

Whatton in the Vale Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday January 19, 2009, at the Jubilee Hall, Whatton in the Vale

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

Also in attendance: The clerk Mike Elliott and Coun. Martin Suthers (Notts County Council).

1. **Apologies** were received from Coun. Mrs Jackie Marshall (Rushcliffe Borough Council).
2. **Declarations of Interest** Coun. Malcolm Seagrave declared an interest in respect of issues concerning Church Walk.
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on December 8, 2008**, were accepted as circulated and signed by the chairman.
4. **Clerk's report**
Members had been given copies of the letter and survey form proposed by Mr Miles King from Trent Valley Partnership regarding the Shared Housing survey to be undertaken in the village and councillors agreed with the contents of the paperwork.

5. **Meeting open to the public** No matters were raised.

6. **Planning matters**

Planning Applications

08/02198/FUL Mr B Ward; Single storey rear extension; Gables Cottage, Burton Lane. No objection

Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions There were none.

Notice of Proposed Works to Trees

08/00142/CONARE Crown thin and reduce purple leaved plum; 17 Burton Walk. Rushcliffe Borough Council did not propose to make a Tree Preservation Order.

09/00001/CONARE Fell two pine trees; The Old Chapel, Chapel Walk. Rushcliffe Borough Council did not propose to make a Tree Preservation Order.

An e-mail had been received from Coun. Gregg Redford confirming that the White Villa Development appeal for the construction of 11 dwellings with access road on Dark Lane had been dismissed.

7. **Correspondence**

Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire and Rushcliffe Borough Council gave information on a Parish Council Forum event on development control and associated issues being held at the Civic Centre at West Bridgford on February 11. Members would contact the clerk if they wished to attend. Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire gave details of a Funding and More 2009 seminar they were holding on March 18 which Coun. Mrs Harper and the chairman said they would attend.

Vale Tree Care gave details of the proposed tree work at Ivy Row. It was agreed the work should proceed and that the clerk should write to all the residents concerned and advise them of what was planned. Vale Tree Care would also be written to and advised of the order for the work.

Rushcliffe Borough Council advised they were investigating the ownership of the land at Azimghur Road and would advise the council of the results of this. Members would contact the clerk if they had any suggestions to put forward on the Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils request for ideas for a training programme for 2009.

Rushcliffe Borough Council advised the Council Tax Base for 2009/2010 in Whatton was 374.

8. **Playing Field / Play equipment**

The chairman said the new play equipment was due to be installed in March. Coun. Mrs Barbara Harris had attended a Play Strategy meeting at Rushcliffe Borough Council but had found that there was no funding available for two years.

Coun. Redford also reported that the Whatton and Aslockton Playing Field Committee had received and agreed to a request to host an event later in the year to raise monies for a hospital in Selly Oak which housed injured servicemen.

9. **Environment**

Coun. Mrs Harris reported that notices on the Dark Lane community notice board appeared to be being stolen soon after being put on the board. The chairman sympathised with the people concerned but said he felt there was little that could be done.

Concerns were expressed about the growth of ivy on a tree on Grantham Road. Discussion took place in regard to the grass verge cutting on Grantham Road to the Dark Lane junction. The chairman said he realised this would be expensive and felt an approach should be made to Notts County Council to seek part payment from them. He pointed out that if the parish council took on that particular maintenance work it would mean the council were cutting almost all the grass in the village other than alongside the A52.

The clerk was asked to approach Rushcliffe Borough Council in relation to the possibility of them giving funds to the parish council in respect of the maintenance work on the green in Green Walk.

The condition of the verge on Burton Lane was criticised as was the condition of the kerbed verge at the junction of Burton Lane and Church Street.

10. Footpaths

After a discussion the council resolved that the clerk should write to Gareth Hudson, Rights of Way Officer, Nottinghamshire County Council in respect of Right of Way Whatton FP13 where the owner of the field had placed a water trough, which did not appear to have any regulating valve, next to the footpath and water from the trough was constantly flooding the footpath. Additionally comments would be conveyed to the officer on the Whatton to Aslockton Whatton FP15 where due to the use of motor vehicles, the footpath was heavily rutted and there was evidence of damage to the pillars of the bridge.

11. Campaign to Protect Rural England – ‘Stop the Drop’

Members discussed the CPRE request to take part in the campaign they were organising under the heading ‘Stop the Drop’ and agreed they should look around the village to see if there was a serious problem.

12. Finance

Members discussed the budget and council tax precept requirements for 2009/2010 and approved without change a report presented by the chairman. Members agreed to seek a precept on Rushcliffe Borough Council in the sum of £10,705, the same figure as in the current financial year.

Member agreed to authorise payment of accounts as per the schedule presented.

13. Agenda Items for Next meeting

Members raised no items for discussion at the next parish council meeting on March 2.

Coun. Seagrave left the meeting during the following discussion involving Church Walk. A copy letter from Mr Robert Hartley, that had been sent to Notts County Council, had been received by the clerk. It complained on the amount of vehicular traffic using the footpath, brought about in the main, Mr Hartley said, because of the result of the utilisation of fields as paddocks on the other side of the river. There was also mention of the fact that the Borough Council’s refuse lorry reversed up the footpath. An email from the Notts County Council Highways Department said Church Walk was not adopted and therefore they had no responsibility for its maintenance or upkeep over control over reinstatement works.

The clerk was asked to seek advice from the Rushcliffe Borough Council solicitor as to what further action the parish council could take and to ask for help in being able to trace the owner of the land in question. Comment was made on the possibility of the parish council undertaking the stoning of the footpath.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.