

*(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 p.m. on**  
**Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> February 2006 at the Parish Chamber, Leicester Road, Groby**

**Cou/317/05-06 Present**

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

**Cou/318/05-06 Apologies for absence**

Cllr Emmerson

**Cou/319/05-06 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Dickson – Groby Parish Residents Group, Correspondence  
Cllr Beck – None  
Cllr Cartwright – Neighbourhood Watch, Parish Plan  
Cllr Kennard – None  
Cllr York – Allotments  
Cllr Hollick – Allotments and Village Hall  
Cllr Batty – Groby Parish Residents Group, Any matters relating to Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, Correspondence - Letter from Mr & Mrs Dibb  
Cllr Lock – Correspondence – Letter from Mr & Mrs Dibb  
Cllr Coates – Planning  
Cllr Purves – A50  
Cllr Jones – None  
Cllr Hodges – Public open spaces, Stamford Way  
Cllr Yarwood – Correspondence  
Cllr Marvin – None

**Cou/320/05-06 Minutes**

**Resolved that the minutes of the Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2006, Enclosure A, be signed as a true record subject to the following amendment:**

**Minute Cou/306/05-06 Present, page 161**, it was noted that Cllr Purves appeared twice in the Declarations of Interest, the one stating none should be deleted.

**Minute Cou/307/05-06 Minutes, Minute Cou/283/05-06, Borough Councillor Report, The Leicestershire Waste Management Partnership, page 161**, Cllr Cartwright had provided the wrong website address, this should read [www.leicswaste.org.uk](http://www.leicswaste.org.uk).

**Minute Cou/309/05-06 Public Participation, page 162, para 2 line 4**, should read contact and not contacted.

**Minute Cou/309/05-06 Public Participation, page 162, para 2, line 9**, should read now and not how.

**Minute Cou/309/05-06 Public Participation, page 162, para 2, line 10**, should read fouling and not fowling.

**Minute Cou/311/05-06 Speed Checks, page 163, line 2**, should have Council inserted after County.

**Minute Cou/311/05-06 Concessionary Travel, page 164, line 2**, Town of Leicester should be replaced with Groby Boundary.

**Minute Cou/312/05-06 Concessionary Travel, page 164**, Cllr Batty was concerned that he had raised an important issue in relation to the Concessionary Travel, which was not noted in the minutes; therefore the following should be included in the final version. “Cllr Batty raised concerns that Groby residents would be disadvantaged under the new proposed scheme and as such he would be supporting a cross party motion to have the scheme withdrawn and amended so that everybody would be on a level playing field”.

**Minute Cou/312/05-06, page 164**, Cllr Batty pointed out that at the last meeting he had informed members that the Parish Forum was to be held the next day and encouraged members who could to attend. This should be added to the final version of the minutes.

**Minute Cou/312/05-06 Borough Councillor Report, page 164, para 5, line 1, Abolition of Local Government**, on should be replaced with of.

**Minute Cou/312/05-06 Borough Councillor Report, page 164, para 5, line 1, Abolition of Local Government**, Councils should be inserted after County.

**Minute Cou/312/05-06 Borough Councillor Report, page 164, para 6, line 6**, Emmerson should be replaced with Coates.

**Minute Cou/314/05-06, Planning Applications, Other Planning Correspondence, page 168, para 1, line 2**, replace gold with goal.

**Minute Cou/314/05-06, Planning Applications, Other Planning Correspondence, page 168, para 7, 02 Phone Mast, line 1**, the word Officers should be inserted after Borough Council and the word the before Borough should be deleted.

**Minute Cou/314/05-06, Planning Applications, Other Planning Correspondence, page 168, para 8**, replace Coates with York in the second sentence.

**Minute Cou/315/05-06, Correspondence Appendix E, 16323, page 169, para 2, line 12**, delete means a and insert could lead to a, so that the sentence reads “the Community Warden that we have got covers 9 Parishes which could lead to a lack of presence of Ms Green”.

**Minute Cou/315/05-06, Correspondence Appendix E, 16323, page 169, para 2, line 9**, informal should be inserted before discussions.

**Minute Cou/315/05-06, Correspondence Appendix E, 16323, page 169, para 2, line 10**, delete the word the before Borough Council.

