

*(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 Extraordinary General Meeting of Groby Parish Council held at 7.00 pm on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2007 at the Parish Council Chamber, Leicester Road, Groby.**

**Cou/091/07-08 Clerk Appointment.**

In the absence of a Proper Officer it was proposed by Cllr. Marvin and seconded by Cllr. Cartwright that Mr. Ron Simpson be appointed Clerk to the Council for this meeting. **Resolved:** Mr. Ron Simpson be appointed Clerk for this meeting - unopposed.

**Cou/092/07-08 Present.**

Members: Cllrs Batty (Chair), Cllr. Purves, Cllr J Smith, Cllr Marvin, Cllr Lindsay, Cllr Cartwright, Cllr L. Smith, Cllr Hodges, Cllr Beck, Cllr. Coates, Cllr. Hollick, Cllr. Yarwood.

\* Cllr. Hodges joined the meeting at 7.11pm

**Cou/093/07-08 Apologies for Absence.**

Cllrs. Brieley, Emmerson, Jones, Trant – Cllr. Hodges for late arrival.  
P.C. Kelly

**Cou/094/07-08 Declarations of Interest.**

Cllr Batty – Any matters relating to Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council as Groby Ward Borough Cllr. & Personal Interest in 2 items on payment of accounts, planning item.

Cllr Hodges – Public Open Spaces specifically Stamford Drive.

Cllr Cartwright - Personal Interest Groby Parish Plan, Personal Interest as Secretary, Groby Neighbourhood Watch and Committee Member of the Rutland and Leicestershire County Neighbourhood Watch Association, all items on the Agenda as HBBC Groby Ward Borough Councillor, correspondence item 17095. planning item.

Cllr Beck – Personal Interests – Druck & Allotments, correspondence item 17095

Cllr J Smith – Personal interest in Druck

Cllr Lindsay – Personal Interest Open Spaces, correspondence item 17095

Cllr. Yarwood – Personal interest in agenda items 12 & 13

Cllr. Hollick – Groby Village Hall

Cllr. Marvin – Planning item.

**Cou/095/07-08 Minutes.**

**RESOLVED:** That the signing of the minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007 are accepted subject to the following amendments:-

*\*Amendment to 4<sup>th</sup> June 2007 minutes amendment:*

*Cou/031/07-08 **Police Report** - due to the donation from Inspector Andy Sharpe of Leicestershire Constabulary and M.B. Cartwright of Appliance Home Limited.*

**Cou/086/07-08 Druck Lease** – The Vice Chair updated members and confirmed that a number of amendments needed to be inserted into the Lease and that the Chairman had instructed the Council's Solicitor accordingly.

**Cou/089/07-08 Staffing** – **“Resolved:** That Emergency Committee be authorised to negotiate an appropriate alternative contract for a water cooler.

**Cou/096/07-08 Matters Arising.**

**From the Minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007:**

**Cou/085/07-08 C.C.T.V.** – Cllr. L. Smith withdrew from C.C.T.V. Working Party having declared a personal interest.

**Cou/088/07-08 Correspondence** – Emergency Committee has requested 3 “like for like” quotes.

*\*At 7.18pm the Chairman suspended Standing Orders and adjourned the meeting for Public Participation*

**Cou/097/07-08 Public Participation.**

A number of questions asked by members of the public were responded to. The Chairman clarified that concerns expressed by the Emergency Committee for the need for a review of the security of Parish Council premises was consistent with "Good Practice" and the length of time without a review rather than expressing concerns in respect of any individuals. .

*\* At 7.43pm the Chairman re-instated Standing Orders and re-convened the meeting.*

**Cou/098/07-08 Planning and Development Committee.**

Cllr. Purves, Chair of the committee presented the minutes of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2007, the minutes were approved as an accurate record but applications in respect of the Stamford Arms could only be discussed informally as Cllr. Batty had declared an interest as a member of HBBC Licensing Committee and left the Chamber, the committee was then no longer "quorate". Therefore, Cllr. Purves had felt it necessary to bring these applications back to the full Council for discussion. *\*At this point Cllrs. Batty and Cartwright as members of HBBC Licensing Committee and Cllr. Marvin as Trustee of the Groby Ex-Servicemen's Club declared a personal and possibly prejudicial interest and left the Chamber while the Stamford Arms application was discussed.*

**Cou/099/07-08 Payment of Accounts.**

Some discussion was held in respect of concerns over repair bills to a mower only just out of warranty with which the Council had experienced continuous problems throughout the warranty period. Members agreed that further contact should be made with the supplier and clarification sought.

*\*Cllr. Batty declared a personal interest in 2 items of re-imburement on the schedule.*

It was proposed by Cllr. Cartwright and seconded by Cllr. Lindsay that the payments of accounts schedule be accepted. **Resolved:** The payments of account schedule was approved unanimously.

**Cou/100/07-08 Police Report.**

No Police Officer was present, therefore Cllr. Cartwright read out the July 2007 Crime Figures for the Parish as supplied by the Police.

**Cou/101/07-08 County Councillor Reports.**

Cllr. Sprason (for Field Head) provided a brief report, including his response to issues raised by Field Head residents in respect of school travel and progress on speed regulation on the A50 from Field Head to Lena Drive.

Cllr. Fraser (for Groby) provided a brief report, on issues such as the long overdue traffic lights at the A50/A46 interchange, some debate and heated exchanges followed with Members frustrated at the delays in addressing this issue and the need for more parking regulation in and around Groby Centre. Members also raised their concerns over the poor quality of grass cutting to the Highways verges. Cllr. Fraser also raised the issue of the closure of the Bradgate Landfill Site and voiced his concerns over the serious issue of the "Groundwater" tower at the site. Members asked Cllr. Fraser in his capacity as Chairman of the Bradgate Landfill Liaison Committee to provide a full report for the next Parish Council meeting on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2007, Cllr. Fraser confirmed that he would be happy to do so. Cllr. Fraser offered to arrange for Members to meet with County Council Highways Officers to discuss the various Highways issues and concerns that had been raised.

