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Groby Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Groby Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on
Monday, 21st November 2005 at the Parish Chamber, Leicester Road, Groby

Cou/245/05-06 Present

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

Cou/246/05-06 Apologies for absence

Cllr Kennard, Cllr Jones

Cou/247/05-06 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Batty – All items on the Agenda as Chairman of Groby Parish Residents Group, all items that may relate to Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council.

Cllr Dickson – Groby Parish Residents Group, Bluebell Drive Amenity Area, Parish Plan

Cllr Yarwood – items 14, 15 & 16

Cllr Beck – Personal interest Druck, any matters in correspondence.

Cllr Cartwright – Personal interest: Neighbourhood Watch, Parish Plan, correspondence, item 13.

Cllr Kennard – Parish Plan, Bluebell Drive Amenity Area, Security Quarry Playing Field, Parish Plan

Cllr Hollick - Village Hall, Allotments

Cllr York – Car parks, allotments and anything re land at Victoria cottages.

Cllr Lock – Nothing to declare.

Cllr Coates – Nothing to declare.

Cllr Purves – Nothing to declare.

Cllr Emmerson – Nothing to declare.

Cou/248/05-06 Resolved that the minutes of the Meeting held on 7th November 2005, copies of which had been previously circulated to all members, be signed as a true record subject to the following amendments:

It was noted that some corrections to the 17th October 2005 minutes had been omitted. It was agreed that Cllr Batty would give a written copy to the clerk.

Corrections to those minutes are as follows:

Cou/142/05-06 It was not proposed by Cllr Batty nor seconded by Cllr Marvin that the Council pay up to £350 for the work to be carried out.

Cou/157/05-06 Minute to read: Cllr Batty reported that he and Cllr Kennard are progressing the matter in respect of the remaining plot owners.

Cou/16089 (not 16109) First line after ‘new Inspector’ add: ‘Cllr Cartwright and the County Council youth worker to urgently arrange a follow up meeting.’

Second line to stand as separate item – adding: ‘In respect of the concerns at Spinney close.

Cou/133/05-06 p.108: First line to read: ‘Although the Council had not realised that the resident had legally purchased the land –the developer had not been entitled to sell the land covered by a planning condition and section 52 agreement. The Parish Council reserves its options to pursue Bloor homes and H&BBC re compensation.

Corrections to the Minutes of 7th November 2005

Minute Cou/247/05-06 Add that Cllr Yarwood declared an interest in items 15, 16 & 17.

Minute Cou/229/05-06 – delete ‘Marvin and insert ‘York, Cartwright.’ Line 19 ‘Secheveral Way’ miss spelt. Should read ‘Sacheverell’.

Minute Cou/231/05-06 – p119. Line 2 – Insert ‘be’ to read ‘Could it be an agenda item?’ Add after last line ‘Cllrs Batty, Hodges Cartwright, Yarwood & Marvin do not agree with this opinion.’

Minute Cou/232/05-06 – p120 para 2, line 11 – delete ‘He and Cllr Lock’ insert ‘the RT Hon Stephen Dorrell MP’. Para 4, line 17. After 17 insert ‘The Council is aware that Persimmon has not responded to Gill Cross.’

Minute Cou/235/05-06 para 7 Delete from ‘adopted’ and insert ‘subject to further consultation with the parishes. We consider it to be flawed in respect of Groby.’

Cou/249/05-06 Matters Arising

Cllr Hodges requested that ‘Minutes’ be an agenda item for a Council meeting for discussion within the next three months.

Minute Cou/229/05-06 Cllr Batty informed members that a date had been suggested for a youth meeting. 12th January 2006 at 7.30pm. It was noted that this was a strategy meeting with Cllrs, police and the youth worker. Young person involvement would be sought from the next meeting. **Action: Clerk to book Council Chamber.**

Minute Cou/230/05-06 Field Head Hotel: Cllr Batty reported that HBBC still had not received a valid planning application.

Minute Cou/230/05-06: 26 Castell Drive: Delete 2nd line. Add ‘Cllr Batty had taken up the issue with the planning dept and reported back.’

Minute Cou/090/05-06 Speed limit on A50: Cllr Batty reported that the issue had been raised with Sergeant Starbuck and he had agreed to take the issue back to the local policing unit (LPU).

