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Groby Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Groby Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on
Monday, 5th December 2005 at the Parish Chamber, Leicester Road, Groby

Cou/260/05-06 Present

Members: Cllr Lock (Acting Chairman), Cllrs Dickson, Yarwood, Beck, Purves, Cartwright, Marvin, Hodges, Coates, York, Emerson, Batty, Hollick, Kennard & Jones.
The Clerk.

Cou/261/05-06 Apologies for absence

Cllr Hagan, Cllr Emmerson. Cllr Batty for lateness.

Cou/262/05-06 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Dickson – Groby Parish Residents Group, Bluebell Drive Amenity Area, Parish Plan, correspondence.
Cllr Yarwood – Any matters within correspondence.
Cllr Beck – Personal interest Druck, Allotments, any matters in correspondence.
Cllr Cartwright – Personal interest: Neighbourhood Watch, Parish Plan,
Cllr Kennard – Parish Plan, any matters within correspondence.
Cllr York – Car parks, allotments and anything re land at Victoria cottages.
Cllr Lock – None.
Cllr Coates – None.
Cllr Purves – None
Cllr Jones – None
Cllr Marvin – None
Cllr Hodges – Public open spaces – particularly Stamford recreational area.

Cou/263/05-06 Resolved that the minutes of the Meeting held on 21st November 2005, copies of which had been previously circulated to all members, be signed as a true record subject to the following amendments:

Minute Cou/245/05-06 p.128 Name mis spelt. ‘Emerson’ should read ‘Emmerson’

Cou/247/05-06 -p.128 Cllr Hodges was omitted from the record of declarations of interest. The following should be added to the list, ‘Cllr Hodges - Public open spaces – particularly Stamford recreational area’. Delete Cllr Kennard entry in ‘declarations of interest’ as he was not present at the meeting.

Cou/254/05-06 – p131. The insert the following after last para ‘Cllr Marvin asked was the cost of the grounds operatives time accounted for as part of the fees? And was it necessary to have two staff present for internments.’

Cou/254/05-06 p.132 para 5 ‘Delete paragraph and insert ‘If persons had previously lived in the village, consideration would be made on an individual basis.’

Cou/256/05-06 p.132 para 2, last line – insert ‘parish’ before ‘plan’.

Cou/264/05-06 Matters Arising

Minute Cou/090/05-06 Speed Limit on A50: Cllr Hodges reported that Cllr Batty had received a response from the police indicating that they would a 40mph speed limit in the Bradgate Hill Area. It was noted that Cllr Purves should have received a

response as she raised the issue. It was agreed that the clerk should ask that a formal response should be sent to the Parish Council Office.

Minute Cou/250/05-06 Public participation: It was noted that Cllr Batty had taken up the matter with Environmental services at HBBC.

Matters Arising from the Clerk: Cou/251/05-06 p.130 Payment of Accounts: Cllr Marvin had been provided with the breakdown of the fuel and telephone costs.
Cou/250/05-06 p.130 Public Participation: The matter was being looked into.
Cou/252/05-06 p.131 Planning:0991/FUL/03 3 Jacqueline Rd: HBBC had been notified that Cllrs Batty and Dickson wished to attend the site visit when it takes place. No site visit had taken place to date.
Cou/256/05-06 p.132 Parish Plan: Copies of the Burbage Village Design Statement had been placed in the planning file and in the file in the foyer. A copy had also been sent to Cllr Cartwright at his request.
Cou/258/05-06 p.132 Correspondence: All items listed had been actioned.
Cou/258/05-06 Special Budget Meeting: It was noted that the Clerk had spoken to HBBC and they had agreed that the Council could submit its precept details on 10th Jan. It was noted that the Special Budget Meeting would take place on 9th January in the Council Chamber.

The meeting adjourned for Public Participation at 7.32 p.m.

Cou/265/05-06 Public Participation

There were no questions from the members of the public who were present.

The meeting reconvened following public participation at 7.33 p.m.

Cou/266/05-06 Police Report: It was noted that PC Ned Kelly was unable to attend. Cllr Cartwright gave the crime figures for the period 1st November to 30th November in his capacity as secretary of Groby Neighbourhood Watch.

<u>Groby</u>		<u>Field Head</u>
Dwelling Burglary	3	
Burglary	3	
Robbery	0	
Theft of vehicle	2	1
Theft from vehicle	0	1
Vehicle damage	2	
Non Domestic Assault	2	

Total Number of crimes: 22. (10 Other.)

