Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting (RPC) held at the Village Hall on Monday 20 March 2023 which commenced at 7.00pm

Presents: Cllrs. Dave Amies (Chairman), Adrian Gombault, Stella Smith, Andrew Nebel, Debbie Rolfe, Phill Davis, Richard Ludlow & Andy Yates.

In Attendance: Jo Gresty (Meadows Playing Field Management Association Chairman), 9 members of the public and Sarah Gresty (Parish Clerk)

Public Forum.

- A member of the public raised an issue of unsafe parking by parents whilst dropping off and collecting children from school. The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken with the school's deputy co-head who was taking some action to improve matters.
- A member of the public asked if there was an update on the planning situation off Meadow Lane. RPC had received not update.
- A member of the public asked for an update on Mallard Pass.

AGENDA

2023/03/01 **Apologies** for absence were received from Cllrs. Nick Bellairs & David Wilby
It was **Resolved** to accept these apologies unanimously.
Other Apologies were received from County Cllr. Rick Wilson

2023/03/02 **Declarations** of unregistered disclosable pecuniary interests. None received.

2023/03/03 **Minutes** of the Meeting held on 20 February 2023 were presented as a true and accurate record of events. Proposed acceptance Cllr. Davis, Seconded Cllr. Yates. Abstentions due to not attending this meeting were received from Cllrs. Gombault & Rolfe, remaining voted unanimously in favour**. RESOLVED.**

2023/03/04 **Matters Arising** for information exchange

- Bin issues – still awaiting response from Rutland County Council. (RCC)
- 20 mph Scheme – still awaited news from RCC Highways for the end date of consultation period and for the next stage to begin.
- Letter to RCC Planners – letter has been drafted by Cllr. Amies.

2023/03/05 **Meadows Playing Field Management Association (MPFMA).** Jo Gresty, Chairman of the MPFMA, a charity which manages the playing fields, gave a brief outline of the requirements for a new lease between RPC and MPFMA and for a collaboration agreement. Draft proposals for both documents had been presented to councillors before the meeting.

Main points:

Lease: the charity needs a new, professionally prepared lease if it is to continue to manage the playing field.

Repair & maintenance. The Charity has some funds but cannot commit to do all the work for the next 30 years. To maintain the property for the benefit of the local community, RPC will need to contribute towards the costs of running the playing fields.

Collaboration agreement: a live document which will be reviewable annually in the autumn to determine what funding is required. This is a formal way of recognising that RPC will help fund and will provide a proper platform for PC to input into the running of the playing fields.

Chairman: Date:

Currently the buildings belong to the Charity. On balance it is more appropriate that they belong RPC as landlord. RPC currently insures the property, including Trustee Public Liability insurance.

Bowls Club: To clarify the basis on which the bowls club operates at Ryhall, the charity will sublet the bowling green and clubhouse to the Bowls Club.

The Charity is to update its Constitution, recognising the changes in the pattern of use of the fields since their development in the 1970s and 80s.

Cllr. Nebel supported fully the draft documents and for there to be clarity of responsibilities on both sides.

Cllr. Amies asked for clarification that if the buildings fell beyond reasonable repair that the Charity and RPC would together discuss for any removal.

Proposal: To contact a Solicitor to draw up a new lease in accordance with the draft submitted and to enter into the collaboration agreement as drafted. Proposed Cllr. Nebel, Seconded Cllr. Rolfe and unanimous in favour - **RESOLVED**
Action: Jo to research suitable Solicitor to start preparation of a new lease.

It was proposed that Cllr. Rolfe be nominated as the councillor representative on the board of trustees of the MPFMA.

2023/03/06 Finance

(1) **Reports**

a) The Financial Report 1 Apr 22 – 28 Feb 2023 with original bank statements was presented to the meeting by the clerk. It was hoped at the next meeting full year accounts would be presented.

(2)**Financial Payments**

a) chq 102690 S Gresty clerk Feb salary £1114.01
b) dd Nest Pension £51.43
c) chq 102691 Methodist church hall £15.00
d) chq 102692 Fenland Leisure inv. 50830 £134.40

(3) **Income**

a) RHIB insurance refund £71.66
b) transfer from dormant account to current account £4978.53
c) Flint – grazing £10

It was **resolved** to accept all the financial record listed above as a true and accurate record – approved unanimously.

2023/03/07 Cemetery

a) A report on the Cemetery Extension requirements and costs had been circulated prior to the meeting. This was an overview of the tasks required to commission the new extension and for information purposes only at this stage.

Chairman: Date:

b) Quotations were presented for the purchase of a noticeboard for the display rules and regulations at Belmesthorpe Lane cemetery.

