

*(These minutes are published subject to approval by the Parish Council and to any amendments that will be recorded in the minutes of the Meeting at which they are approved).*

## **Groby Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting of Groby Parish Council held at 7.00 pm on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2005 at the Parish Council Chamber, Leicester Road, Groby.**

### **Cou/367/04-05 Present.**

Members: Cllr Hagan (Chairman), Cllrs. Batty, Beck, Coates, Emmerson, Hodges, Hollick, Jones, Kennard, Lock, Marvin, Purves, Yarwood and York.

Clerk Mr J H Flower. Martin Cartwright, Chairman of the Parish Plan Steering Group. Members of the Public.

### **Cou/368/04-05 Apologies for Absence.**

Cllrs. Dickson and Allison. Borough Councillor Collins. County Councillor Fraser. PC Kelly.

### **Cou/369/04-05 Declarations of Interest.**

Personal interests were declared by:

Cllr. Yarwood – Agenda Item 18.

Cllr. Beck – Allotments (Husband Allotment Holder and Allotment Society Committee Member).

Cllr. Lock – Agenda Item 16.

Cllr. Emmerson – Allotments and Planning Application re land adjacent 30 Markfield Road.

Cllr. Kennard – Parish Plan.

Cllr Hodges – Public Open Space specifically Stamford Drive.

Cllr. Coates – Agenda Item 18 (Near Neighbour).

Cllr. York – Allotments (Holder and Allotment Society Committee Member). Planning Application re land adjacent 30 Markfield Road.

Cllr. Batty – All items on the Agenda as Chairman of the Groby Parish Residents Group, Agenda Item 17 re 14 Stamford Drive and Agenda Item 18.

### **Cou/370/04-05 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2005.**

**Resolved that the minutes of the Meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2005, copies of which had been previously circulated to members, be agreed as a true record subject to the following amendments:**

**Minute Cou/350/04-05 – Minutes of Meetings held on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2005, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2005 and 7<sup>th</sup> February 2005**– Add the words “**the Council**” before “**Meetings**” in the heading to the minute.

**Minute Cou/349/04-05 – Declarations of Interest** – Delete reference to “**Son**” in Cllr. Beck’s declaration.

**Minute Cou/353/04-05 – LANDshapes Presentation** – In sixth paragraph delete “**Local Heritage Group**” and insert “**Groby Heritage Group**”.

**Minute Cou/358/04-05 – Use of Quarry Playing Field** – In third paragraph delete the word “**other**” and insert the word “**some**”. In the fourth paragraph add in the second sentence after the word “**meeting**” “**on the terms and conditions for the permit for the Football Club**”.

**Minute Cou/361/04-05 – Mowing Equipment** – In the final paragraph, second sentence delete the word “**view**” and insert “**opinion**”.

**Minute Cou/364/04-05 – Planning Applications** - In the second paragraph, after Georgian in the eighth sentence delete the word “**doors**” and insert the words “**pillared doorways**” and at the start of the ninth sentence insert “**The Architect had suggested**”.

Cllr. Batty challenged why his submitted written amendments had not been accepted and entered into the record; the Chairman first pointed out that it was he, Cllr Batty himself, who deliberately chose to absent himself from the Meeting and Chamber, as recorded in the minutes. Despite that fact of his absence, the Chairman presented the documents to the Council for deliberation, and in particular making no comment, left members to validate for themselves what they felt regarding the issue of “Quality Parish Councils” as raised by the Councillor. The conclusion to that debate was members were satisfied with the original minute and democratically rejected the submission. Plainly perturbed by this contrary opinion to his, the Chair recommended to the Clerk that it be noted that “Cllr Batty wished for it to be recorded that he was not happy with the section of the minutes from the start of page 144 to the end before minute Cou/351/04-05 for reasons of accountability, openness and transparency.”

Cllr. Hollick joined the Meeting during the discussion on the above item of business.

**Cou/371/04-05 Matters Arising.**

**Minute Cou/350/04-05 Minutes of Meetings** - Cllr. Yarwood enquired when the minutes of the meeting of the Playing Field Committee that had met on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2005 would be available as he considered that there were matters that had been discussed at that meeting that needed to be considered by the Council. The Clerk gave an assurance that they would be available for the Council Meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2005.