Total number of crimes 4. (2 Other)

N.B 'Other' relates to crimes that do not directly affect homeowners.

Cllr York expressed concern in the apparent increase in dwelling burglaries.

Joint Action Group: Cllr Cartwright attended the meeting in his capacity as Neighbourhood Watch Secretary and reported back to the Council. Cllr Cartwright reported that, Inspector Sharp had said that the merger of the existing village community panels into one 'Joint Action Group' (JAG) **Neighbourhood Policing** Inspector Sharp told the meeting that from 2nd December 2005 in policing terms, areas are to be identified as 'Neighbourhoods'. These will be:

Glenfield
Markfield, Field Head and Stanton Under Bardon
Groby and Ratby

Each neighbourhood will be policed by a team of designated officers and led by a team sergeant. This team will include the existing known local officer(s). Groby and Ratby - PC 918 Ned Kelly and PC 4344 Annette Dowey. **Community Consultation:** It was noted that Inspector Sharp had explained that local issues and problems would be identified by consultation with the respective community neighbourhoods and their concerns prioritised. Actions undertaken by the JAG would be based on these

priorities, incorporating a partnership approach towards resolution. Fifty random members of the public from each neighbourhood will be asked to complete a brief questionnaire listing in order of priority areas of most concern to them from the following; Youths/Anti-social behaviour, Criminal damage, Violent Crime, Vehicle crime or Burglary. He also explained that the quality of the Groby Parish Plan was excellent and would be used as well as the random consultation in Groby to determine its needs. Members of the group were asked to complete the questionnaire from their perspective. **Crime reducing:** It was noted that core crime had reduced significantly in most areas compared to last year. Generally speaking, low-level anti-social behaviour seems to be more of a problem than actual crime. In relation to Groby Inspector Sharpe had said that their had been a significant increase in reports of anti-social behaviour over the past twelve months. **Discussion:** The main focus of discussion was based around the lack of provision for youths, and the anti-social behaviour associated with young people. A clearer picture of whether or not this is a priority for each of the neighbourhoods will be revealed once analysis of the consultative questionnaires is complete.

Community Support Officer: It was noted that Groby Parish is to get its own Community Support Officer (CSO) in the next 4 to 6 weeks time. It was noted that this person would be Lee Flavel. It was noted that the remit of a CSO includes: dealing with nuisance crime, minor crime, follow up on reported crime (currently unable to take statements for burglary), issue parking tickets, but not other motoring offences ie. speeding, to give crime prevention advice. It was noted that the primary role was to act as a visible deterrent.

It was noted that HBBC had recruited 3 wardens to deal with litter, dog-fouling etc under the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Act. It was noted that the officer covering Groby Parish would be Jane Green.

Cou/267/05-06 Borough Councillors Report: Cllr Batty reported the following to the Council. i) that HBBC had adopted a constitution. ii) that it appeared that HBBC may not want to maintain rural car parks any longer. It was noted that this could affect the car park outside the village hall if HBBC withdraw from the maintenance agreement. Cllr Batty suggested that the proposed transfer of car parks to Parish Council's could potentially mean that Groby Pool could become a pay and display car park. iii) that Cllr Batty had reported the spate of fly tipping to Environmental Services at HBBC. It was noted that they have jurisdiction to call on private land owners to clear up land. The matter is being investigated. iv) that residents had expressed disappointment at the Christmas lights in Groby village in comparison to surrounding village displays. Cllr Batty suggested a Groby at Christmas project for future years. It was noted that funding is available for such initiatives. Cllr Batty praised the displays at Hinckley and Market Bosworth and recommended people to visit for themselves. v) It was noted that HBBC had adopted a town centre master plan and that this would form the template for future consultations. vi) Cllr Batty referred to the HBBC substantial contribution towards maintaining Markfield Leisure Centre and towards its' proposed expansion and HBBC stated policy that Markfield Leisure Centre was considered as a "satellite" of HBBC's provision of leisure services. Cllr Batty voiced the opinion that whilst he would very much praise Markfield Parish Council and the Leisure Centre Committee for their success, he felt that such investment should also have been made in Groby which has been sadly neglected in the last 25 years of rapid growth. vii) that the Lib Dem group on HBBC had notified members of their intention to monitor the business of all Parish Councils and to requisite minutes and tapes if necessary.