**Cou/102/07-08 Borough Councillor Report.**

Cllr. Cartwright provided a brief report on Borough Council issues including the implementation of Parking Enforcement by Borough Council Traffic Wardens. So far in the 3 weeks that the Wardens have been in place 3 fixed penalty tickets have been issued. It was explained that Wardens can only enforce parking restrictions, e.g. where there are yellow lines but can not enforce dangerous such as near road junctions or inconsiderate parking such as on pavements or causing an obstruction, this would still be a matter for the Police to enforce. Opinions were expressed that the need for further parking restrictions should be looked at.

**Cou/103/07-08 Scout Lease.**

The Chairman briefly suspended Standing Orders to invite some clarification from a representative of the Scouts. The Chairman then re-instated Standing Orders and proposed that this request be deferred until a meeting had taken place between representatives from the Scouts and the Council. **Resolved:** That a meeting be arranged with representatives of the Scouts at a date to be agreed, the Council to be represented by Cllrs. J. Smith, Cllr. L. Smith together with the Chair and Vice Chair.

**Cou/104/07-08 Druck Lease.**

The Chairman provided an update to Members, expressing his concerns that despite meetings with Druck and offers of assistance to help ensure that work could still commence under the current Planning Consent, no response had been received from Druck or their Solicitors and in fact Druck had now submitted a new Planning Application to the Borough Council which was clear indication that there was no intention to attempt to commence work before the expiry of the current Planning Application on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2007.

*\* At this point the Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow a member of the public to express concerns and put forward a suggestion that the Council write to the Borough Council Planners requesting an extension of the Planning Permission. The Chair explained that it was unlikely that this request could be granted due to Planning Legislation but agreed to give this a try with Members' support.*

*\*The Chairman reconvened the meeting.*

The Chair then proposed that the Borough Council be contacted to request an extension of the current Planning Permission. **Resolved:** A request be made to HBBC for an extension of the current Planning Permission – Unanimous.

**Cou/105/07-08 Tree Maintenance Policy.**

Cllr. Beck provided a brief report from the Working Party and a recommended action list following recent inspections. **Resolved:** That the concerns highlighted in the report be referred to a meeting with LCC, the Council's retained Tree Consultants. Concerns in respect of inappropriate tree planting as part of Landscaping schemes approved by the Borough Council Planning Department, be referred back to HBBC for comment and that a Draft Tree Maintenance Policy be brought back to the Council for approval at the Parish Council meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

**Cou/106/07-08 Correspondence.**

Due to other agenda items having over run their allocated time, the Chairman proposed to defer discussion of correspondence to the next meeting. **Resolved:** To defer discussion of correspondence to the next meeting – Unanimous.

**Cou/107/07-08 Landscape Consultant.**

Part of the document to be discussed was not available therefore Members agreed to defer the matter to the next meeting.

**Cou/108/07-08 Emergency Committee Report.**

Cllr. Cartwright provided a brief report to members with reference for the urgent need to replace a faulty ansaphone in the Parish Council office, the recent meeting with HBBC, the Police and other relevant parties to address the concerns in respect of Groby Pool car park. Cllr. Cartwright advised Members that a copy of the notes from the meeting would be made available to them shortly. Requests had been received for the use of the Council Chamber on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2007 for a meeting of the joint Ratby/Groby proposed Skateboard Park group and from HBBC for a Groby Pool update meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2007. **Resolved:** A budget of £100 to replace the office ansaphone, both requests for the use of the Parish Council Chamber be approved.

*\*continued in closed session*

**Cou/109/07-08 Date of Next Meeting**

17<sup>th</sup> September 2007 as per agreed schedule

*Members of the public left the meeting at 9.45pm*

*\* Following a “comfort break” the Council moved into closed session at 9.49pm.*

*The meeting closed at 10.08pm.*

Signed .....  
Chairman

Date .....

**Cou/110/07-08 Minutes**

**Resolved:** That the Closed Session minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007 are accepted as an accurate record.

**Cou/111/07-08 Matters Arising**

**Resolved:** That subject to the following *the Closed Session Minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007 are approved:*

**Cou/112/07-08 Staffing.**

- a). Clerk Issues: Due to the lack of time available this item was deferred to the next meeting.
- b). Recruitment Committee Recommendation: The Recruitment Committee presented their report on the recent interviews held for the vacant position of Clerk to the Council. The recommendation was for the position to be offered to Mrs. J. Sherratt. **Resolved:** That Mrs. J. Sherratt be offered the position of Clerk to Groby Parish Council to commence employment with the Council on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2007

\* The Chairman offered his thanks and congratulated the Recruitment Committee on a job well done, the sentiment was echoed by other Members.

**Cou/108/07-08 Emergency Committee Report (cont.).**

Cllr. Cartwright introduced a Draft Holiday Protocol for discussion, some Members expressed a wish to have more time to study the document and in view of the very short time left to conclude the meeting, the Chairman proposed that discussion on the item be deferred. Cllr. Cartwright expressed concerns over the urgent need to have this protocol in place. **Resolved:** To defer discussion to the next meeting – approved by a majority. Cllr. Cartwright against.

*(\* to allow the discussions in respect of the above items to be completed Standing Order 82 was moved by the Chairman at 10.00pm to suspend Standing Orders to allow the meeting to continue for a further 10 minutes.)*

*The meeting closed at 10.10pm.*

Signed .....  
Chairman

Date .....