**Minute Cou/315/05-06, Correspondence Appendix E, 16323, page 169, para 2, line 10**, change Council for Ratby with Councillors from Ratby.

**Minute Cou/315/05-06, Correspondence Appendix E, page 169, para 4**, insert 2005 after February.

**Cou/321/05-06 Matters Arising in relation to the minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> February 2006.**

**Minute Cou/311-05-06, Field Head A50, page 163, para 2**, Cllr Batty informed the meeting that Cllr Sprason and County Council representatives have encouraged meetings with residents before (he believes) responding to the Parish Council’s request for a site meeting. Cllr Batty feels that they are trying to cause a split between the residents and the Parish Council. At the last meeting the Council had made a unanimous resolution to call for a site meeting of interested parties within 30 days. Cllr Batty had informed other Cllrs about these meetings and thought that it was not acceptable due to the resolution made. Cllr Batty re-iterated that he wanted to inform Council that Cllr Sprason is encouraging those meetings. The Clerk informed the meeting that she had circulated a list of dates which she had sent to Leicestershire County Council and has not yet heard anything back and she has not received any confirmation from Cllr Sprason. Cllr Batty expressed his concern that

Cllr Sprason and Officers have told two of the residents that they met last week that they could put an alternative location to the one at Ratby Lane, even if it was a new drawing and provide the crossing by 1<sup>st</sup> April if they agreed it now. This contradicts what Cllr Sprason and his Officers have informed Council at a previous meeting when they said that when agreeing a crossing they had to go out to consultation with the statutory authorities, they had to do a safety audit etc. So how can they come to a decision on the crossing in 5 weeks? The Clerk informed the meeting that when she spoke to Richard Whiteman to clarify why a site visit was required, she was told that there would be little point in having a site visit until alternative proposals had been drafted. When she asked interested parties she copied in Cllr Sprason so that he was aware of efforts to organise a site visit, he informed the Clerk that he is always busy so she should organise something and he would try and attend. Cllr Dickson informed Council that he attended the meeting at HBBC and Cllr Sprason says that the money is available and the residents can have the crossing immediately up by the roundabout, he felt that the message was, that the money would be lost if this was not taken forward quickly. Cllr Purves suggested that a strong letter should be sent to Cllr Sprason saying that we believed it had been agreed whilst he was present that there would be a meeting between Cllrs of this Parish and Officers on the existing proposals and not the new ones to find a way forward and ask him why it appears that a meeting has now been arranged with the residents. Cllr Hodges informed the meeting that it wasn't with residents, it was with a couple of residents, its not been published or encouraged as a general meeting, which is totally against the spirit of what the Council are trying to achieve. **It was agreed that the Clerk should persevere with organising a meeting as well as sending the letter suggested by Cllr Purves to Cllr Sprason.**

**Minute Cou/312/05-06, Borough Councillor Report, page 164, para 6,** Cllr Batty had contacted the portfolio holder and raised concerns that had been discussed at the last meeting in relation to code of conduct training being held at 5.00pm. It meant that it didn't give many people the opportunity to attend; the Officers have arranged another 5.00pm meeting! Cllr Batty will continue to express these concerns to Nick Davies the portfolio holder.

**Minute Cou/312/05-06 Concessionary Travel,** Cllr Batty confirmed that the existing scheme which he felt disadvantaged Groby residents has been thrown out by the Scrutiny Committee Commission who have told Officers to come back with a scheme which is fairer on all residents of the Borough by the end of March.

**Minute Cou/312/05-06 Parish Forum,** Cllr Batty informed the Council that a request was made at the Parish Forum for Parish Councils to nominate representatives for the Gypsy and Traveller Working Group. Cllr Batty was asked to join it but he stated that he could not make that decision and it would be up to the Parish Council to nominate representatives. They require names for the working party in the very near future although no official request has been made. The Chairman resolved to discuss the issue under planning, as it is an open item on the agenda.

**Minute Cou/314/05-06 Planning Applications, page 166, Field Head Hotel,** Cllr Batty has now had a meeting with the planning officer responsible and clarified what was agreed at the site meeting and a letter has been written to the hotel detailing the Council's requirements for the signage. As far as the parking and other issues are concerned, Cllr Batty is working with the Borough Councillor for Charnwood, as there are serious problems with vehicles blocking the service roads.