**Minute Cou/351-04-05 – Matter Arising - Public Participation** – Cllr. Batty stated that due to Cllr. Dickson not being well they had been unable to meet with Mr Buckley. The meeting had now been rearranged for the next weekend.

**Minute Cou/351/04-05 – Matters Arising – Shrub Beds Beacon Field** – Cllr. Purves pointed out that she had omitted to say when reporting on the site meeting held with the residents that it had been pointed out that the paths were in need of renovation. The Clerk stated that he was aware of this and it would be a future capital programme item when the work to Marina/Castell Park had been completed.

**Minute Cou/355/04-05 – Notice of Motion Grounds Maintenance Staff** – The Clerk reported he had received a response from the staff concerned but suggested that as this involved staffing matters it be deferred to the end of the Meeting and dealt with in closed session.

**Minute Cou/361/04-05 – Mowing Equipment** – Cllr. Batty reminded members of the comments of Cllr. Allison concerning the review of the grounds maintenance operations and if the outcome was that this element of the work was contracted out would the purchase of a new unit now be the most cost effective solution. He referred to the decision to send £10,000 on a review and that it might result in contracting the works out and under the circumstances is not presumptive to look at purchasing new equipment and pre-empting the report that had been commissioned. The Chairman stated sometimes a decision had to be made and members had to use their best judgement. This was in any case a later item on the Agenda.

**Minute Cou/364/04-05- Planning Application land adjacent 30 Markfield Road** – Cllr. Coates referred to the decision at the Planning & Regulatory Committee held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2005 when permission for this development was granted. She did not think the formal notice had yet been received but expressed extreme unease that the residents views and the Parish Council’s views had not been taken into account when reaching a decision which was “noddled through” on the night. Cllr. Batty concurred with Cllr. Coates in that there were a lot of legitimate concerns, complaints and requests for amendments put in and he had been led to understand that the Planning Officer’s notes were not even available to members of the public on the night to see what objections had been addressed or how many objections had been notified to the Planning Authority. Cllr. Batty requested that the Council writes to the Planning Authority and requests a copy of the report so that it can be seen if the concerns were in fact put to the Committee. The Chairman suggested that this could also be a matter to discuss with Mr Reid when he visited the Council to discuss concerns over planning matters.

**Minute Cou/364/04-05 – Planning Applications** – Cllr. Beck said she had had a telephone from a resident asking what was happening to the piece of land known as “Klondyke” situated off Newtown Linford Lane as there were now caravans on the site that allegedly belonged to itinerants. The Chairman stated this would be discussed under Planning Applications later on the Agenda.

*The Meeting adjourned at 7.30 pm for Public Participation.*

**Cou/372/04-05 Public Participation.**

Mr Sherwin referred to the public open space at Blue Bell Drive, a matter he had raised on several previous occasions. He went on to say that despite the Council's previous decisions a resident had "stolen" an approximately four strip of land the length of his property from the public open space area and annexed it into his garden and property. Mr Sherwin asked what was the Council going to do about it. He felt it was the thin end of the wedge and opened the floodgates for other residents to do the same. He felt the Council had been dithering over this area for over twelve months and he was of the opinion that even if he Council said no to residents they did their own thing anyway.

The Chairman stated that the land in question was still in the ownership of Wilson's and it was therefore their responsibility to deal with this issue. The Clerk confirmed this.

Mr Lewis stated he was the resident from 23 Blue Bell Drive to whom Mr Sherwin had referred and the piece of land in question was the land at the side of his house. He had been to a couple Council meetings and on the last occasion a Parks Committee Meetings when this had been discussed and he had explained their proposal and were advised at the time it was not up to the Parish Council as it was not their land but had said it was fine in principle but it was impossible to say go ahead as it was not the Council's land. The person who did the majority of the speaking was Cllr. Batty and it was Cllr. Batty who had agreed in principle. What they had done was a temporary measure but they had thought the best thing to do was to take the boundary out, take some photos and bring it to the Parish Council for it to take an unbiased opinion.

The Chairman reminded Mr Lewis that it was not within the power of the Parish Council to give an opinion.

Mr Lewis accepted the Chairman's comment but stated that it was only last Saturday that he had realised the land had not been adopted. He accepted he should have checked and that it was his responsibility and he apologised for that.