Minute Cou/231/05-06 Public Participation: It was noted that Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council are the planning authority in relation to trees in the Cowpen Spinney area other than when a tree is covered by an order or when the trees affect highway safety. In the case the relevant planning authority is Leicester County Council.

Line 46 After ‘Mr’ insert ‘Merryman’.

Minute: Cou/232/05-06 Cowpen Spinney: 2nd para. Last line to read, ‘As yet no reply has been received by Stephen Dorrell MP or the Parish Council.’

Minute Cou/235/05-06 Borough Councillor’s report: Para 2: Cllr Batty reported that he had met with Leader of the Council and Officers and discussed the option Peter Cash. It was noted that the Borough Council is looking to change its policy on the compulsory purchase. It was also noted that the Parish would need a design statement based on the Parish Plan to have any realistic chance of success. **Action: Cllr Batty to make enquires with the Borough for assistance with the exercise.**

Minute: Cou/237/05-06 Payment of Accounts: After first sentence delete para and insert: ‘The original cost was estimated to be £600 paid by the Parish Council to McChrystal. Subsequently the rate increased to £1200. The Council now received a

request for an interim payment for a bill which has increased to £2500 without prior agreement.

Minute Cou/238/05-06 Planning Applications: Green Space Strategy: It was reported that neither the Clerk nor Cllr Purves had received any submissions from members.

It was noted that Cllr Marvin left the meeting at 9.50pm.

Matters Arising from the Clerk: Cou/229/05-06 p.117 Police Report: Letter sent to Inspector Orton re: Speeding on Sacheverell Way. **Cou/230/05-06 p.118 Link Rise:** Letter sent to Stephen Dorrell MP. **Cou/232/05-06 p120 Cowpen Spinney:** Letter sent to Persimmon. It is noted that Cllr Collins had also sent a letter. **Cou/234/05-06 p120 Jacqueline Rd:** Letter sent 14/11/06. Acknowledgement received 14/11/05. **Cou/237/05-06 p.123 Harvey Ingram:** Letter sent. **Cou/238/05-06 Planning:** Ratby Rd Shops: Cllr Purves and Clerk to make spotlight deadline of 28th November. **Cou/242/05-06 p.125 Marina Park:** Letter sent. **Cou/243/05-06 p.126 Druck:** Letter sent.

The meeting adjourned for Public Participation at 8.00 p.m.

Cou/250/05-06 Public Participation

A member of the public asked why a number of items were being discussed in closed session. The Clerk explained that only matters relating to personnel or finance were discussed in closed session.

A resident reported some unauthorised tipping on land next to the church on Markfield Road and on the Mineral Railway across the footpath. **Action:** Clerk to look into the matter.

The meeting reconvened following public participation at 8.35 p.m.

Cou-251/05-06 Payment of Accounts

<i>Payee</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Amount £</i>
ESPO	Stationery	110.33
Vipans (1960) Ltd	Parks consumables	31.73
Thrust / Gulf Account cards	Truck Fuel: £90.71 Mower fuel: £111.10 Phone £10.00	211.81
Wicksteed Leisure	Play equipment paint	470.44
P Lock	Office equipment	161.92
P Lock	Office equipment	30.98
George Walker Ltd	Allotment & Oakmeadow fencing	58.09
B T plc	Office & Cemetery bill	198.00
	Total	£1,273.30

Cllr York asked for a breakdown of the office equipment items. It was noted that the items were the purchase of a telephone, a fax machine and a mixing unit.

Cllr Marvin asked for a breakdown of the fuel/telephone line item. **Action: Clerk to provide Cllr Marvin with an answer after the meeting.**

Members were reminded that the Clerk should be made aware of any questions on the payment of accounts prior to the meeting.

Cou/252/05-06 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	See comments below
0991/FUL/03	Land adj 3 Jacqueline Road, Markfield		H&BBC are proposing a site visit and it was agreed the Clerk would advise H&BBC that Cllrs Batty and Dickson would wish to attend on behalf of the this Council
05/01197/FUL	12 Wolsey Close	Extension to dwelling	No Objection Subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning application outstanding

H&BBC Scrutiny Commission Review

The next two meeting of this review group will be:

5th January 6-30 topic Economic Vitality and Viability (including car parking)

9th February 6-30: Rural Affairs conclusion and recommendations.

