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Groby Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Groby Parish Council held at 7.00 pm on
Monday 11th September 2006 at the Parish Council Chamber, Leicester Road, Groby.**

Cou/123/06-07 Present.

Members: Cllrs Hagan (Chair), Cllr Cartwright, Cllr Lock, Cllr Dickson, Cllr Purves, Cllr York, Cllr Batty, Cllr Kennard, Cllr Marvin, Cllr Hodges, Cllr Coates, Cllr Hollick, Cllr Yarwood, Cllr Jones Acting Proper Officer – Mrs S Cowin

Cou/124/06-07 Apologies for Absence.

Cllr Beck
P.C. Kelly for being late

Cou/125/06-07 Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Hagan - Planning
Cllr Batty – Groby Parish Residents Group, Any matters relating to Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council as Borough Cllr, Public Open Spaces: Stamford Drive, Correspondence, Planning
Cllr York – Allotments
Cllr Coates – Prejudicial interest in Correspondence item
Cllr Emmerson – Allotments and Correspondence
Cllr Hodges – Public Open Spaces specifically Stamford Drive
Cllr Kennard – Correspondence
Cllr Marvin - Cemetery
Cllr Purves – Groby in Bloom
Cllr Cartwright – Personal Interest Groby Parish Plan, Personal Interest Groby Neighbourhood Watch.
Cllr Hollick – Groby Village Hall
Cllr Dickson – Groby Parish Residents Group
Cllr Lock – Planning
Cllr Yarwood – Correspondence prejudicial
Cllr Jones – None

The meeting adjourned for Public Participation at 7.02pm.

Cou/126/06-07 Resolved that the minutes of the Meeting held on 7th August 2006, Enclosure C, be signed as a true record subject to the following amendment:

Minute Cou/100/06-07 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of 3rd July, page 54, para 6, Minute Cou/088-06-07 Correspondence, Appendix D Item 16519, page 44, add in the word been after today.

Minute Cou/103/06-07 Questionnaire for Hacker Young, page 55, para 2, add in as RFO at the end of the sentence.

Minute Cou/106/06-07 Borough Councillors Report, page 55, Concessionary Travel, add in with after issued and via the Borough Council after release.

Minute Cou/107-06-07 Payment of Accounts, page 56, para 4, add at the end of the sentence that Cllr Lock did not vote as he was duly appointed as Proper Officer for the evening.

Minute Cou/107-06-07 Planning, page 58, para 1, line 2, should read slow and not sow.

Minute Cou/107-06-07 Planning, page 58, para 2, should read the Chairman declared an interest and left. Cllrs Dickson, Batty vacated the chamber followed later by Cllrs Hodges, York, Marvin, leaving 5 members in attendance they were Cllrs Kennard, Coates, Cartwright, Lock and Purves.

Minute Cou/108-06-07 Allotments, page 58, para 2, add at the end of the sentence that Cllr Lock did not vote as he was duly appointed as Proper Officer for the evening.

Minute Cou/108-06-07 Allotments, page 58, para 3 add at the end of the sentence that Cllr Lock did not vote as he was duly appointed as Proper Officer for the evening.

Minute Cou/108-06-07 Allotments, page 58, para 4 add at the end of the sentence that Cllr Lock did not vote as he was duly appointed as Proper Officer for the evening.

Resolved that the minutes of the Meeting held on 14th August 2006, Enclosure D, be signed as a true record subject to the following amendment:

Minute Cou/114-06-07, Accept Council Accounts, page 61, para 3, add at the end of the sentence of means of addressing that situation.

Minute Cou/118-06-07, Klondyke Legal Representation, page 62, add at the end of the paragraph that details of the public enquiry were put it the Parish Council office window for parishioners, on the website and sent to Groby Directory and Spotlight.

Minute Cou/122/06-07, Date of Next Meeting, page 63, some discussion took place as to the accuracy of the statement within this minute. A vote was taken for the agreement of this minute For: 6, Against: 5, Abstentions: 2 (Cllrs Lock and Emmerson).

Resolved that the record of the Meeting of Councillors that became a Gathering of Councillors held on 21st August 2006, Enclosure E, be agreed as a true record:

Cou/127/06-07 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of 7th August 2006, Enclosure C

Minute Cou/107-06-07, Planning, page 58, 21 Castell Drive, this planning application has been accepted and therefore the comments of the Parish Council have not been taken into account.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of 14th August 2006, Enclosure D

Minute Cou/114-06-07, Accept Councils Accounts, page 61 and Minute Cou/115-06-07, Questionnaire for Hacker Young, page 62, members were informed that all the information had now been sent to Hacker Young.