**Minute Cou/314/05-06 Planning Applications, Other Planning Correspondence, 02 Phone Mast, page 168,** due to there being several requests recently Cllr Batty raised the issue at the Parish Forum that there had been no roll out plan put forward by the operators which they are supposed to do by statutory requirement as of this year. Cllr Batty wanted to take this opportunity to remind the Council that at a future meeting we should have a look at having an agenda item to look at where they want the masts to go within Groby.

**Minute Cou/314/05-06 Planning Applications, Other Planning Correspondence,**

**A50 Speed Limit, page 168**, Cllr Purves had a short discussion with Cllr Sprason at the last meeting in relation to the A50 Speed Limit and she wanted to inform the Council that when she informed him of the conflicting responses that have been received from the Police, he said that if we sent him copies of the letters he would see what he could do to find out why there was a conflict. The Clerk informed members that she has forwarded copies of all correspondence.

Cllr Batty also informed the meeting that he had met with the Manager of the Leicestershire Constabulary Road Safety Management Unit, Graham Crompton who assures him that he has the delegated authority and is the only person who can make a decision and he would not be supporting the reduction in speed limit on that stretch of road. Cllr Batty tried to explain the need for him to reconsider that decision but he said it didn't matter what anyone else said the decision will ultimately be made by him and he could see no justification to include it in the speed camera van schedule or reduce the speed limit. Cllr Batty challenged him over where the figures had come from in his letter, that everyone was keeping to the speed limit and he admitted that it was at the point just before the camera! Cllr Batty has asked him to look at it again which he has agreed to do and to attend a site meeting. This is the position as it stands at the moment. **It was agreed that if he has not come back to Cllr Batty within the next seven days, as promised, that a letter is sent. Cllr Batty is happy to draft the letter.**

**Minute Cou/315/05-06 Correspondence: Appendix E, page 169, para 4**, Cllr Hollick wanted to clarify a point in relation to Cllr Yarwood's statement, to the best of his knowledge, the dedicated footpaths officer is concerned only with obstructions on footpaths and stiles and has nothing to do with highways, pavements or anything like that and would not cover dog fouling. Cllr Yarwood commented that in the legislation that the footpath officer regularly walks the footpaths. Cllr Hollick just wanted to make it known that it only covers the aforementioned things.

**Minute Cou/315/05-06 Correspondence: Appendix E, 16323 Dog Mess, page 169, para 2**, Cllr Batty wanted to point out that due to the discussions that were had at the last meeting and the working party that he has been involved with at HBBC, if the Parish Council consider employing a dog warden, a thorough risk assessment survey is required and a Risk Assessment report must be issued. This is due to the fact that the Employee may be exposed to a number of risks. This must be a priority and the Council could have problems if one is not done. The Clerk informed the Council that the threshold for legislation of Risk Assessments is 5 employees, the Council currently has 4, when it is decided that a 5<sup>th</sup> employee will be employed, this will take the Council onto the next level of Risk Assessment that the Council will have to undertake. Effectively it means that the Council will have to have more manuals and documents.

**Minute Cou/315/05-06 Correspondence: Appendix E, 16325, HBBC Street Cleansing, page 169, para 8**, Cllr Batty informed that an interesting schedule had been sent to the Council which was not very comprehensible, this was discussed with Cllr Purves and it has been passed back to Trevor Prowse. Cllr Batty has received a letter from Trevor regarding street cleaning, it is full of excuses and states that he is anxious to work with the Parish Council and asks that he could meet with members. A copy has been passed to the Clerk for circulation. The Chairman suggested that he is invited to the meeting. **It was agreed that the Clerk would offer Trevor Prowse a list of dates to attend a meeting of the Parish Council.**

Cllr Purves suggested that the Council go around the Village with him and ascertain what they are actually doing. Cllr Batty informed the Council that Mr Jinks who is the Area Supervisor has offered to meet with the Council and have a tour of the Village. The Chairman suggested that a representative from the Council meets with Mr Jinks during the day and then Mr Prowse attends the meeting in the evening.

