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Groby Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Groby Parish Council held at 7.30 pm on Monday 9th May 2005 at the Parish Council Chamber, Leicester Road, Groby.

Cou/001/05-06 Present.

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

Clerk Mr J H Flower. County Councillor Fraser (Part). Borough Councillor Collins (Part). PC Kelley (Part). Mr M Cartwright, Chairman Parish Plan Steering Group. Members of the Public.

Cou/002/05-06 Apologies for Absence.

Cllrs. Allison, Hollick and Marvin.

Cou/003/05-06 Declarations of Interest.

Personal interests were declared by:

Cllr. Dickson – All items relating to the Groby Parish Residents Group.

Cllr. Purves – Planning Application 1 Lena Drive.

Cllr. Kennard – Parish Plan.

Cllr. Hodges – Public Open Space specifically Stamford Drive.

Cllr. Batty – All items on the Agenda as Chairman of the Groby Parish Residents Group and Public Open Space specifically Stamford Drive.

Cou/004/05-06 Election of Chairman.

Cllr. Allison was proposed by Cllr. Lock and seconded by Cllr. Jones. Cllr. Batty was proposed by Cllr. Hodges but declined the nomination.

Resolved that Cllr. Allison be elected Chairman for the period to the next Annual General Meeting.

(In the absence of the Chairman Cllr. Hagan remained in the Chair for the next two items of business)

Cou/005/05-06 Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

In the absence of the Chairman this item was deferred to the next Meeting.

Cou/006/05-06 Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr. Lock was proposed by Cllr. Kennard and seconded by Cllr. Jones. Cllr. Purves was proposed by Cllr. Batty but declined the nomination. Cllr. Batty was proposed by Cllr. Hodges and seconded by Cllr. Dickson.

Resolved that Cllr. Lock be elected Vice Chairman for the period to the next Annual General Meeting.

(Cllr. Lock took the Chair)

Cou/007/05-06 Representatives on Outside Bodies

Resolved that the following be the Council's representative on outside bodies:

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Representative</u>
Council for the Protection of Rural England	Cllr. Beck

Groby Quarry Liaison Committee	Cllr. Hollick
L&RAPLC	To be determined at the next Meeting
Landfill Liaison Committee	Cllrs. Purves and Batty
Sacheverell Trust	Cllrs Jones and Kennard
Scout Liaison	Cllrs. Jones and Allison
Thomas Herbert Smith Trust	Cllr. Allison subject to there being no issue with the Parish Council Chairman being a trustee.
Village Hall Committee	Cllr. York
Leicestershire Playing Fields Association	To be determined at the next Meeting
Older Voices Forum	Cllr. Dickson
Police Liaison Committee	Cllr. Batty
Neighbourhood Watch	Cllr. Kennard
Parish Plan Liaison	Cllr. Dickson

Cou/008/05-06 Appointment of Standing Committees

Resolved that:

- i) The following be the Council's Standing Committee(s)
 - (a) Staffing Committee
- ii) The continuation of the Council's other Standing Committees be considered at a future Meeting.

Cou/009/05-06 Appointment of Chairman of Standing Committees

No appointments of Chairman were made.

Cou/010/05-06 Appointment of Members to Standing Committees

Resolved the following members be appointed to the Staffing Committee:

Cllr. Lock
Cllr. York
Cllr. Allison
Cllr. Kennard (Substitute)

Cou/011/05-06 Inspection of Deeds and Trust Investments

The Clerk reported that as far as he was aware there were no deeds or trust investments that needed to be inspected but following last year's AGM such documents had been reviewed throughout the year on a meeting by meeting basis with about half a dozen being considered at each meeting.

Resolved the Clerk produces a list of all deed etc. reviewed and those still to be reviewed.

Cou/012/05-06 Minutes of the Council Meetings held on the 18th April 2005 and 27th April 2005.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 18th April 2005, copies of which had been previously circulated to members, be agreed as a true record subject to the following amendment:

Minute Cou/441/04-05 – Matters Arising – In the fifth paragraph at the start of the second sentence delete the words "Cllr. Hollick said he" and substitute "The Hospitals".

