

Whatton in the Vale Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday November 2, 2009, at the Jubilee Hall, Whatton in the Vale at 7.30pm

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

Also in attendance: The clerk Mike Elliott and eight members of the public.

1. **Apologies** were received from Coun. Gregg Redford.
2. **Declarations of Interest**
There were none.
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on September 21, 2009**, were accepted as circulated and signed by the acting chairman.
4. **Open session for members of the public, limited to 15 minutes**
Standing Orders were suspended at 7.35pm.
Coun. Ernest Parsons read a statement to the meeting in regard to the condition of Conery Lane and Conery Gardens, as follows:

“A phone call was made by a resident of Conery Lane on September 13, 2008, to a Mr Chris Berry, Customer Services Officer, County Council Highways South and in reply, by letter he states that ‘having visited the site previously, there is no doubt that the condition of Conery Lane is far from perfect. Currently we are unable to resurface purely for cosmetic reasons and shortage of funds’.

“On October 1, 2008, a letter was received following inspection of the road conditions on Conery Lane and Conery Gardens. A statement followed to the effect that ‘We do try very hard to prioritise locations as best we can for repair so as to use our limited budgets as effectively as possible’.

“Following our parish council meeting of September 21, 2009, it was noted that a letter had been received from Nottinghamshire County Council. Councillor Richard Jackson outlined the position in regard to the requested maintenance of Conery Lane and Conery Gardens and said that there was no finance available for the work. Councillor Richard Jackson is the Portfolio Holder at the County Council for Highways. He said the problem was that the two stretches of highway required full resurfacing work, indicating that this would be a very costly exercise. Surface dressing would be much cheaper, but in this instance he did not think it appropriate.

“However, as if by magic funds have become available. Work is now scheduled for commencement on January 13, 2010. Conery Lane, Conery Gardens, part of the Old Grantham Road and additionally Orston Lane will be receiving treatment. Unfortunately no work will be undertaken to rectify any faults to footpaths or curbing.

“Persistence by Whatton in the Vale Parish Council and residents who have made contact directly with the Highways Departments and the help of officials from the Highways Improvement Department, under the direction of Mr Glenn Reid and the recommendations of Mr Paul Atkins, who has helped us in no uncertain terms to at last get approval for the lifting of the current roads, not just the surface treatment, followed by a rebuild of the roads mentioned. Also two residents of Conery Gardens have put in claims for damage to their cars’ suspension.

“One for around £500 and the other for £600. It is understood that both claims have been accepted.

“These road works will cause an amount of disruption to access and we would ask for your total cooperation so that the work can proceed with all haste once a start is made. Notification will be given regarding the parking of vehicles in various parts of the roads concerned at any one time.”

Residents raised various points on the report including the condition of the pavements and possible damage to sewage pipes. A vote of thanks was recorded to Coun. Parsons for his efforts to bring about the required work on the roads concerned.

Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.55pm.

5. **Clerk’s report**
There was nothing to report.
6. **Planning Matters**
Planning Applications
09/01744/FUL Mr J H Tate; Single storey front extension; 12 Dark Lane. No objection
09/01870/FUL Mr R Coulter; Single storey extension; Elmcote, School Lane. No objection
09/01876/FUL Mr P Loughna; Single storey extension following demolition of link block; White House, Conery Lane. No objection

Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions

09/01439/FUL Mr and Mrs Baddiley; Two storey rear extension and first floor side window, detached cycle store; 11 Azimghur Road. Grant Permission

Notice of Proposed Works to Trees

09/00100/CONARE Willow tree 25% crown reduction and crown lift; Frome House, Chapel Walk, Whatton in the Vale Conservation Area. Rushcliffe Borough Council did not propose to make a Tree Preservation Order and the work had been allowed to proceed.

7. Playing Field / Play equipment

Minutes of a meeting of Whatton and Alsockton Playing Field Committee, held on Wednesday October 21, 2009, were presented to the meeting.

8. Correspondence

Coun. Gregg Redford wrote in regard to various issues, for information for members. He said he had attended the Town and Parish Forum on Affordable Housing on September 29 but as the Housing Needs Survey in the village had not shown up any such need there was nothing major to report. He also reported that he and the clerk had met the Insurance Assessor in respect of the alleged damage caused by trees to a property adjacent to the playing field. He said he understood that irrespective of the status of the third party claim it was unlikely that the insurers would meet the cost of the management or removal of the trees.

Coun. Redford also reported on the recent Police Local Area Group meeting he and the clerk had attended at Bingham Police Station. Tackling anti-social behaviour in Bingham and Radcliffe was to be a main priority in the coming three months along with speeding traffic in the rural areas. He said he would be attending the Annual General Meeting of NALC at Epperstone.

A letter was received from Newark Area Internal Drainage Board confirming that it was to proceed with maintenance work on the watercourse of the Old River Smite. St John of Beverley Church, Whatton in the Vale made a request for financial assistance towards upkeep of churchyard. It was agreed the application should be considered at the time the council was preparing its budget for 2010/2011.

Rushcliffe Borough Council forwarded to the clerk a copy of its casual vacancy guidance paper. Rushcliffe Community Partnership advised of its Rushcliffe Community Awards Presentation Reception on November 11 at the British Geological Survey, Keyworth. Aslockton Parish Council wrote to confirm a meeting was being held to discuss the Play Partnership Scheme.

Nick Berry of Rushcliffe Borough Council said no decision had yet been made in respect of the land at Azimghur Road.

Rushcliffe Community Partnership advised of its Rushcliffe Supports in Bingham Community Open Event on Friday November 20 at Bingham Methodist Church Hall.

Rushcliffe Borough Council wrote in respect of the playing field land at Whatton and Aslockton and confirmed Aslockton and Whatton had now been entered as joint owners in the necessary paperwork. The clerk said he had a copy of the Community Engagement Statement prepared by the council chairman and which had been circulated to all members.

Coun. Gregg Redford had provided a briefing note regarding Playing Field Trustee and this had been circulated to members.

9. Environment No matters were raised.

10. Footpaths No further matters were raised.

11. Finance Members authorised payment of accounts as per the schedule presented.

Total expenditure for meeting	£860.20	£118.50	£978.70
Total expenditure to date in the current financial year	£7,227.14	£610.50	£7,837.64

12. Date for next meeting was confirmed for December 14, 2009.

13. Agenda Items for Next meeting

Members did not suggest further items for discussion at the next parish council meeting

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.