Cou/268/05-06 County Councillors Report: Cllr Sprason reported the following to Council: i) that the A50 Toucan Crossing consultation period would be starting shortly. ii) Cllr Sprason requested that copies of the Council's response to the plans for a bus stop outside 308 Leicester Rd be copied to him by email. iii) that Cllr Sprason had been out on the beat with the police in the area on 30th November between 3pm and midnight. It was also reported that a speed camera van will be regularly visiting the Field Head area from now on.

Cou/269/05-06 Payment of Accounts

<i>Payee</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Amount £</i>
Various	November salaries	4840.15
Inland Revenue	Tax & National Ins	1,393.65

Lyco Direct Ltd	Replacement bulbs for Xmas lights	38.59
HBBC	Office & Cemetery Rates	229.00
Granite	Rose plaques	117.00
D Hulett	Tree felling - Cowpen Spinney	1,200.00
Konica Minolta	Quarterly Assignment & Photocopies	141.24
S Beck	Groby in Bloom -plants	16.00
R Palma	Reimbursement for computer software	21.37
MAP Waste	Waste collection	38.78
J Smith	Groby in Bloom -bulbs	3.71
John Smith & Son	Memorial tree	19.99
Total		£8,059.48

The payment of accounts was proposed by Cllr Kennard, seconded by Cllr Coates. And unanimously agreed.

Cou/267/05-06 Planning Applications

Members considered and commented on planning applications as set out below:

<i>Reference No</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Comments</i>
05//00366/COU	Allotment Gardens, Newtown Linford Lane	Change of use of land to permanent residential	No further progress to date.
05/01152/FUL	14 Queensmead Close	Extension And Alteration to Dwelling	The Council are sorry to say they are unable to comment on this application as the plans do not show the existing ground floor plan. It is requested that this be forwarded so that due consideration can be given to this application
05/01172/ TPO	19 Markfield Road	Works to Tree	No Objection subject to the work being carried out in accordance with BS 3998 and there being no TPO

05/01079/TPO	5 Chestnut Walk	Work to Tree	No Objection subject to the work being carried out in accordance BS3998 and no TPO
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31 & 33 Farr Wood Close Planning applications.

Cllr Paul Lock. Declared a prejudicial interest in this item. As Cllr Purves was just reporting back, Cllr Lock did not withdraw from the meeting. He did not comment during the discussion.

Resolved: That having re-examined the documents available no further action to be taken.

Leicester County Council Consultation: regarding the building of a 600 mm height granite wall round the footway edging the grass at Groby Library.

The Council discussed the following at length.

Recommendation: 'that no wall be built on this site due to concerns regarding litter and the visibility splay. However if the plans are to go ahead, it was recommended that there should be a better visibility splay and the topping stones should be peaked and not flat. In summary it was requested that the LCC be asked to resubmit the plans taking these points into account.'

A vote was taken. For 12. Against 2. The motion was carried.

Resolved: Clerk to submit the above as the Council's formal response.

117/118 bus routes and bus stop outside 308 Leicester Road: Concerns were expressed that the suggested plans do not address the current safety situation as the bus stop is immediately in front of the entry/exit of the A50 service road. The location is not suitable as it is on the dividing ground between the A50 and the service road, does not appear to be sufficient area for a bus to safely pull in and exit especially if a vehicle is endeavouring to enter the slip road.

Resolved: Clerk to request a site meeting with Mr Tony Kirk and Cllr Sprason to address the current safety situation of all Field Head bus stops.

Rural Community Council. Resolved: Clerk to complete the Questionnaire

Blaby District Council Local Development Framework: This consultation document asked for a questionnaire to be completed. Cllr Purves advised she would pass her comments to the Clerk so she could respond on receipt of further comments. **Clerk to collate and submit Council's comments.**

Hinckley and Bosworth Housing Needs Survey: Cllr Purves reported that this was a lengthy document which primarily highlighted the need for affordable housing both in the rented and private sector and that the Borough appeared to be behind in fulfilling this quota. **Resolved: Members to let the Clerk know their views on the document so that a response could be forward.**

Affordable Housing: It was agreed to accept the invitation from Richard Windley, Leicestershire Rural Housing Enabler to attend the Council meeting on 16th Jan to receive a presentation on a Housing Needs Survey.