**Minute Cou/316/05-06 Correspondence: Appendix F, 16322, HBBC 24-28 Rathy Lane, page 170**, Cllr Batty informed the Council that he had forwarded all the alternatives that he had received to the Planners and has now received a letter back on behalf of Richard Palmer, Strategy and Regeneration Manager. Cllr Batty read

out the letter to the Council. Cllr Batty asked if anyone would like to attend a meeting with Richard Palmer, Cllr Coates said she would.

**Minute Cou/308/05-06 Matters Arising, page 162**, the Clerk informed the meeting that copies of the cleaning schedules have now arrived in the office.

**Minute Cou/310/05-06 Police Report, page 163**, the Clerk informed the meeting that there was a query over the figures, she will be speaking to Ned Kelly tomorrow to see what has happened there.

**Minute Cou/312/05-06 Borough Councillor Report, Risk Assessment, page 164, para 2**, the Clerk informed the meeting that she has contacted three companies about potentially doing a new Risk Assessment for the Council and has contacted numerous Councils and she has also received a letter from Ian Fraser, the Internal Auditor asking for the Council to make progress on the Risk Assessment. She intends to bring this forward as an agenda item at a future meeting. Cllr Batty suggested that she contact HBBC as this has been discussed at the Parish Forum where they said that they were willing to help Parishes with their Risk Assessment. Cllr Batty will confirm the name of the person to contact.

**Minute Cou/312/05-06 Borough Councillor Report, Housing, page 164, para 3**, the Clerk informed the meeting that although it says this item is marked as an agenda item for the next meeting, it has not been included on this agenda as it was already closed and will be added when all other open items have been cleared.

**Minute Cou/314/05-06, Planning Applications, page 165**, the Clerk confirmed that all letters have now been sent.

**Minute Cou/314/05-06, Planning Applications, Other Planning Correspondence, Speed Gun, page 168**, the Clerk confirmed that a letter has been sent on this item.

**Minute Cou/314/05-06, Planning Applications, Other Planning Correspondence, Green Space Strategy, page 168**, the Clerk informed the Council that the first meeting of this group has taken place and Cllr Beck has written up the minutes a copy of which have been provided.

Cllr Purves showed some notes that the working group have quickly looked at, in relation to possible sources of funding, the group would be grateful if the Council Members could come back individually to the group with any comments/suggestions and they will take things further with these items. Cllr Hodges asked for clarification that the group wanted responses from individual Cllrs prior to the next Parish Council meeting? He felt that some of the things on the list should be dealt with as open Agenda items. He then suggested that it was added as an Agenda item, under Grant Applications, Working Party, Report of 15<sup>th</sup> February.

**Minute Cou/315/05-06, Correspondence: Appendix E, page 169, para 5**, the Clerk confirmed that the article and the advert for Spotlight had been drafted and a process for taking it forward will need to be agreed.

**Minute Cou/315/05-06, Correspondence: Appendix E, 16339, page 170, letter from resident regarding trees**, as requested it was forwarded to Nick Fell at LCC, he has declined to send a response on our behalf, and insisted that he would charge the Parish Council for his time. The Clerk has now drafted a letter to be agreed by Council.

**Minute Cou/311/05-06, page 163**, Cllr Lock stated that this section should have a heading of County Councillor Report, this should be noted by the Minute Clerk and propositions are hidden in the text and need to be separated as actions at the end and highlighted.

*The meeting adjourned for Public Participation at 8.01pm*

**Cou/322/05-06 Public Participation**

No members of the Public had any issues to raise.

*The meeting reconvened following public participation at 8.02pm*

**Cou/323/05-06 Payment of Accounts**

| <i>Payee</i>                        | <i>Details</i>                          | <i>Amount<br/>£</i> | <i>Date Paid</i> | <i>Che</i> |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------|------------------|------------|
| Cash                                | Petty Cash                              | 100.00              | 13.02.2006       |            |
| Mrs D Brown                         | Office & Chamber cleaning x 2           | 20.00               |                  |            |
| Groby Village Hall                  | Heating/ Water/ Ins/ Electric & Rent    | 1,221.18            |                  |            |
| Konica Minolta                      | Photocopies                             | 17.74               |                  |            |
| Granart                             | Kerb inscriptions x 4                   | 156.80              |                  |            |
| Vipans (1960) Ltd                   | Parks consumables                       | 41.13               |                  |            |
| Thrust/Gulf Account cards           | Fuel                                    | 151.43              |                  |            |
| Leicestershire Footpath Association | Annual subscription                     | 5.00                |                  |            |
| Bt plc                              | Office & Cemetery bill (151.58 / 59.51) | 211.09              |                  |            |
| <b>Total</b>                        |   | <b>£1,924.37</b>    |                  |            |

Cllr Batty discussed the point that had been raised at the Budget Meeting relating to improving efficiency, he wanted to ensure that item 7 is added onto the already carried forward matters in closed session.