The Chairman stated that it is alleged that an illegal act had taken place but it was not to do with the Parish Council.

Cllr. Batty stated that any discussions that took place, took place in the Chamber and he was sure that his colleagues in the Chamber will recall how strongly he spoke on this issue, at the time saying it was against the Parish Council's policy to give away any Parish Council land. He further said that it was not a matter for the Parish Council until it was adopted and also said it was a matter the gentleman should take up with Hinckley and Bosworth and with Wilson's, as it was a planning matter and we were being asked to adopt it as part of a Section 106 Agreement for which there is a deed plan. If the deed plan was not accurate the land could not be adopted. It was matter that should be sorted out with Wilson's and Hinckley and Bosworth as it was explained to Mr Lewis at the time. The only comments Cllr. Batty made were when Mr Lewis brought up an issue about security of his property when he had said that what ever steps Mr Lewis he needed to take regarding security on his own property was not a matter for the Parish Council.

The Chairman felt it necessary to intervene to stave tempers becoming overheated; he also had to remark to the resident that the insinuations being made towards a Member of this Council, were completely unacceptable.

Mr Sherwin referred to the history of this open space, the problems that had occurred and the time that it was taking for the Council to adopt it.

*The Meeting reconvened at 7.43 pm following Public Participation.*

**Cou/373/04-05 Police Report.**

In the absence of PC Kelly the Clerk reported the crime information as follows:

<i>Crime</i>	<i>Number- Groby</i>	<i>Number -Field Head</i>
Burglary – Dwelling	1	0
Burglary - Other	4	2
Robbery	0	0
Vehicle - Taking	1	1

Vehicle – Taking From	0	2
Vehicle - Damage	1	0
Non-Domestic Assaults	1	0
Other	22	0
<b>Total Crimes</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5</b>

PC Kelly was continuing to monitor the Village centre. The crimes for Groby in the previous month were 36.

The Chairman referred to the proposed meeting that was to be arranged with the local youth and stated this would be discussed in more detail later on the agenda under the item for the Parish Plan.

**Cou/374/04-05 Borough Councillors' Reports.**

There were no Borough Councillors' in attendance.

**Cou/375/04-05 County Councillor's Report.**

The County Councillor was not in attendance.

**Cou/376/04-05 Parish Plan.**

Mr Cartwright, Chairman of the Parish Plan Steering Group, provided an update on progress on the Groby and Field Head Parish Plan. A note of Mr Cartwright's presentation is attached at Appendix A to these minutes.

Members showed their appreciation for the work that had been done by Mr Cartwright with a round of applause.

Cllr. Batty felt that Mr Cartwright had not blown his own trumpet sufficiently in that the Groby and Field Head Parish Plan was going to be a model for future parish plans for other communities and the Rural Community Council had been very impressed with it. In fact the work of Mr Cartwright's achievement has spread so far and wide that ten days ago Charnwood MP Stephen Dorrell came specifically to meet Mr Cartwright to have a look at the Parish Plan and find out more about it. He came with one purpose in mind, to speak to Mr Cartwright and congratulate him on the work he had done on the Parish Plan.

The Chairman referred to the occasion when Mr Cartwright had accompanied Pc Kelly on a tour of duty within the Village and the subsequent meeting with the Police when it had been agreed to hold a meeting in the Village with the local youth. PC Kelly and Mr Cartwright had done the posters to advertise the Meeting and he had provisionally agreed that the Parish Council would meet the cost of the Village Hall hire and hoped that members would support that approach. The Meeting had been arranged for Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2005 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. All Parish Councillor's were invited and the Chairmen hoped as many as possible would attend although the meeting was primarily about hearing what the youth had to say.

Resolved that:

- i) Mr Cartwright be thanked for his report.
- ii) The Parish Council meet the cost of the Village Hall hire for the Meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> April 2005.