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 27th April 2005, copies of which had been previously circulated to members, be agreed as a true record.

Cou/013/05-06 Police Report.

PC Kelly reported the following crime information for the month of April 2005:

<i>Crime</i>	<i>Number- Groby</i>	<i>Number –Field Head</i>
Burglary – Dwelling	2	0
Burglary - Other	8	0
Robbery	1	0
Vehicle - Taking	2	0
Vehicle – Taking From	0	0
Vehicle - Damage	3	0
Non-Domestic Assaults	4	0
Other	27	0
Total Crimes	47	0

PC Kelley stated that the problems in the Village Centre over recent weeks with youths gathering had escalated and as a consequence a Dispersal Order would be brought in initially for a four month period. Much of the problem was being caused by youths from outside the Village; however PC Kelley would still be working with the local kids to try and identify somewhere for them to gather. PC Kelly answered members' questions thereon.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7.30 pm to allow members of the public to ask questions of PC Kelly.

A member of the public expressed concern at the amount of alcoholic drink that was being obtained and consumed in and around the Village by youngsters and the broken glass etc. that was being left behind. PC Kelley said that both the Co-op and Budgens were acting responsibly with regard to sale of alcohol and were making every effort to ensure that it was not sold to under age persons. There was a suggestion that it was being brought into the Village and being sold specifically to the youngsters. If this was the case PC Kelley requested that any information in this regard should be passed on to him at the earliest possible opportunity to allow him to take the appropriate action.

A member of the public asked PC Kelly to explain how a Dispersal Order worked which he duly did.

The Meeting reconvened at 7.36 pm.

Cou/014/05-06 Matters Arising.

Minute Cou/441/04-05 Matters Arising – Cllr. Batty stated that he had been told today that about four or five people, who were relatives of or were owners of land at the Klondyke, had approached Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council but had been advised that this was a civil matter and they must take their own legal advice on this situation.

Minute Cou/419/04-05 – Parish Plan – Cllr. Batty felt this item did not reflect the true position but accepted that he should have raised this matter when the original minute had been presented for approval.

Minute/423/04-05 – Dog Warden Service – Cllr. Batty referred to the fact that there were further problems with the Dog Warden Service. The Clerk explained that the Dog Warden who had operated in Groby no longer had any hours available and as a consequence the Dog Warden Service was looking to appoint a new Dog warden to service the Parish Council's area. As a consequence there had been no service from 14th March 2005 when the previous contract expired. Cllr. Batty pointed out that a change of job title with a wider job description had been suggested by the Dog Warden Service which did concern him as litter picking had been suggested which would make such a task expensive. It was agreed that this item should be brought back on to the Agenda if the Dog Warden Service is unable to provide a Dog Warden.

Minute/447/04-05 – Outstanding Council Decisions – Cllr Batty commented he had had an e-mail from the Clerk that day confirming that there were one or two items that needed to be added to the list and that there

were some other items that may overlap. The Clerk had agreed to get back to him by the end of the week with some explanations which Cllr. Batty was happy with.

Minute Cou/452/04-05 – Planning Application 05/00226/FUL 1 Lena Drive – Cllr Batty referred to the fact that despite the Planning Authority forwarding an amended plan for this application they had nevertheless, before the period for comments had expired, issued an outline planning permission. The matter would be discussed more fully later on the agenda under Planning Applications.

Minute Cou/456/04-05 – Planning Application 05/00366/COU Allotment Gardens Newtown Linford Lane – Cllr. Coates stated that English Nature had commented to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council that its concern was that there should be no pollution from the drainage of the land or from the toilets etc. otherwise it had no objection. Cllr. Batty commented he had spoken to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council that day to ascertain the position with the extension of time for comments that had been requested. Hinckley and Bosworth had no knowledge of the request but had said in view of the number of consultees and the amount of work still to do that there was at least another seven days and possibly fourteen days before they would stop accepting comments on the application. The indication was that the earliest it would go to the Planning Committee was the June meeting. Cllr. Batty also stated that he had drawn to the attention of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council the fact that there was no statutory notice displayed at the entrance to the site giving details of the application. It was agreed that a copy of the Council's comments be forwarded to Cllr. Collins together with a comment concerning the lack of a statutory notice at the site entrance for him to take this up on the Parish council's behalf with the Officers at Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council. Cllr. Collins was also requested to make representations on behalf of the Parish Council that a site meeting of the Planning and Regulatory Committee took place prior to the application being determined.