Cou/128/06-07 Borough Councillors Report

Mobile Phone Mast on Bradgate Hill - a number of complaints have been received from residents about a phone mast that has been erected on Bradgate Hill disguised as a conifer tree. Residents who had spoken to the planning department had been told that planning permission had been granted in 2004. Cllr Batty will undertake an investigation into this matter and report back to Council.

Concessionary Bus Fares – At the last meeting it was reported from a Borough Council Meeting that there had been a press release issued that the Boroughs and Districts were getting together to promote an improved scheme from October. It would seem that people are back tracking on the scheme and this will possibly be discussed at the next full council meeting at HBBC.

Revision of Groby Bus Services – A number of residents have contacted Cllr Batty very concerned at the revision of the bus time tables. It would not seem that the Parish Council were involved in any consultations and felt that it should be discussed at a future meeting and feedback given to the Operator.

Klondyke Update – HBBC are very concerned that the Travellers may have purchased more of the site than that which is part of the planning application and they move onto another part of the site and start the process again. Cllr Batty is trying to get statements from plot holders who have been approached to sell their plots for cash. Residents are asked to be vigilant and contact Senior Enforcement Officer at HBBC or Cllr Batty if any activity is noticed.

Ratby Road Improvement Scheme – An update has been received on the Borough Council Environmental Improvement Programme for 2006/07 and this states that it is still waiting for comments from Groby Parish Council. He asked for confirmation from the Parish Council whether a letter was sent in agreement with the Scheme.

HBBC Parish Forum – Cllr Batty suggested that the Parish Council do send representatives to this meeting as it will be an important one. Prior to the Parish Forum the Audit Commission is holding an independent Planning audit for Parishes at the Borough Council Offices, so if there any concerns with planning issues there is the opportunity to speak to members of the Audit Commission.

Groby Youth Activities Day – This was supported by the Parish Council but there have been a number of concerns raised with this from a member of a neighbouring authority over the event and over the day. Cllr Batty would like to ask the Parish Council for clarification over the misunderstanding that the request for support was aired openly at a meeting and it was discussed and supported as is minuted and the Chairman offered to donate £50.00 from the Chairman’s Allowance. There were at this point numerous issues raised and questions asked to Cllr Batty after which a lengthy discussion took place in relation to this matter, and questions and issues answered.

Cou/129/06-07 County Councillors Report

Concessionary Travel – As was reported previously County Council are negotiating with different Authorities, there are currently three Authorities who have made an interest in doing a deal with County Council.

Changes to the bus route the Arrive 117/118 have not notified people, and County Hall are still waiting for the new timetable which has been promised.

The 28A/B Leicester to Coalville is basically a half hour service still the other addition is the Leicester to Burton which is the X2 which runs straight along the A50, it does pickup at Field Head.

There is also the NHS hospital shuttle which goes to the three major hospitals which can be picked up at Glenfield. The County is organising an Airport Express which is Leicester to Nottingham East Midlands Airport which will run on the A50, its last pick up will be just before the motorway at Markfield, this is due to start in October.

The bus stop opposite 308/310 Leicester Road, discussions have taken place with the residents and that stop is a compromise in relation to disabled access, it will suffice but there are concerns about the bollards and they are going to be monitored.

Residents of Link Rise have requested via letter when will they get an answer to their letter. Cllr Lock confirmed that a letter had been sent to c/o 8 Link Rise, as there was no one person had signed the letter that came into the Council office.

Cou/130/06-07 Payment of Accounts

<i>Payee</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Amount £</i>	<i>Date Paid</i>	<i>Cheque No.</i>
British Telecommunications plc	Office & Cemetery bill	229.64	15.08.2006	105561
Various	August salaries	3,676.16	21.08.2006.	105562/63/ 64 & 65
HM Revenue & Customs Only	Tax & National Ins	1,406.71	21.08.2006	105566
HBBC	Office & Cemetery rates	241.00	22.08.2006	105567
Henson Bros	MOT	44.00	22.08.2006	105568
D A Computers	Computer repair	167.25	22.08.2006	105569
D Hulett	Fell & remove tree - Sycamore Drive	250.00	22.08.2008	105570

Anstey Building Supplies	Slabs, sand and gravel	73.09	22.08.2009	105571
Konica Minolta	Quarterly Assignment & Photocopies	142.99		
Harvey Ingram	Part legal fees for fencing covenant	411.25		
LRAPLC	Fees from association for operatives contract	620.00		
C M Purves	Reimbursement of Groby In Bloom plants & fees	151.31		
Vipans	Parks clothing	58.23		
Total		£7,471.63		

Cllr Purves declared an interest in a payment to herself in relation to re-imburement for Groby In Bloom.

Cllr Hodges proposed that Payment of Accounts was accepted this was seconded by Cllr Cartwright, a vote was taken with a unanimous decision reached.