**Cou/377/04-05 Correspondence.**

The Clerk submitted a list of correspondence, copies of which had previously been circulated to members, for the action to be determined by the Council:

<i>Item No.</i>	<i>Received From</i>	<i>Summary of Contents</i>	<i>Action</i>
1	National Playing Fields Association	<b>Annual Subscription Renewal</b>	Renew at a cost of £25.
2	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council	<b>Liaison Meeting with Parish Council - 16th March 2005 at 6.00 pm at the Borough Council Offices</b>	Members to attend Cllrs. Hagan, Batty and Yarwood.  Agenda items to be forwarded to Hinckley and Bosworth: i) Concerns re the lack of consistency in the application of the Planning Regulations. ii) Borough Council's Charter and its implications for parishes. iii) Local Planning Authority's position with regard to unauthorised development of land. iv) Waste collection with specific reference to wheeled bin size and return of bins following collection. v) Policy on the enforcement of Section 106 Agreements
3	Martinshaw Primary School	<b>Request for a meeting with all interested parties to discuss the road safety issues arising out of the Council's proposals to relocate the Car Park on Quarry Playing Field.</b>	Cllrs. Lock, Jones and Kennard (Cllr. Beck Substitute) together with the Clerk to meet with the School to discuss the Council's proposals.
4	St. Philip & St. James Church	<b>Request for sponsorship.</b> A Flower Festival over the weekend of 2nd July 2005 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the ending of World War 2 is being held and local businesses are being requested to sponsor flowers for a window or part of a window in the Church.	A contribution of £25 agreed
5	Cllr. P Batty	<b>Groby Road Signs.</b> Incorrect position of Groby boundary marker on A50 at Bradgate Hill resulting from boundary changes between Groby and Field Head.	Agreed to write to Leicestershire County Council and request sign be moved together with the planter that is positioned at the sign at its current location.

Cllr. Beck declared a personal interest in item 3 as her son worked at Druck.

Cllr. Lock declared a personal interest in item 3 as he had two granddaughters who attended the School.

**Resolved that the actions set out in the above list be approved.**

The Clerk submitted a list of correspondence, copies of which had been previously circulated to members, detailing correspondence received/actioned by him for the period 15<sup>th</sup> February to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2005. The Clerk answered members' questions thereon.

Cllr. Batty referred to the correspondence on Blue Bell Drive and an anonymous letter that had been received referring to the encroachment onto the public open space that had been referred to in Public Participation. Cllr. Batty confirmed that four foot had been taken at one end which tapered down to nothing at the other end. His opinion was that the value of this piece of land at current land values was well over £10,000. It was not a neighbour dispute, it was not something that the Parish Council could directly deal with but it did directly involve the Parish Council because it will directly affect the section 106 deed and stop the Parish Council taking the site on. The course of action suggested was to write to Wilson's informing them of the situation and let them sort it out.

Another letter drew attention to the state of the central area that was being used for the playing of football.

The Chairman was concerned at the lack of progress with the adoption. The Clerk reminded members at the meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> February that three members had been nominated to help with the procurement of quotations for the upgrading works. Cllr. Hodges explained the reason for the delay and agreed to see the Clerk to obtain a copy of the specification. The Chairman asked this to be an item on the next agenda.

Cllr. Lock suggested a letter should go off to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council as they were responsible for enforcing the section 106 agreement. The Chairman agreed but suggested that this should be an item raised at the Liaison Meeting discussed under item 2 above.

Cllr. Batty referred to the section 106 in respect of Spinney Close and the fact that Hinckley and Bosworth had tried to fob the Parish Council off and had still not responded to say how they were going to enforce their section 106 Agreement on the Persimmon Site.

Cllr. Batty referred to a number of letters on the issue of trees and a letter from the Council's insurers asking that the tree survey work be completed by the end of May. The Clerk stated the County Council, who had been appointed to carry out the tree survey, would be starting work on Cowpen Spinney and the Mineral Line, which had been identified as the priority area, within the next two weeks. The Clerk also stated he had written to the insurers to explain the situation and inform them that the work may not be fully completed by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2005, and asking if this would have any implications for the renewal of the insurances.