Field Head: It was noted that an enforcement notice had been issued on 29th November by Charnwood Council for the unauthorised signage, the additional entrance and the building works without Listed Building Consent. It was noted that failure to obtain Listed Building Consent was actually a criminal offence. Cllr Batty told members that on the 30th November a letter was sent to a resident informing that there had been an application for retrospective listed building permission. **Action: Cllr Batty to write to Council formally to ask for a deferral.** It was noted that Cllr Batty and Cllr Dickson would attend a site visit with Charnwood Council on Thursday 8th December at 9.30am.

Cou/268/05-06 Groby In Bloom – Council agreed the following recommendations from the committee.

- 1) The removal of most of the wooden flowerbeds and ground planting with shrubs, roses and annuals be implemented. Recommendation: that this goes ahead at the discretion of the Groby Parish in Bloom Group providing the necessary checks are also carried out in relation to Utility services.
- 2) Sacheverell Way Roundabout Members will have noted that the hedges on this roundabout have now been removed as they were deemed by Leicestershire County Council to be a hazard. Recommendations: That discussions take place with David Wilkinson (District Engineer) regarding the chevrons. That a design be put to members, at the January meeting, for a Village sign to be placed in the centre of the roundabout. That the boxes be removed from round either side of the millennium stone and a half moon granite wall be constructed to the rear and sides of the stone (height approx one foot) with an infill of plants
- 3) Concrete Flower containers. It is proposed to move some of these on the Leicester Road so that they are placed in groups to give a better visual impact. Recommendation: That this goes ahead at the discretion of the Groby Parish in Bloom Group providing permission is agreed by Leicestershire County Council.
- 4) That the 6,000 spring bulbs from Hinckley and Bosworth Council be planted down Sacheverell way.

It was noted that the Council's insurance policy should be consulted in order to ascertain if the millennium stones and a number of other items are covered.

Resolved: Agreed. That the Groby in Bloom Committee should pursue the recommendations but not to detriment of the committee's accounts.

Cou/269/05-06 Unauthorised Tipping on Parish Land: It was agreed to discuss this matter in closed session.

Cou/270/05-06 Butlers Field: It was noted that there was no formal agreement with the Council allowing a third a party onto the land to cut the grass at Butlers Field. It was also noted that previously machinery had been left on the land potentially posing a public liability threat.

The Council discussed the following resolution:

'That no third party may enter onto Parish Council land with regard to do any work without a formal arrangement being in place with the Council.'

Proposed by Cllr Hodges. Seconded by Cllr Beck. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Cllr Hodges suggested that the Council revisited the issue in 6 months time.

Cou/271/05-06 Bus Service – Estate Roads: It was noted that this was potentially a contentious issue. The Council discussed the number of potential safety issues in relation to the buses on these estate roads including speeding vehicles, parked vehicles, size of buses etc.

Resolved: Clerk to make strong representation in writing to the County Council and Arriva regarding the timetable, service and speed of vehicles in the area. And to request a full survey and or consultation project to take place.

Cou/272/05-06 A50 Road Safety Audit: It was noted that the police were willing to support a 40mph limit in the Bradgate Hill area. It was noted that in recent years there had been an increase HGV's, pollution, and speeding motorists on this stretch of road. It was noted that the 'road narrow' signs had been taken down and that this was a concern. **Action: Clerk to write to LCC and the Police requesting a full road safety audit.**

Cou/273/05-06 Correspondence: It was agreed that the Clerk would bring forward for discussion the correspondence which needed immediate Council decision.

16265	RE: Sponsorship for funding booklet – Groby CC/Brookvale	Declined. Action Clerk.
16267	RE: Request for website link	Agreed. Action Clerk.
16266	RE: Harvey Ingram	Agreed to sign transfer.

- 16274 RE: Harvey Ingram: Quarry Lease Clerk to query lack of consultation.
16277 RE: Leics Constabulary – Chief Constable’s meeting. Cllr Batty & Cllr Cartwright to attend.
16282 RE: Persimmon.- Clerk updated the Council on the latest developments.

All other items of correspondence were deferred to the meeting of the 19th December.

All other items on the agenda were deferred to the next meeting of the Council on 19th December 2005.

The Council moved into closed session at 9.50pm.

The meeting closed at 10.20 p.m.

Signed Date
Chairman