Allotment Gardens Newtown Linford Lane: Cllr Batty reported that the current situation is that a Government Inspector has not yet been appointed to hear the appeal submitted on behalf of the travellers and no appeal date has yet been set. The appeal submitted is against the Enforcement Notice and the stated grounds for the appeal are simply “that planning permission should not have been refused” The Compulsory Purchase option is still being evaluated but advice from the H&BBC Legal Department is that without a Village Design Statement having been produced to re-enforce the Parish Plan that any argument to support a Compulsory Purchase order could be difficult to justify.

Cou/253/05-06 Sycamore Drive – As this matter involved commercially sensitive information it was agreed to discuss the fencing quotations in closed session.

Cou/254/05-06 Cemetery Working Party Report: Cllr Liz Emmerson gave a verbal report. It was agreed that a written copy would be given to the Clerk. It was noted that the Clerk had requested clarification on the burial policy of the Council, fees & charges, number of interments etc. It was noted that the Groby cemetery is the only cemetery outside of the city which is still taking non-residents. It was noted that the charge for non-residents was double the normal fee. It was noted that the cemetery lies outside the Groby parish boundary in Ratby.

The Clerk informed members that there was an electronic burial management package, produced by the makers of the Scribe Accountancy.

Cllr Lock suggested a special meeting in the New Year to discuss the burial ground once the report was completed.

It was noted that the cemetery was a non renewable source and that the Council had a responsibility to Groby Parish residents.

The Council discussed the following Resolution:

'With immediate effect interments at Groby Parish Council cemetery will be restricted to Groby Parish residents.'

A vote was taken: 11 in favour. 2 Against. The Chairman did not vote. The motion was carried.

It was noted that the spirit of the motion was that it persons that had previously lived in the village would be considered on a case by case basis.

The Clerk advised members that taking the resolution in isolation without a full report on all aspects of the cemetery and burial policy coming before Council was against her advice.

Cou/255/05-06 Security Quarry Playing Field: As this matter involved commercially sensitive information it was agreed to discuss the height barrier quotations in closed session.

Cou/256/05-06 Parish Plan Conclusion: Cllr Cartwright gave a presentation to the Council in his capacity as chairman of the Parish Plan Committee.

Cllr Cartwright assured members that the Parish Council was not owed any money and that the Council had simply spent what it had agreed to spend .It was noted that the Parish Council held the funds at all times and was the treasurer for the project. The accounts have been approved by the Parish Plan Ctte, Rural Community Council and the Countryside Agency as being correct and within the terms and conditions of the grant awarded 15th June 2004. The Parish Plan report has been published and delivered to every residential address in Groby and Field Head. It was noted that the Parish Council had agreed to pay the additional £1400 in order to have the final plan printed in colour. Cllr Cartwright told members that the printing company had paid for the upgrade of the cover.

It was noted that the committee had now disbanded and that no one had come forward yet to form a new Ctte to take the plan to the design statement stage. Members were keen to see the plan taken to this next stage. It was noted that Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council had helped Burbage parish council turn their plan into a design statement.

Action: Cllr Batty to find out more and report back. It was agreed that a relevant officer should be invited to make a presentation to Full Council on 20th February 2006. Copies of the Burbage Village Design Statement to be circulated.

A hard copy of the Parish Plan was presented to the Chairman. It will be held in the office for members of the public to see. Spare copies of the parish plan report are available in the office. Other information can be found on the parish plan website www.appliancehome.co.uk/parishplan.html .

Cllr Cartwright thanked a number of people for all their help with the Parish Plan project. See Appendix 1.

Cou/257/05-06 Unauthorised Tipping on Parish Council Land – Deferred to the meeting of 5th December. **Action: Clerk to put on next agenda.**

Cou/258/05-06 Correspondence: It was agreed that the Clerk would bring forward for discussion the correspondence which needed immediate Council decision.

- 16239 Refer to Allotment Ctte.
- 16243 Write to Letting Agent & Mr May
- 16248 Send letter.
- 16250 Send letter.
- 16233 Noted.
- 16233 Cllr Batty's letter to act as Council's response.

