

## Whatton in the Vale Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday March 2, 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) and two members of the public.

1. **Apologies** There were none.
2. **Declarations of Interest** Coun. Malcolm Seagrave declared an interest in relation to Church Walk and Couns. Mrs Harris and Ernest Parsons declared an interest in regard to the village hall funding application.
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on January 19, 2009**, were accepted as circulated and signed by the chairman
4. **Clerk's report** The printed Shared Housing Needs Survey report has been provided ready to go out with the next newsletter.

5. **Meeting open to the public**

Standing Orders were suspended at 7.35pm.

The council heard comments from two residents who were concerned over problems being caused by teenagers using the play area site in the village, causing a nuisance by shouting and swearing at all times of the day and night. The complaint was made that the siting of the new equipment had been wrong, particularly because older children were often to be seen using the facilities meant to be for children aged under six. Vandalism was also a problem. Police had been called to the area but very little had been done to combat the problem.

Concerns were expressed by the residents at the lack of police action when they did respond to calls.

Notts County Council member Coun. Martin Suthers said the residents and the council should ensure they continued to call the police and ask them to log the complaints being made.

Other points raised by the residents included the fact that a large amount of tree cuttings had been placed alongside Manor Lane and the non delivery of the parish council news sheet to some homes.

Standing orders were reinstated at 7.55pm.

6. **Planning matters**

**Planning Applications**

09/00121/FUL Miss Flounders; Two storey side extension; 4 Azimghur Road. No objection

During the next item Coun. Seagrave declared an interest and left the meeting.

09/00233/FUL Mr D Stokoe; Two storey side extension, pitched roof to garage; The Orchard, Church Walk. No objection

**Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions**

08/02007/FUL Mr Penniston-Hill; Vehicular access with timber gates (max 1.8m high); Scylla House, Grantham Road. Grant Permission

08/02074/FUL Mr G Tate; Two storey side extension, single storey front and rear extensions, porch. Grant Permission

08/02198/FUL Mr B Ward; Single storey rear extension; Gables Cottage, Burton Lane. Grant Permission

**Notice of Proposed Works to Trees**

09/00014/CONARE Kathleen Danby; 3A Conery Lane. Rushcliffe Borough Council did not propose to make a Tree Preservation Order in regard to proposed works to trees.

7. **Correspondence**

An email from Mr Gavin Vallance originally sent to the clerk at Aslockton Parish Council in regard to allotments had been forwarded to Whatton. The clerk was asked to respond to the writer to say there were no allotments in the parish.

Rushcliffe Borough Council queried the matter of Green Walk maintenance and the clerk was asked to respond by confirming the parish council currently carried out the mowing of it. A letter from the Information Commissioner's Office, advising of the new Freedom of Information scheme, had been responded to by the clerk and he had registered the council's approval and acceptance.

The chairman said he would hope to be able to attend the Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils training for councillors and clerks event at Thurgarton on March 24.

During the next item Couns. Mrs Harris and Ernest Parsons declared an interest and left the meeting.

A letter was received from Whatton Jubilee Hall seeking grant towards the £2,085 they needed to replace guttering on their building. The request was approved and £400 would be made available through a grant.

During the next item Coun. Seagrave declared an interest and left the meeting.

Rushcliffe Borough Council wrote in respect of the ownership and condition of the footpath between Church Street and the River Smite but members felt the information given was of little help. Aslockton Cranmers FC sought a grant for a scheme to improve their facilities at the ground they use at Orston. The council felt it could not agree to provide any financial help but wished the club success in their efforts to raise the necessary £300,000 for it.

Ulyett Landscapes Ltd advised of the new price of £125 per cut for the grass cutting contract renewal and members accepted this. Gareth Hudson responded to the council's comments on the condition of footpath FP15 and said he had arranged for the land to be treated with crushed stone. In respect of the overflowing water vale he had served a notice advising the owner remedial work needed to be carried out by March 17 or the County Council would undertake it and charge him.

An application for funding from Belvoir HeartBeat was referred to the next meeting to allow the clerk to obtain more information. Notts County Council said they were currently investigating their grass cutting work as it affected parish councils taking some of it over and would respond again shortly.

Central Networks confirmed they had noted that the parish council had taken over the dis-used phone kiosk near the village hall. The clerk and the chairman were to confer in respect of its re-painting.

Rushcliffe Borough Council apologies for the delay in regard to the query on the future of open land at Azimghur Road but promised early attention would be given to the matter.

#### **8. Playing Field / Play equipment**

The chairman reported on the installation of the new equipment for the Under 6's. It was agreed the clerk write to Insp. Jeff Haywood at Bingham Police Station and ask for stronger commitment and effective policing by his officers towards dealing with vandalism and hooligan as it was a problem there. The letter was also to mention similar problems at the railway station.

Coun. Mrs Key reported on the complimentary comments she had received in regard to the new equipment.

The chairman reported the new date for the fund raising effort for the Help the Hero's fund was August 23. It had been confirmed the event would include a cricket match between a combined side from Aslockton and Whatton against one from the TV soap serial Emmerdale.

#### **9. Environment**

The clerk was asked to write to Rushcliffe Borough Council in regard to the poor condition in the area of Green Walk and in particular to one property which was continually left to be overgrown. He was also asked to send a photograph of the property White Villa to underline the need for action to call on the owners to ensure the site was secure.

The chairman would look for a suitable siting of a dog bin on Green Walk and advise the clerk. The council agreed to order the bin from the Borough Council.

#### **10. Footpaths**

The clerk was asked to write to Gareth Hudson at Notts County Council in regard to the deteriorating condition of the North West pulpit on the bridge which was now found to be vibrating when anyone walked over it.

#### **11. Campaign to Protect Rural England – 'Stop the Drop'**

It was agreed to organise a litter pick day as part of the Campaign to Protect Rural England 'Stop the Drop' scheme. It would be held on May 30 with a starting point at the village hall at 1.00pm.

#### **12. Voluntary Help Scheme for the village**

A request from a resident for a voluntary help scheme in the village for any elderly or handicapped person who might need help during a period of emergency or bad weather was discussed and it was agreed that the council should support such a scheme. Coun. Mrs Harper would contact the resident and the clerk said he would be happy to work alongside the resident to assist in admin work for such a scheme.

#### **13. Finance** Members authorised payment of accounts as per the schedule presented.

The chairman reported on receipt of an account from Monster Play Systems in the sum of £12,325.63 for the new play equipment. There was a cheque for £3,250 from the Whatton and Aslockton Playing Field Committee and one for £3,750 was expected from Aslockton Parish Council. The clerk was asked to pay the account once the Aslockton cheque had been received.

#### **14. Agenda Items for Next meeting**

Members suggested further items for discussion at the next parish council meeting should be Quality Council Status and Parish Plan.