Cllr Cartwright proposed payment of these accounts this was seconded by Cllr Hodges. Payment of accounts was unanimously agreed.

**Cou/324/05-06 Planning Applications**

| <i>Reference No</i> | <i>Location</i>                                  | <i>Description</i>  | <i>Comments</i>  |
|---------------------|--|---|--|
| 05//00366/COU       | Allotment Gardens,<br>Newtown Linford<br>Lane    | Change of use of land to<br>permanent residential   | <b>Updated at Council<br/>meeting</b><br>See Comments below this<br>table  |
|                     |  | Leicestershire Draft<br>Municipal Waste<br>Management Strategy<br>2006 rec'd from<br>Leicestershire Waste<br>Management Partnership |  |
|                     |  | Letter from LCC re<br>online planning service   | <b>Decline the offer at this<br/>time</b>  |
| 06/00065/FUL        | 138 Leicester Road                               | Extension and Alteration<br>to Dwelling   | <b>No objection</b> Subject to<br>neighbours not being<br>inconvenienced and there<br>being no other planning<br>application outstanding |
|                     | French – Normandy<br>market proposal in<br>Groby | E mail from French<br>market company  | <b>Clerk to investigate<br/>further</b>  |
| 06/00115/FUL        | 7 Stamford Drive                                 | Extension and Alteration<br>of Dwelling   | <b>Object as over<br/>development and not in<br/>keeping with the area.</b>  |

|              |                                  |                                       |  |
|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 06/00100/FUL | 5 Tudor Grove                    | Erection of Conservatory              | <b>No objection</b> Subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning application outstanding   |
|              | Nottingham East Midlands Airport | Draft Master Plan                     | <b>Members asked to view the document and put forward their comments</b>   |
| 06/00072/FUL | 33 Beaumont Green                | Extension and Alterations to dwelling | <b>No objection</b> Subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning application outstanding. <b>It was noted the door to from the kitchen to the extension appears to be opening the wrong way.</b> |
|              | 7 Primrose Close                 | Extensions and Alterations            | <b>Object as the proposals do not appear to be in keeping with the area</b>  |

**Bradgate Landfill Site Submission by WRG of Scheme relating to Ground Water Control Tower as required under Condition 17 Permission No97/0487/04**

This application relates to contingency plans in relation to the ground water tower. It was reported at the Landfill Liaison meeting of the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2006 concern was expressed about this application as the proposals appeared to have no proven track record as this situation has not occurred before. It was suggested the tower could last 3/5 years but this could not be guaranteed. In relation to pump failure the proposals did not appear adequate. The Environmental Agency had responded to the proposals seeking further information from the Waste Recycling Group. The Officer of the County Council advised that it was likely the application would be heard until mid April.

A question has also asked if by April no adequate contingency plans had been forthcoming/reached, whether or not the planning permission ceased as this was a condition to extend the working of the landfill site.

The Parish Council's representatives on the Landfill Liaison Committee felt that until more information was available they would not be able to respond at this time.

"Cllr. Batty also drew members attention to the fact that the investigation into the tipping of hazardous waste at the Bradgate Landfill site that was notified to the Parish Council by the Environment Agency in May 2005 had still not been resolved"

**Therefore it is recommended that this Council acknowledge receipt of the application and advise that they did not wish to comment further at this stage until they have received further clarification and assurances from LCC via the Environmental Agency in order to give a considered response with the full facts to hand. This was agreed.**

**Nottingham East Midlands Airport, Draft Master Plan,** Cllr Purves tabled the draft Master Plan document and asked if someone would read through it and report back to the Council. The Chairman informed the Council that it is in the Chamber.