Proposal: To purchase from the cemetery account a noticeboard from KBS at a cost of £332 + VAT. Proposed Cllr. Rolfe, Seconded Cllr. Smith and unanimous in favour - **RESOLVED.**

The clerk presented a quotation for making safe a memorial cross in the old cemetery opposite the church.
Action: Clerk to tape the area around the cross to make safe and to obtain one further quotation as a comparison for submission at the next meeting.
Cllr. Smith to research if any existing family members was contactable in the area to notify them of the unsafe nature of the memorial.

2023/03/08 **Planning**. To receive new applications and notifications since last meeting.

2023/0226/CAT Bridge House Mill Street tree works. This had been responded to by the RPC planning committee.

A robust response had been submitted to RCC after the call for sites notice which had recently been issued. Action: clerk to make this document available on the website.

Cllr. Gombault asked for further clarification on application 2023/0098/FUL. The planning committee had submitted a response and confirmed that test boring would be a consideration if the house was to be lowered.

2023/03/09 **Village Issues**

i) Street Lighting. Cllr. Yates gave an update on a recent meeting with Cllr. Rosemary Powel who is responsible for RCC utilities in Rutland. Cllr. Yates explained the proposal for reducing electricity usage and our carbon footprint. Key areas were how saving can be measured. All our streetlights can talk to each other and, therefore, it is possible to get this information.
Cllr. Powel's suggestion was that Ryhall would run a pilot scheme and if successful this could be rolled out across Rutland. She asked if RPC would be willing to pay for this, Cllr. Yates suggested that if we benefited from the savings made, then yes. Now awaiting to hear back but the scheme does sound promising.

ii) Kings Coronation Event. Cllr. Rolfe had spoken with both pubs. The Millstone is waiting for confirmation to see if a road closure between the 2 pubs was possible. If successful, they will be putting on a community event which maybe the RPC could help with providing decorations for. Alternatively, RPC could plant a memorial tree.
Cllr. Gombault reported that Belmesthorpe was having a street party and hoped to have some funding from the allocated parish funding set aside for this event.
Action: Cllr. Rolfe to keep the council informed of outcomes
Cllr. Gombault to send a breakdown of Belmesthorpe costs.

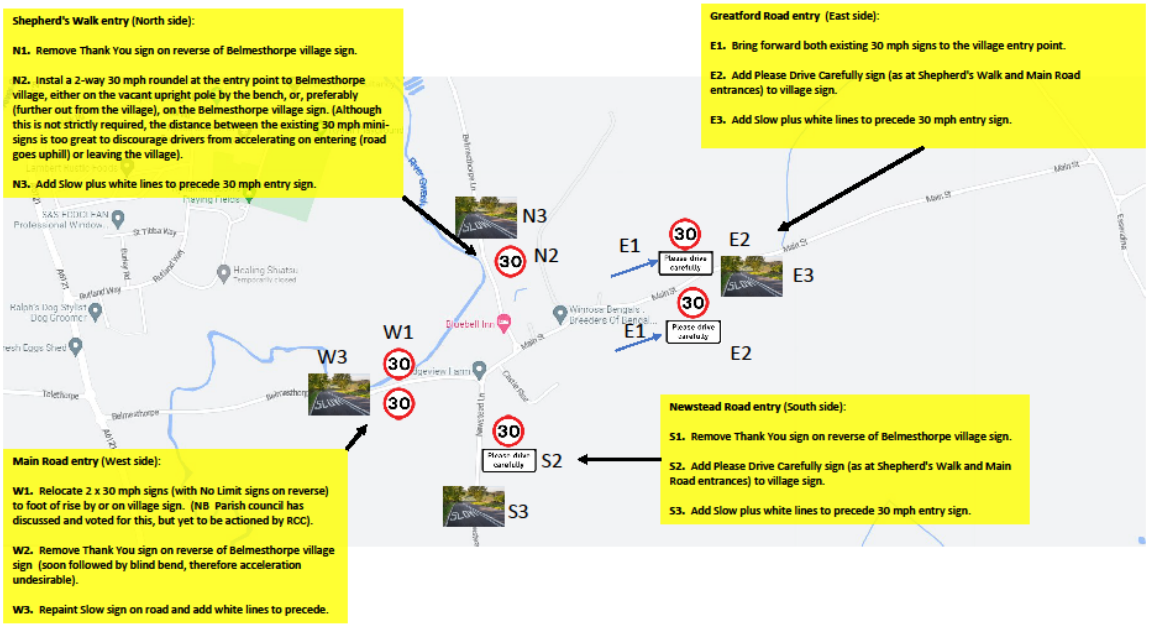
iii) Highway Issues. An update from RCC of the Integrated Transport Capital Programme application (ITCP) had been circulated before the meeting. The large pothole on Mill Street had been coned off and hopefully would be repaired to a higher standard. All potholes are reported via fix-my-street with photographic evidence if possible.