Cllr. Batty expressed his concern that when a resident takes the trouble to write in with a concern or a complaint etc. members never get to find that out unless they wade through the list of correspondence received/actioned by the Clerk. Cllr. Batty went on to say that when a resident addresses a letter to the Parish Council, the resident would expect the Parish Council to see the letter. He asked what members thought the policy should be on this matter when a resident takes the trouble to write to the Parish Council. The Chairman responded by saying the Parish Council had a policy whereby the Proper Officer puts forward items for Appendix B (Correspondence for Action) and Appendix C (List of correspondence received/actioned by the Clerk) and Appendix B was a vast improvement on having nothing and members had the opportunity of going through it and raising issues. It was better to have the Clerk prioritise and deal with the correspondence than having a general mêlée. It has to be left to the judgment of the Clerk that was what he is paid for. Cllr. Purves view was that the information was available to members if they had a need to see it and would not want any more information being circulated. The Chairman reminded members that documents were being circulated by the Clerk and referred to a recent document that was 1575 words long amongst others. It was now almost impossible to read and absorb the current volume of documents being circulated.

Cllr. Batty referred to the latest correspondence from Cllr. Sprason. At this point the Chairman interrupted and stated that he did not wish Cllr. Batty to go through the letter, the document and been circulated to members who had had the opportunity to read it. Cllr. Batty clarified he was referring to letter 15688 and said it was the part of the letter where Mr Sprason was referring to protocols about not interfering with other divisions. The Chairman stated he felt sure Cllr. Batty would sort him out. Cllr Batty said it was not a question of him sorting him out, Mr Sprason came into this Chamber and deliberately misled this Council, it was minuted in December and he did not have the courtesy to apologise to this Council. At that point the Chairman stopped Cllr. Batty from speaking saying all members had had relevant document and did any member wish to comment. No member did.

**Resolved the list of correspondence received/actioned by the Clerk be noted.**

**Cou/378/04-05 Payment of Accounts.**

<i>Payee</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Amount</i>
		<b>£</b>
Harvey Ingram Owston	Land Registry Fee - Application for registration of Allotment Land Ratby Road	40.00
Various	February salaries	3,855.38
C Morris	February salary	93.60
MCE	Install, test & remove Christmas Tree Lights	185.06
Konica Minolta	Quarterly assignment charge & copies	147.02
Valuation Office Agency	Valuation Services - Car Park Quarry Playing Field	99.88
Harvey Ingram Owston	Professional charges - Portacabin Marina Park	1,028.13
WHA Ltd	Insurance renewal Toyota Truck	779.44
Anstey Building Supplies	Slabs/Cement/Sand/Ballast/Millwaste	62.39
ESPO	Stationery	6.29
CPRE	Annual Subscription	25.00
British Telecommunications Plc	Office/Cemetery bill	154.96
George Walker Ltd	Wood for trailer repair	22.33
Powergen	Cemetery bill	76.16
Parish Dog Warden Services	Dog Warden Services - February 2005	221.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£6,796.64</b>

The Clerk answered members' questions thereon.

**Resolved the payment of the above accounts be approved.**

**Cou/379/04-05 Use of Quarry Playing Field.**

Members considered a draft Permit for Use, copies of which had been previously circulated to members, in respect of the application of Groby Juniors Football Club to use a football pitch on a Sunday during the 2005/06 Season for one team playing in the Under 16s Leicester Youth League.

Members discussed at some length the conditions of use and a number of amendments were suggested in order to clarify the meaning and intention of the relevant clause/condition etc. Cllr. Batty raised the issue of the construction works to the Car Park when the Lease was finalised with Druck which could require access at weekends to be restricted and could affect the availability of the Playing Field. He felt this was something that at least the Football Club should be made aware so they could discuss it with the League to enable them to make alternative arrangements if the situation should occur. The Chairman asked if for what ever reason the Quarry Playing Field was out of use would it be feasible, would it be acceptable and would it be practicable to use with the Parish Council's permission to move down to Castell. Cllr. Batty stated that the pitch would not be marked out and there would be no changing facility, that was why they were using the changing facilities at Martinshaw School.