**Waste Management** – Cllr Cartwright tabled a copy of the consultation questionnaire, which was passed to the Council to give a response so Cllr Cartwright will fill this form in and return it. He confirmed the website address and re-iterated the deadline for responses. After they have been returned the plan will be put together. Cllr Cartwright is not confident that any of the responses made via the website will be checked/used. **It was proposed that this will be dealt with at a Saturday Planning Meeting when it will be filled in. Proposed Chairman and seconded by Cllr Cartwright.**

**Nominations for Travellers Working Group** – Cllr Purves asked for nominations for this working group. Cllr Batty stated that he was happy to volunteer if no-one else wanted to. Proposed Cllr Marvin, seconded Cllr Cartwright. No other nominations were received. A vote was taken and a unanimous decision was reached.

**Allotment Gardens, Newtown Linford Lane** – The Clerk informed the meeting that a ground

operative visited the office this afternoon and informed her that there had been activity on site, there had been an autosleeper, a touring caravan, a mini digger and several lorries and men around. The Clerk contacted the Chairman who in turn contacted Cllr Collins, the Clerk also contacted P.C. Kelly and Cllr Batty and also HBBC, unfortunately the Enforcement Officers were off on sick leave and the Team Leader was on annual leave, she received a call back to say that no-one would be available to visit the site but someone would be out the next morning to investigate. Cllr Batty informed Council that the new Senior Enforcement Officer was on annual leave and the previous Enforcement Officer is off on sick leave, Chris Merriman is off on annual leave but will be in tomorrow and he had spoken to Tracey Dark, the Planning Manager who is arranging for Chris Merriman to visit the site tomorrow and Cllr Batty has asked Chris to meet with him so that he can go along with him. Cllr Batty has visited the site, the touring caravan and the motorhome had gone by 4pm, a lorry remained, a 4x4 with a trailer that had had a mini digger on it was still there and was operating clearing further areas of the site and possibly digging drainage ditches which is prohibited under the planning conditions, he has passed this on to the HBBC. He is concerned about the lack of monitoring taking place on this site. The Chairman re-iterated that HBBC had been asked to have contingency plans; nothing was done today because there was nobody there to do anything. Cllr Batty said that they can issue a stop notice for any unauthorised development which is not covered by the application or appeal, this isn't and a stop notice could be authorised which carries a penalty of £20,000 if it is breached. He had discussed this with Tracey Dark who said that Chris Merriman would look at this when he visits the site. He re-iterated his concern that stop notices should have been issued on numerous occasions before but haven't been. Cllr Hagan suggested that if people looked at the main Groby website there is a letter from the applicant detailing various points and a suggested letter from Cllr Batty for members of the public to write in with their complaints. He feels that the Parish Council are being fed a line, if there are activities on that site which shouldn't be then there are some very strong questions that should be put to the applicant.

#### **Cou/325/05-06 Correspondence: Appendix F**

It was proposed by Cllr Hodges that only items of correspondence that need to be dealt with are discussed and any others are carried forward, this was seconded by Cllr Jones.

- 16296 Closed Session
- 16345 E mail from a resident regarding a request for a bench or tree at Cemetery – **It was agreed that in light on the fact that the person concerned was not a resident of Groby and the ashes were to be taken to Ireland, the request would not be taken any further due to Policy. A vote was taken and a unanimous decision reached.**
- 16350 Closed Session
- 16351 Letter re dog mess – The Clerk has advised the Neighbourhood Warden on 27<sup>th</sup> January and she is dealing with the matter
- 16352 LCC relocation of salt bin – **The Clerk to liaise with members to come up with an alternative location.** Cllr Purves proposed that clarification is required as to where they want the salt bin, does it need to be on Elsalene Drive or elsewhere in Groby?
- 16353 RCC – EGM, if anyone wishes to attend they should inform the Clerk
- 16358/ These are all renewals of subscriptions, the National Association of Playing Fields,
- 16359/ the LRAPLC and Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust. **It was agreed that renewal of**
- 16363 **subscriptions would be undertaken.**
- 16365 Deferred to next meeting
- 16366 Deferred to next meeting
- 16367 In line with Council procedure anonymous letters are not discussed
- 16368 Groby Juniors F.C. – Cllr Batty questioned the one payment received with this letter, the Council received a previous letter with a payment for 5 fixtures and does not recall seeing anything listed in between, so therefore only 6 payments have been received but there are 8 fixtures listed on the letter. **The Clerk will look into this matter.**
- 16369 Closed Session
- 16371 Closed Session
- 16372 Noted
- 16373 Deferred to next meeting
- 16374 Deferred to next meeting

There was an item missed of the correspondence list, which was the application to enter East Midlands in Bloom. **It was agreed that the Council would enter.**

Date of next meeting is 6<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

*Members of the public left the meeting at 8.55pm.*

*The Council moved into closed session at 9.00pm.*

*The meeting closed at 10.25pm.*

Signed .....  
Chairman

Date .....