Chairman: Date:

2023/03/10 **Belmesthorpe Traffic Calming** – Cllr. Gombault had circulated explanatory documents and copies of survey results before the meeting.

Proposal: That the Parish Council endorses the need for effective traffic calming measures in Belmesthorpe, as demonstrated by the findings of the recent survey; and that the Parish Council endorses the proposals made for traffic calming in Belmesthorpe and seeks action from RCC Highways Depart to put them into effect at the earliest opportunity.

Road Safety in Belmesthorpe village



Proposed Cllr. Gombault, Seconded Cllr. Smith and unanimous in favour-**RESOLVED.**
Action: Cllr. Gombault to submit the proposal to RCC.

2023/03/11 **Lord Lieutenant of Rutland's appeal** to raise funds enabling a statute of our late Queen Elizabeth II to be placed in front of the Library in Oakham.

Proposal 1. Cllr. Smith : RPC to donate £200. No seconder received.
Proposal 2. Cllr. Yates RPC to split the £500 set aside for the Coronation event in next year's budget: £250 towards the statue and £250 for the coronation events. Seconded Cllr. Nebel. Votes: 4 in favour, 3 against. Majority vote in favour -**RESOLVED.**

2023/03/12 **Annual Parish Meeting.** To consider expenditure for cheese and wine to promote the Annual Parish meeting to make a more welcome event in the hope to attract village participation.
A member of the public kindly offered to donate £200 for the purchase of cheese and wine with any surplus funds being donated to the playing fields for this event. RPC expressed thanks for this kind offer.

2023/03/13 **Reports from Councillors on meetings** they have attended as parish council representatives.
Cllr. Amies had recently attended meeting with Alicia Kearns MP. Matters discussed included:

Chairman: Date:

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Care in the home, Housing development at Woolfox, Solar Farm need for national energy policy, Swimming pools, Social mobility and rural aspects
Health financial position, Current infrastructure project in RCC, Environment bill on air quality, Feeling that parish forum should be run by parishes instead of RCC, RCC had received a number of applications for new and extended quarries,
GP surgeries: Empingham is overrun with new patients, Uppingham and Oakham surgeries are experience problems. Concern on traffic at Liddington and RCC not responding or prosecuting HGV drivers, St George's Barracks site. Likely to have 90 houses and new miliary unit being stationed & Quarry farm development and A1 upgrade.

Mallard Pass. The Clerk had attended with the County Councillor's a meeting that afternoon, giving parish councils advise on how to put their arguments across in a concise, meaningful and constructive way to the Planning Inspectorate when the time came. In the consultant's opinion the most meaningful grounds for objection were:

- **Agricultural land**. Its cumulative impact of food loss in the neighbouring counties with such schemes. Ask what is grown on the land and why.
- **Visual impacts.** Collate details of usage of paths, by which groups of the community, photos of areas affected.
- **Residential amenities**. Consultant high value receptors such as cyclist, walkers, running and art groups. What is the impact on the areas used.
- **Red list ecology**. Woodland and grassland and habitat

The consultant suggested that highway issues were easily mitigated against and not the strongest of objection arguments.

The meeting urged parishes to start to accumulate mitigation needs in the event that the scheme is successful. Community funding would be available. What measures would be required to lessen impacts on the landscape, maximising ecology and the requirement for more woodland. The need for funds to have a robust maintenance programme for the care and upkeep of the scheme's proposed planting.

RCC is compiling a local impact report which will be submitted to the planning committee for pre-approval before submission to the Planning Inspectorate. RCC
is looking into providing additional help to parishes to aid their responses.

2023/03/14 **Correspondence** was noted from the agenda of this meeting.

2023/03/15 **Open Forum** (if required)
Cllr. Gombault would like to see a hand delivered paper survey regarding the cemetery extension going to each household to improve results

2023/03/16 **To receive Items for Future Meetings**

- Unregistered pieces of land - Cllr Amies to give an update.
- Smartphone app – Cllr. Gombault

Meeting closed at 9.32

Dates of Meetings for 2023 commencing at 19:00 17 Apr-Village Hall, 15 May-Village Hall, **Thursday 25 May (Annual Parish Meeting)-Village Hall,** 26 Jun-Methodist Church Hall, 17 July-Village Hall, 18 Sept-Village Hall, 23 Oct-Methodist Church Hall, 20 Nov-Village Hall.

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