The Meeting adjourned for Public Participation at 8.02 pm

(County Councillor Fraser left the Meeting during the discussion on the above item of business)

Cou/015/05-06 Public Participation.

Cllr. Jones commented that she had found youths playing cricket within the fenced play area on Castell Playing Field and requested that consideration be given to erecting appropriate signs to indicate no ball games in this area as there was ample open space available elsewhere for such activities.

Cllr. Hagan recounted his personal experience with damage to his property and in particular damage to his conservatory roof on a Friday night from youths.

There were no questions from members of the public.

The Meeting reconvened following Public Participation at 8.05 pm.

(Cllr. Yarwood left the Meeting during Public Participation)

Cou/016/05-06 County Councillor's Report

None as there was no County Councillor in attendance.

Cou/017/05-06 Borough Councillor's Report

Cllr. Collins reported that he was now a member of the Planning Committee and he expected to participate fully at the next meeting. He had already had correspondence with the Chairman of the Committee on one or two points and he did agree with Cllr. Collins that there was a lack of consistency with planning decisions that needed to be addressed.

With regard to the Klondyke Site he was in regular contact with the Planning Officer and Chairman and there were still a number of important issues outstanding.

Cllr. Collins expressed his concerns about the situation that was developing with borough/district councils in that they were rapidly becoming an arm for the Government and gave an example of a recent paper received from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister regarding the acquisition, refurbishment and sale of empty property. He was also concerned about the imposition of non elected bodies into regional government.

Cllr. Collins commented that under the new Chief Executive the Council had been restructured with six portfolio holders working with Chief Officers/Managers. Licensing was still a major problem.

Cllr. Collins answered members' questions.

Cou/018/05-06 Payment of Accounts.

<i>Payee</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Amount</i>
		£
Cash	Petty Cash	100.00
Leicester District Land Registry	Land Registry fee - Ratby Road Allotments	40.00
Various	April salaries	3857.74
HBBC	Office / Cemetery Rates	229.00
Granart	Rose plaque x 2	78.40
Littlethorpe of Leicester Ltd	Eaton Bus Shelter	5,522.50
St Philip & St James Church (Flower Festival)	Donation towards Flower Festival 60th Anniversary for end of World War 2	25.00
Royal Mail Group Plc	PO Box Annual Fee	54.00
George Walker Ltd	Football posts / Noticeboard	113.49
LRAPLC	Annual Subscription	517.00
Public Works Loan Account	Fixed Rate Loan Payment	2,059.38
Wicksteed Leisure	Replacement seats for play equipment	279.21
Wilson Alarm Systems Ltd	Annual Maintenance and Monitoring Charge - Cemetery	414.77
British Telecommunications plc	Internet services Apr-Jun	105.71
S F B Tyres	Puncture Repair - Tractor mower	11.75
Mr M Bharmal	Various Hardware / Allotment keys	62.48
Allianz Cornhill Insurance Plc	Adjustment to policy - Additional play equipment	53.74
	Total	£13,524.17

The Clerk answered members' questions thereon.

Resolved the payment of the above accounts be approved.

Cou/019/05-06 Parish Plan Update.

Mr Cartwright, Chairman of the Parish Plan Committee updated members' with progress with the Parish Plan.

Mr Cartwright was particularly concerned about the comments that had been made by Cllr. Lock at the Meeting on the 4th April 2005 when he had been absent attending a Rural Community Council Seminar on Parish Plans as a speaker at County Hall. He felt the comments made by Cllr. Lock had been damaging to the Parish Plan particularly at a time when he was trying to encourage as many people as possible to return their questionnaires. He went on to question the Parish Council's commitment to the Parish Plan process.