16253 HBBC Precept: It was agreed that Council would hold a Special Budget Meeting on Monday 9th January at 7pm in the Council Chamber. **Action: Clerk to book chamber and circulate relevant papers.**

All other items of correspondence were deferred to the meeting of the 5th December.

Cou/259/05-06 Date of Next Meeting: The Chairman informed members that the Minute Clerk had resigned. It was agreed that the Clerk should produce brief and concise minutes. The timetable for future meeting was agreed with one amendment. It was agreed that the minute clerk position would be discussed in closed session. **Action: Clerk to amend timetable and circulate.**

Appendix 1: See Minute Cou/256/05-06

Parish Plan Committee Members

Kathy Hammond
Susan Cartwright
Helen Disley
Dianna Kennard
Helen Lindsay
Councillor Reg Dickson

Data Imputers

Phillipa Brown
Martin Cartwright
Sarah Harvey
Shelley Jones
Dianna Kennard
Helen Lindsay
George Secker
Nigel Studd
Graham Winder

Rural Community Council (Leicestershire and Rutland)

Hannah Ferguson
Diana Cook

Others

Countryside Agency
Groby Parish Council for the free use of the Parish Council chamber for most of our meetings and free use of the photocopier.
Hinckley and Bosworth council for printing the questionnaires
Leicestershire County Council
Church's Together in Groby
Leicestershire Police including Pc Kelly Groby's beat officer
All Groby's Schools
Appliancehome Limited
Budgens
Spotlight
Groby Directory
And most other parish organisations

To every resident that filled in the Questionnaire making the results and project so comprehensive

But most of all to my wife Susan in the audience tonight for never once complaining at the thousands of hours I spent on the parish plan project at her expense. "Simply saying if its what you want to do Martin you go for it and do you best for everyone in Groby and Field Head".

Closed Session

The minutes of the closed session on 7th November were agreed as a true record.

Item 1: It was agreed that Ron Simpson would report back to the Council at a special meeting on 6th December at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber. Both Cllr Cartwright & Cllr Batty gave their apologies for the meeting. **Action: Clerk to find alternative venue for Neighbourhood Watch.**

Item 2: Cou/255/05-06 Security at Quarry Field. RESOLVED: Clerk to get two quotes additional quotes for installation of a height barrier.

Item 3: Correspondence: 16252 & 16214 :Allianz Cornhill: RESOLVED: A. Barker chosen as preferred contractor for emergency work on Cowpen Spinney to remove dead trees on Parish land as outlined in the LCC Tree survey and identified by the Council's insurers. It was agreed that the cost should be no more than the amount stated on the quote. **Action: Clerk to contact Andrew Shaw at LCC and thereafter inform the contractor.**

Item 4: Bluebell Drive Amenity Area: Resolved: That Cllrs Purves and Yarwood to liaise with Greg Thurlow on the planting of trees in the area. **Action: Cllrs Purves and Yarwood.**

Item 5: Cou/253/05-06: Sycamore Drive fencing: Resolved: to appoint George Walker under Best Value as the preferred contractor for the installation of a knee rail on site. **Action: Clerk to write to George Walker to clarify if the posts would be cemented in place and if so to offer them the contract.**

Item 6: Minute Clerk Resignation: Council expressed its sadness and regret that the minute clerk had decided not to continue in this role. **Resolved:** The Clerk to contact the minute secretary and thank her for the work she had already undertaken, apologise for any distress caused, advise her that the Council would be purchasing new audio equipment and ask again if she would reconsider her resignation. **Action: Clerk.**

10.15pm The Clerk left the room.

Members discussed the Clerk's contract.

After Council Meeting 21/11/2005 the following was decided that the probationary period should be six months. Also Council gave the authority for the Staffing Committee to act as the line manager during the probationary period. Council also wanted to add an additional item within the review 10 Demonstrate an understanding of the requirements of the RFO function.

Concern was raised about the nature of the reviews i.e. subjective against objective, any ideas would be more than welcome on how this could be achieved.

Council due to lack of time only considered the probationary part of these minutes, time needs to be made to get guidance on the remaining points 5 to 9 in the staffing committee delegated powers.

The meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.