**Resolved that the draft Permit for Use be approved subject to the following amendments:**

**SPORT/EVENT: Playing of football matches in the Under 16s Leicester Youth League for one team only.**

**DATES: Sundays from the first Sunday in September 2005 to the end of April 2006 on such dates as are agreed with the Parish Council when the fixtures for the Season are known.**

**vi) If any game(s) are required to be played outside of the dates set out above, due to cancellation or cup matches, prior approval must be sought in writing and obtained from the Parish Council. The Council may at its discretion in such circumstances waive its requirement to be given thirty five days notice of such event.**

**viii) All vehicular traffic from the Park must be aware of the concerns of local residents with regard to the need to limit the number of vehicles to a maximum of 30 for each event and ensuring that the residents are not at risk or inconvenienced by traffic density, speed or inconsiderate parking. The Car Park provided on the Park must be utilised at all times and any parking restrictions strictly observed.**

*(Cllrs. Emmerson and York abstained from voting).*

**Cou/380/04-05 Blower Replacement.**

The Clerk requested authority to purchase a blower at a cost of £200 to replace the Homelite Blower that had broken down and was not repairable as parts were no longer available.

Cllr. Yarwood offered to see if he could repair the blower.

**Resolved the Clerk be authorised to purchase a replacement blower at a cost not exceeding £200 if Cllr. Yarwood is unable to repair the Homelite Blower.**

**Cou/381/04-05 John Deere Tractor Mower Replacement.**

The Clerk circulated contract hire figures that had been provided by Henton and Chattell based on a John Deere 1445 for two, three and five years. This information had been requested at the last Meeting to see if this would be a feasible short term option in view of the Work Study exercise that was about to be undertaken and the possibility that the work could be contracted out. The Clerk indicated that on the basis of the figures quoted he could not recommend that the Parish Council pursue the contract hire option due to the costs that would be incurred.

The Clerk reported on the demonstration of the used John Deere 1445 with a 62" Rotary Rear Discharge Unit that had taken place the previous Friday on the grassed area opposite Budgens and that had been attended by a number of members. The ground conditions were very wet and in the Clerk's view it did an excellent job and would be a suitable machine for mowing the Parish Council's larger grassed areas. This was a view shared by those members who attended the demonstration. The Chairman expressed his surprise, if it was correct, that those raising the issue and their many concerns and viewpoints, were not present at the demonstration.

The only reservation the Clerk had with this particular piece of equipment was that it was being sold without any warranty i.e. it was being "sold as seen". The machine was on offer at £7,750 less a trade-in of £1,750. The Clerk was also of the opinion that the trade-in value undervalued the Council's John Deere 955 Tractor/Mower.

With regard to the John Deere 955 Tractor/Mower the options were to trade-in, retain it as a back-up or to dispose of it privately.

The Clerk indicated that a local company who had recently gone out of the ground care business had some surplus equipment including a John Deere 1445 Rotary Mower with just over two hundred hours on the clock. The Clerk stated he had not yet seen this machine or been able to obtain a price.

**Resolved that the Clerk makes further enquiries with regard to the used John Deere 1445 being sold by the local company and reports back to the next Meeting.**

**Cou/382/04-05 Groby in Bloom.**

Cllr. Purves submitted the notes of the Groby in Bloom Working Party that had met on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2005, copies of which had been circulated at the Meeting.

The Working Party had discussed if to proceed with the application for the Village in Bloom Competition but felt with only two months to go before the judging in June that this would leave insufficient time to do all the planning and planting and to involve the community in the process. In previous years the process had started much earlier. It was suggested that planning for the 2006 Competition starts much earlier with an article in the Spot Light Magazine in August/September 2005 inviting residents to join a Working Group in planning the 2006 floral arrangements in the Groby Parish.

The Working Party suggested that the hanging baskets are again provided at the same locations as last year and that quotations should be sought immediately.

One offer to “adopt” a number of containers had come from a resident and there were a number of other suggestions to involve the local community. The Working Party had suggested putting an article in the Spot Light Magazine in March to invite residents to a meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> April to see if they were interested in participating and to what extent. A further Meeting would then be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> April for people to come forward with their proposals and the plants they would require.

Ideas would be sought for the two flower beds on Ratby Road and this would be discussed at the Meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> April.

Enquiries would be made through the Clerk to ascertain if grants were available for floral displays.

The Grounds Maintenance Staff would need to be involved and this would require careful planning to ensure the rest of the maintenance work would not be excessively disrupted.

