while in other villages work seemed to be put underway. He said it was in the region of 30 years since anything was done on the two areas of the village and residents were expressing very strong concerns over the state of the surface of the roads in the two areas.

Coun. Martin Suthers agreed the matter had been raised with and by him several times. He could not explain how the work load of the Highways Department was organised. The clerk was asked to write to Coun. Richard Jackson, the portfolio holder for transport, and express the concerns of residents and the council on the current situation and to send a copy of the letter to all members.

The question of allotments in the parish was discussed with the clerk saying a resident had written to ask why there was no provision in the parish. Further contact was to be made with Rushcliffe Borough Council as to possible use of land at the end of Azimhur Road and to ask if they had reached any decision.

10. Footpaths

Couns. Redford and Seagrave were to carry out a survey of the footpaths and it was agreed the written report be then sent to the Notts County Council Rights of Way Officer.

11. Affordable Housing

The survey provided by Mr Miles King had shown there was insufficient demand for affordable housing in Whatton itself and had suggested that consideration could in the future perhaps be given to a joint scheme involving another village. The chairman said he understood there was at least one vacancy in the recently completed scheme at Aslockton.

12. Finance Members authorised payment of account as per the schedule presented.

Total expenditure for meeting	£901.00	£134.25	£1,035.25
Total expenditure to date in the current financial year	£5,233.68	£333.75	£5,567.43

13. Date for next meeting was confirmed for September 21, 2009.

14. Agenda Items for Next meeting Nothing was put forward.

The meeting was closed at 9.16pm.