*Closed Session*

**Resolved that the minutes of the closed session of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2006, copies of which had been previously circulated to all members, be signed as a true record subject to the following amendment:**

Correspondence 16322, page 171, insert for a total cost of £300 and remove per annum.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2006.**

None

**Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2005.**

**Cou/04/05-06 Report from Ron Simpson, page 2,** Cllr Batty referred to the paragraph where it refers to the meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> December not qualifying as a full meeting of the Parish Council as it was not lawfully convened and therefore any decisions/resolutions therein can only be treated as recommendations for ratification by the Full Council at a lawfully convened full Parish Council meeting. He wanted to remind the Council that any agreement should be put back as recommendations to a full Council meeting and they will have to be in order to any resolutions that have been made since. Anything on the minutes that Council want to action must be put back to a full Council meeting. The Chairman asked whether the meeting was properly announced, notified and convened under an elected Chair and then conducted business. The Clerk explained that on the notice that went out on the notice boards because it was going to be a personnel meeting a note was put on the notice that the meeting would be held in closed session. The Chair read out the notice to the Council. The Clerk then continued to explain the situation, she explained that you can not exclude members of the public prior to a meeting and despite having Ron Simpson at the meeting, the Chairman did not move the meeting formally into closed session either so therefore technically, that is why the aforementioned paragraph is included in the minutes. She raised the subject with Ron Simpson to clarify the situation, he informed her to refer to the wording on the last Agenda which was to clarify and confirm the minutes, this gives the Council the opportunity to agree recommendations therein. She has not sought clarification from Ron yet whether if the members agreed the minutes at the last meeting but did not do Matters Arising whether those recommendations now stand. Cllr Batty felt that the answer to this was that if the minutes were approved then basically he would refer to the actual wording, he felt that the paragraph says it all and it was agreed and accepted by the Council and that is what we are bound by.

**Cllr Cartwright proposed that the points are put back to full council for ratification, this was seconded by Cllr Hollick.**

The Clerk informed members that if wording on the previous agenda is not accepted which was advised to her by Ron Simpson, which allows members to agree the recommendations which is what his advice was and if members were to put this to a full Council, there are two issues. First, we have an agenda again at this meeting that will not be completed and secondly this has an impact on the negotiations with a recognised Union. The Union know that these minutes have not been agreed and passed and are waiting to hear from us. They may choose to take different legal advice if we do not move as previously agreed. The Chairman informed members that he has been presented with documents that can be argued against and to be on safe ground we should start right from scratch. Cllr Purves feels that things have moved on since this meeting and is in agreement with Cllr Marvin that Ron Simpson is invited along again. The Clerk informed the meeting that a replacement has been found for Ron Simpson but it has been agreed that he Ron will continue to advise us in the short term. The Chairman asked when Ron Simpson will be retiring, as he felt that it is a pre-requisite that he sees this job through.

**Cllr Cartwright proposed that Council recognises that the business of 6<sup>th</sup> December owing to a procedural impropriety disregards any transactions discussed at the meeting and urges a reconvening of the meeting with Ron Simpson as a matter of some extreme urgency, this was seconded by Cllr Hodges. A vote was taken - For 11, Against 1, Abstentions 1.**

**Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2006.**

**Cou/288-05-06 Budget 2006/2007, page 152, para 8,** Cllr Batty asked when the issue requested by Cllr Hodges was going to take place, which was to look at the Councils overheads, it was stated that this would be within the next two months. The Clerk confirmed that this can happen but the business on the Agenda currently needs to be cleared before anything else can be discussed.