The Meeting adjourned for Public Participation at 8.26 pm

Cou/131/06-07 Public Participation

A member of the public asked about the area of Public Open Space at Bluebell Drive and when the Council would be adopting this area? Cllr Yarwood informed the parishioner that this was near completion but has stalled due to the fact that part of the land has Severn Trent equipment on it and Council are still waiting for Solicitors to award a easement to Severn Trent to gain access to their equipment on the land.

A member of the public asked numerous questions in relation to the Groby Youth Activities Day to Cllr Batty. Cllr Batty confirmed that all risk assessments were carried out by HBBC and everything was checked by Cllr Batty with HBBC. Advice was also taken from the Director of Cultural Services at HBBC.

A member of the public stated that on the steps leading up to the pool there has been a tree blown down, he had spoken to Cllr Jones about it but is has been confirmed that it is the Quarry who are in charge of it. Cllr Jones has spoken to Cllr Collins in relation to this. Cllr Lock informed members that HBBC had been informed at 14.30 on the 5th September as the matter had been raised at the Allotment meeting and they confirmed that something would be done.

P.C. Kelly entered the Chamber at 8.37 pm

The Meeting reconvened following Public Participation at 8.40 pm.

Cou/132/06-07 Police Report

Crime	Number – Groby
Burglary –Dwelling	1
Burglary – Other	3
Robbery	1
Vehicle – Taking	0
Vehicle – Taking From	1
Vehicle – Damage	0
Non-Domestic Assaults	5
Total Crimes	11
Crime	Number – Field Head
Vehicle – Taking from	3
Total Crimes	3

P.C. Kelly left the Chamber at 8.50 pm

Cou/133/06-07 **Planning Applications**

<i>Reference No</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Comments</i>
05//00366/COU	Allotment Gardens, Newtown Linford Lane	Change of use of land to permanent residential	No further information available at this time
06/00882/FUL	17 Field Court Road	Single storey extensions to rear of dwelling	No Objection: Subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning application outstanding
06/00848/FUL	10 Martinshaw Lane	Erection of pitched roof over existing	No Objection: Subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning application outstanding
05//00366/COU	Allotment Gardens, Newtown Linford Lane	Change of use of land to permanent residential	
06/00898/FUL	Stone Lodge, Branting Hill	Erection of 63 dwellings with associated parking and access	Report at meeting on the 11- 9-06
06/00918/FUL	18 Beech Avenue	Extensions and Alterations to Dwelling	No Objection: Subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning application outstanding
06/00928/FUL	35 Bluebell Drive	Erection of conservatory	No Objection: Subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning application outstanding
06/00898/FUL (Amended plans)	Stone Lodge, Branting Hill	Erection of 61 dwellings with associated parking and access	Report at meeting on the 11- 9-06
06/00207/FUL (Appeal Notice)	Stone Lodge, Branting Hill	Erection of 56 dwellings with associated parking and access	Report at meeting on the 11- 9-06
06/00912/FUL	244 Markfield Road	Extensions and Alterations to Dwelling	No Objection: Subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning application outstanding
06/00846/FUL	Adj No 1 Parkside	Erection of one Dwelling And Erection of Garage	No Objection: Subject to neighbours not being inconvenienced and there being no other planning application outstanding

The Chairman along with Cllrs Lock, Batty declared an interest in item 06/00898/FUL/06/00207/FUL and left the Chamber at 9.04 pm and all returning to Chamber at 9.16 pm.

06/00898/FUL/06/00207/FUL – Stone Lodge, Branting Hill, Cllr Purves reported that this required dealing with in three parts.

The original application was declined on the grounds of B14 which is archaeological remains and B1 noise and highways and segregation of children's play area which was against RAC2 and RAC3 of HBBC policies and guidelines.

An appeal has now gone in and the only way if Council wish to object is on the grounds of refusal by HBBC. Either the existing concerns which were raised can be used or Council can look at another way of doing this. If Council want to appeal it has to be done to the Secretary of State to the Environment and the date of enquiry has yet to be set but submissions have to be in by 25th September. Cllr Purves asked whether members wanted a letter to be sent to the enquiry and on what grounds? It was suggested that this was deferred until Cllr Purves had informed members of the new application.

The new application consists of 61 dwellings which meets HBBC's guidelines. The new application has covered archaeological background, Flora, Bats and animals. A Bats nest has been found and one new house has to have bat entrances into a special roof space to provide for the Bats when they return. Cllr Purves recommended that it was asked that a condition under the planning application that the play area should be moved away from the brook for safety and to allow for a nature haven to be re-established.