Mr Cartwright explained how the consultation process on the draft questionnaire had operated and which organisations had been consulted. He stated that no other parish council had been consulted.

Mr Cartwright reported on the seminar he had attended at County Hall and the fact that of the seven parishes presenting information Groby was the only Parish to have a Chairman who was not a parish councillor. He also commented that the Groby Parish Plan exercise dwarfed the other in terms of effort and scale of sheer numbers involved.

Mr Cartwright referred to progress with the return of questionnaires and a problem that had been encountered getting appropriate prominence in the Spotlight Magazine for the closing date for return of questionnaires. As a consequence the deadline was extended for a week and posters displayed around the Parish.

To date 1,135 adult questionnaires and 255 completed youth questionnaires had been returned..

Mr Cartwright explained the problems with the data entry in recruiting volunteers and the length of time needed to input each questionnaire.

Mr Cartwright answered members' questions.

Members expressed their gratitude to Mr Cartwright for all his hard work and effort in administering the Parish Plan process and hoped he would continue to be involved and see the Plan through to its conclusion.

It was agreed, that in order to encourage the return of questionnaires and also to show the Parish Council's commitment to the Parish Plan process, to place notices on Parish Council letter headed paper on Parish notice boards and on the Parish Council's website.

Cou/020/05-06 Renewal of Insurances.

In view of the size of the documents the Clerk suggested three members considered the policy and renewal documents prior to the next meeting and made comments at that meeting on the sums insured and the extent of the cover. The Chairman asked for three volunteers.

Resolved that Cllrs. Hodges, Batty and Lock consider the policy and renewal documents and make comments at the next meeting on the sums insured and the extent of cover.

As the time was now 10.00 pm it was resolved under Standing Order No 82 to suspend Standing Orders for 10 minutes to allow Planning Applications and an urgent item of correspondence to be dealt with.

(Cllr. Jones left the Meeting)

Cou/021/05-06 Correspondence.

The Clerk submitted an urgent item 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	Leicestershire County Council	Bus Route 27/28 Glenfield, Groby, Ratby – Proposed Bus Stop Improvement	The Clerk inform the County Council that the proposed shelter 10715 Laundon Way/Garendon Way is shown on the wrong side of the road as this bus stop, which is on the outward bound route, is only an alighting stop. On the opposite side of the road is a heavily used stop where everybody comes off the northern part of the estate to

			catch the bus and this is the stop that would benefit most from the provision of a shelter.
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Resolved that the action set out in the above list be approved.

Cou/022/05-06 Planning Applications.

<i>Reference Number</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Comments</i>
05/00365/FUL	3 Chapel Hill	Extensions and alterations to dwelling.	No objection subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning applications or conditions outstanding.
05/00226/OUT	1 Lena Drive (Amended Plan)	Demolition of bungalow and erection of dwelling	The Clerk to complain to the Planning Authority in the strongest possible terms that despite the Parish Council being given 10 days to respond to the amended plan the Planning Authority saw fit to grant outline planning permission within the period given to the Parish Council and neighbours for making comments.

Resolved that the Clerk informs Hinckley and Bosworth of the Parish Council's comments on planning applications as set out in the table above.

Cou/023/05-06 Heritage Wardens' Report.

Due to the lack of time this item was not discussed and was carried forward to the Meeting on the 23rd May 2005.

Cou/024/05-06 Correspondence.

Due to the lack of time this item was not discussed and was carried forward to the Meeting on the 23rd May 2005.

Cou/025/05-06 Outstanding Council Decisions.

Due to the lack of time this item was not discussed and was carried forward to the Meeting on the 23rd May 2005.

Cou/026/05-06 Quality Parish Council Status.

Due to the lack of time this item was not discussed and was carried forward to the Meeting on the 23rd May 2005.

Cou/027/05-06 Date of Next Meeting.

Monday 23rd May 2005 at 7.00 pm at the Council Offices.

The Meeting closed at 10.10 pm.

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