**Coun/278/05-06 Anti Social Behaviour Statement, page 152, para 6,** Cllr Batty informed members that the Parish Council's approved statement was read out at the meeting at Groby Community College, it was fully supported by the representative from Ratby Parish Council. He wanted to make members aware that they were shown a film of what the HBBC team considered to be anti social behaviour and he challenged what was shown in the film to be criminal acts; criminal damage, people firing fireworks at each other, slashing of tyres on cars and this is now being referred to as anti social behaviour as opposed to criminal activity. A statement was made that it is the objective of the initiative to support these people and not punish them. He felt that it should be reported back to the Council that this is what is being done to protect us from anti social behaviour. In his opinion this kind of behaviour should be treated with zero tolerance.

**Resolved that the minutes of the closed session of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2006, copies of which had been previously circulated to all members, be signed as a true record subject to the following amendment:**

Page 160, para 2, should read p142(a) and not pg 148.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2006.**

**Closed Session: Cemetery Records, page 160, para 9,** Cllr Batty expressed his concerns over the information reported to the Council by the Clerk at the meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> January. Cllr Batty felt that this issue needed to be dealt with in a more formal manner and that as a public authority we need to be seen to be conducting a formal investigation as to how we have got to this situation. He feels that as a public authority and in case anything does go wrong with this the Council need to be seen as conducting a formal investigation into how we got to this situation.

The Clerk then proceeded to give members an update, she stated that she brought the issue to members attention when she discovered the facts of the situation and members asked her to get advice, which she has done. Access database all plot lists has been established in January 2006. Cllr Hodges suggested that someone goes out to see the couple within the next 7 days. Cllr Jones suggested that the Vicar from Groby or Ratby is asked to go along. The Chairman re-iterated that we need professional assistance with this matter. The Chairman stated that if we can involve the Vicar and two Cllrs this may ease the situation. **It was agreed that members would allow Cllr Jones to make enquiries confidentially and sensitively with the Vicars to then take it to the next stage. Cllr Jones to come back to Council.**

*Chair moved standing order 82 at 10.05pm.*

The Clerk informed members that she required confirmation of the recommendations made by the staffing committee on 12<sup>th</sup> December, which is office opening hours, which are required to go on the Council Tax precept leaflet which needs to go to the printers urgently. Cllr Marvin asked why if there is a full time Parish Clerk can the offices not be open full time? The hours that appear on the leaflet are the hours that the Staffing Committee recommended to Council. Cllr Batty confirmed that this has been discussed on numerous occasions and to allow the new Clerk to keep abreast of her work, she should not be open to the public, all hours, it should be permitted opening, he commented that this was said and that everyone agreed to that. **Cllr Hodges proposed that the hours, which are noted on the leaflet, are accepted; this was seconded by Cllr Coates. A vote was taken For 13, Abstentions 2.**

The Clerk asked if there were any comments other than the hours that they are passed to the Clerk by 12 noon the following day.

Cllr Cartwright stated that it will always be difficult to please everyone but as Cllr Purves mentioned we also have to adhere to the members of the public and any Cllr who needs access

to the office outside of the times stated. The Clerk clarified that this is not her working hours, if she is in the office, she will not turn people or Cllrs away.

Cllr Purves proceeded to inform the meeting of the amendments she felt were appropriate for the leaflet.

The Chairman asked the members to agree what he has put in as the statement including his changes. It was agreed that this was acceptable.

**Agenda Items of the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2006 to be discussed in closed session.**

**Item 12: Security Quarry Playing Field,** three quotes have been received in relation to the height barrier. Cllr Batty asked whether this has been considered under the Risk Assessment policy. Cllr Lock asked why it should be considered under the Councils Risk Assessment and not the Contractors'. **It was agreed that this could not be taken forward until a Risk Assessment has been carried out.**

**Item 11: Correspondence: Item 16369:** The letter received from Wildwood in relation to the replacement engine to the Estesia. Cllr Cartwright thought that due to the disclaimer in the letter it might work out cheaper to purchase a new unit. Cllr Cartwright proposed that the mower is replaced. Cllr Lock informed the members that Wildwood are offering a trade in on the old mower, so the total cost to the Council would be £2,500.00. against the minimum cost of £750 plus reuse of all the other eight year old components. Cllr Hodges proposed that it is brought back to the next meeting and in the meantime if a mower is required then it is hired.

Signed .....  
Chairman

Date .....