Cllr Purves also recommended that Rothley Brook the area south of the brook was fenced off and this and the area to the north of the brook but kept as a wildlife haven, the later retain the brook and wetland associated with it for biodiversity potential as suggested by the developer in their report 3.57.

Cllr Hodges proposed that these two recommendations be accepted, this was seconded by Cllr Hollick.

Cllr Purves also made the following recommendations to be used in conjunction with the new application:-

- 1 (a) Traffic and Highways are a major concern and it was suggested that highways be advised of these concerns and proposals are put in place to alleviate them. Existing from Branting Hill/Anstey Avenue into the Leicester Road is already congested during peak hours another possibly 120 cars will access and abate the situation.
- 1(b) As already stated in (a) the traffic exiting at Groby already builds up due to the traffic from Ratby and associated areas all trying to exit at one point onto the A46/A50 roundabout, this island needs traffic lights at least at peak times to keep the flow of traffic moving and alleviate the gridlock already existing in the area.
- 1(c) Retuning from Leicester if the intersection is used to the north of Anstey Lane, this intersection is dangerous as (i) it is opposite a bus stop, (ii) it is opposite a day care centre for children, (iii) visibility is limited due to the curvature of the road.
- 3 Major concern regarding the impact on local resources – has research been carried out to establish whether or not (a) there are school places available for families moving into these properties and (b) the local general practitioners can cope with the additional patients and the associated services.

Drainage concerns – it is understood that the area has experienced flooding and it is requested that this is taken into account in any conditions imposed on this application.

It was proposed by Cllr York that these points were used in relation to the new application, this was seconded by Cllr Hodges.

Cou/134/06-07 Standing Orders, Financial Regulations & Code Conduct

As there have been occasions recently when issues have been raised that are not included in the Standing Orders currently in place therefore it was felt that they should be revised to take this into account. Cllr Purves proposed that a working party should be set up to look at the Standing Orders, this was seconded by Cllr Hodges. Volunteers for the Working Party - Cllrs Purves, Lock, Hodges and Batty.

Cou/135/06-07 Staffing Matters

Dates have been set for 19th September to meet with candidates.

Cou/136/06-07 Allotment Issues

The Allotment Society had been asked to put together an invitation to tender for the removal of the asbestos. They have now come back with four quotes. Cllr Lock tabled these quotes. It was proposed by Cllr Lock that the cheapest quote was accepted, this was seconded by Cllr Kennard. A vote was taken a majority decision was reached, with abstentions from Cllrs York and Emmerson.

Cllr Lock also suggested that when the quote tendered for Orchard was accepted it was agreed that the tree on plot 50 should be removed, whilst the contractor was there with his equipment. The quote has come back as per the original quote but this also includes digging out some soil and getting some mill waste to tidy it up. This will cost an extra £250.00. This was proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Hodges. A majority decision was reached with abstentions from Cllrs York and Emmerson.

Cou/137/06-07 Office Computer Equipment

A quote had been supplied by the company who supplied the computers for an annual on site maintenance agreement. Cllr Cartwright felt that the strategy should be looked at rather than just accepting recommendations from the company. He also felt that three quotes should be obtained. This matter was deferred to a future meeting.

Cou/138/06-07 Date of Next Meeting

The Chair suggested that this meeting be adjourned and items discussed at a reconvened meeting to be held on Monday 18th September 2006. (Subject to a Proper Officer).

Members of the public left the meeting at 9.35 pm

The Council moved into closed session at 9.35 pm.

The meeting closed at 10.02 pm.

Signed
Chairman

Date

Closed Session of 11th September 2006

Correspondence Items 16552/16598/16621/16625/16640

Cllr Batty declared a prejudicial interest and left the Chamber at 9.35 pm returning at 10.02 pm.

Cllr Yarwood declared a prejudicial interest and left the Chamber at 9.35 pm returning at 10.02 pm.

Cllr York declared an interest and left the Chamber at 9.35 pm returning at 10.02 pm.

Cllr Coates declared an interest and left the Chamber at 9.35 pm returning at 10.02 pm.

Cllr Dickson declared an interest but did not leave the Chamber.

Cllr Hollick has been accused by Cllr Batty as having a clear undeclared prejudicial interest which he feels that he does not have and wanted this recorded for the record.

A lengthy discussion took place on this matter, with correspondence being discussed and commented on. It was felt that if it becomes clear that the Parish Council will loose then signs should be put up and the fence erected. It was suggested that an article is put in the spotlight to let residents know exactly why the fence has had to go up.

Cllr Hodges proposed that the second paragraph of letter 16640 is accepted and that Council follow that advice and in order to inform the public of the reason for the decision notices are erected and a notice put in the spotlight.

Due to the complexity of this issue and time restraints it was agreed that this item is deferred to the next meeting for further discussion.

The meeting closed at 10.02 pm.