**Resolved that:**

- i) The decision to enter the Village in Bloom Competition in 2005 be rescinded.**
- ii) Planning is commenced for the Village in Bloom Competition 2006 in August/September 2005 by placing an article in the Spot Light Magazine inviting residents to join a Working Party.**
- iii) Hanging baskets are provided in the same locations as last year and the work commences immediately.**
- iv) To provide residents with an opportunity to be involved in Groby in Bloom 2005 an article is put in the March edition of the Spot Light Magazine inviting interested residents to a Meeting on the 5th April.**
- v) The Clerk in consultation with the members of the Working Group be authorised to expend the Groby in Bloom budget of £2,500. (Groby £2,000, Field Head £500).**

**Cou/383/04-05 Planning Concerns re 53 -55 Markfield Road.**

The Chairman informed Cllr. Batty that this item had been deferred from the last meeting due to his absence; he felt that as members were in agreement with the content, this would permit Cllr Batty to comment further. The only matter that remained outstanding was how to take the matter forward. In view of time the Chairman asked Cllr Batty if he wished to defer the item again or discuss the matter now.

Cllr. Batty responded that as Mr Reid, Planning Officer was to visit the Parish Council to discuss planning issues that were of a concern to the Parish Council he was happy for this item to go onto the agenda for that meeting.

**Resolved this matter be discussed with Mr Reid when he visits the Parish Council.**

**Cou/384/04-05 Planning Applications.**

<i>Reference Number</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Comments</i>
05/00135/FUL	4 Kings Way	Extensions and alterations to dwelling.	Application form and plans not received – deferred to next meeting.
05/00170/FUL	14 Stamford Drive	Extensions and alterations to dwelling.	<b>No objection</b> subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning applications or conditions outstanding.
05/00165/FUL	Golden Lion, 230 Leicester Road, Markfield	Erection of external ducting.	<b>No objection</b> subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning applications or conditions outstanding. <i>(It was queried if this was in Field Head or Markfield).</i>
05/00175/FUL	176 Ratby Road	Extensions and alterations to dwelling.	<b>No objection</b> subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning applications or conditions outstanding.

Cllr. Batty declared a personal interest in the planning application in respect of 14 Stamford Drive.

Cllr. York voiced her concerns at the activity that was taking place on the Klondyke Site off Newtown Linford Lane. Members were concerned that development had taken place on the site and that it could become an itinerant site. This issue had been drawn to the attention of Hinckley and Bosworth some time ago by Cllr Hollick. The Clerk confirmed that following the discussion at the last meeting he had written to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council to clarify what action was being taken in respect of this unauthorised development. It was suggested that this should be an item on the agenda for the meeting with Mr Reid.

Items suggested for the agenda for the meeting with Mr Reid were; Planning Concerns re 53-53 Markfield Road, Unauthorised Development Klondyke Site, Development Land adjacent 30 Markfield Road, Borough Council Charter, Enforcement of Section 106 Agreements and General Planning Concerns. As members were of the view that the meeting should take place as soon as possible a date of 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2005 at 7.00 pm was suggested. It was agreed to invite the Borough and County Councillors.

**Resolved that:**

- i) **The Clerk informs Hinckley and Bosworth of the Parish Council's comments on planning applications as set out in the table above.**
- ii) **Mr Reid be informed of the suggested date and time for the meeting and the items to be discussed.**
- iii) **The Clerk draw the attention of the County Council to the situation that is developing on the Klondyke Site**

**Cou/385/04-05 Outstanding Council Decisions.**

Due to the lateness of the hour it was agreed this item was deferred to the next Meeting.

**Cou/386/04-05 Date of Next Meeting.**

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2005 at 7.30 pm at the Council Offices.

*The following item of business was discussed with the public excluded as it related to staffing matters.*

**Cou/387/04-05 Matters Arising Continued.**

**Cou/355/04-05 Notice of Motion – Grounds Maintenance Staff** – The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter from the Grounds Maintenance Operatives, copies of which were circulated to members. Members noted that whilst the Operatives were supportive of the proposed Work Study exercise, they had not indicated their agreement to all the elements of the proposed course of action.

Members also considered a request from the Operatives for a weekly or fortnightly meeting with members, as had been the previous practice, to air any queries from both sides. The view was that as the Clerk was the Line Manager, that was the communication path that should be used. Any grievance should be dealt with in accordance with the Council’s Grievance Procedure.

**Resolved that:**

- i) The letter from the Grounds Maintenance Staff be noted and they be thanked for their support for the proposed Work Study exercise.**
- ii) The Grounds Maintenance Operatives request for a regular meeting with members be not acceded too.**

During the discussion on the above item it was agreed to waive standing Order 82 to allow the Meeting to continue beyond 10.00 pm.

The Meeting closed at 10.10 pm.

Signed.....Date.....  
Chairman

## APPENDIX A

### Parish Plan Update given by Mr Martyn Cartwright – 7<sup>th</sup> March 2005.

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen

My name is Martin Cartwright; I am Chairman of the Parish Plan committee

In March 2004 I went to a Neighbourhood Watch meeting as co-ordinator for Pine Tree Avenue, Groby. At which councillor Kennard asked, “ was I going to the Public Meeting the following night at the Village Hall “

Until this conversation I like many residents in the village knew nothing of the public meeting, planned to launch the Parish Plan or what a parish plan was so I decided to attend.

Thank you Councillor Kennard if only I knew the implications of this chance conversation.

So began an event that was to change not just the next ten months, but also the rest of my life due to the experiences and opportunities provided to me in running the Groby And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan as Chairman.

The idea of a parish plan is to complete as comprehensive as possible a consultation into how a village’s future can be improved for the people of the community.

Which I literally took to heart and began an exercise to complete just that insisting that Groby and Field Head would not be sold short in this exercise.

Starting with the Groby Heritage Group then visiting All the shops, All the congregations at Groby Church’s one weekend, Age Concern, Scouts Etc the list goes on and on, All the Schools Every Class Every Child, Groby Youth Club, Held a public meeting, Discussed the parish plan with most of my customers, stopped people in the street and finally by being out on duty with Pc Kelly on a Friday Night in January 2005 to see the Youth problems first hand.

Resulting in thousands of hours structuring the most comprehensive parish plan for Groby and Field Head that we possibly could.

So much information we have gained from doing this we should write a book, but chose instead to write two books.

One Titled Adult Parish Plan Questionnaire the other Titled Children and Youth Parish Plan Questionnaire.

One of each questionnaire will be delivered to all households from Tuesday March 29<sup>th</sup> 2005 in the envelopes that Groby Parish Council have kindly supplied to the project which we are very grateful for.

The first phase of my job in finding the right questions to ask in producing the questionnaires is now done.

Its up to the residents now to take the time to complete and return these documents, the results of which will hopefully improve village life for residents should they chose to do so.

You can only make a success of something like this if people feel involved.

I can’t think of anything else the committee or I could of done to try to involve Groby and Field Heads residents more in the exercise.

Great things have already come out of the parish plan like the reintroduction of a parish magazine “ The Spotlight “, and Budgens supporting the community it trades in by providing The Parish Plan Prize Draw. As well as books to Lady Jane Grey Primary Schools Library

This is only the beginning, who knows what the future will hold but you can be sure of that while many complain about facilities and life in general at the moment those old enough to be able to say “ It Wasn’t Like That In My Day “ that the Fifties and Sixties were “ The Good Old Days “ in the end thirty years from now however society has developed over that time I will be very surprised if people don’t still then say “ It Wasn’t Like That In My Day “ referring to these days now being then “ The Good Old Days “ just the same it’s just that people now simply just don’t realise it.

The one thing the early 21st Century won’t be able to shake off though is the compensation culture being there’s always someone to blame that made doing anything decent for the community from now on so expensive and hard to do.

I am immensely proud of what the committee and I have achieved, Groby leads where others will in the future follow what can only be described as the most comprehensive exercise ever completed as to what the residents of Groby and Field Head want for the future of the parish.

" The Groby And Field Head Community Project Parish Plan "

I lay down the gauntlet to anyone who could do a more thorough job.

Please now when your questionnaires arrive spend twenty minutes of your time to make life better in the future not for me or the parish plan committee it's for You in Groby or Field Head.

I have extremely enjoyed keeping you informed of the progress of the project to date and would like to give you all a copy of the completed questionnaires for you to keep as a reminder to the most comprehensive consultation ever carried out in Groby and Field Head.

Documents that should take their rightful place in the history of Groby and Field Head.

Once again, thank you for your time

Please don't fill in and return this copy it's yours to keep