

REMPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ANNUAL MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 14th May. 2007.

Present: Mr D M Walker (in the Chair) Mr P Atkin
Mr J Santoro Mr N Humphries
Mrs L Craven

In attendance: Mrs J M Walker (Clerk to the Parish Council)

Also present were County Councillor Mrs L Sykes and five members of the Public

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Beeby, Mrs M Thompson and Mr G Holmes

1. Election of Officers for 2007/2008

(a) **Chairman:** Mr D Walker was re-elected, proposed by Mrs L Craven and seconded by Mr J Santoro. There were no other nominations. Mr D Walker then formally signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman for the Clerk to keep on record.

At this point the Clerk collected Declarations of Acceptance of office of Councillor from the remaining five Councillors to keep on record.

(b) **Vice Chairman:** Mr R Beeby was re-elected, proposed by Mr N Humphries and seconded by Mr P Atkin. There were no other nominations.

(c) **Representatives to the Village Hall Committee:** It was a requirement that three members of the Parish Council should be represented on this committee and therefore Mr N Humphries was reinstated, proposed by Mr D Walker and seconded by Mr J Santoro; Mr R Beeby was reinstated, proposed by Mr D Walker and seconded by Mrs L Craven and Mr J Santoro was proposed by Mr N Humphries and seconded by Mr P Atkin to make the third.

(d) **Vacancy for co-opted Councillor:** The Chairman told everyone that prior to the elections he had received a letter of resignation from Mrs J Schober who had joined the Parish Council in April 1998 but who now wanted to spend her time and energies on the Village Hall Committee. He said that having gone through the election process and then advertised the vacancy there had been one written application from Mrs J Taylor for the Council to consider co-option. It was agreed that Mrs Taylor be co-opted and her appointment was proposed by Mr D Walker and seconded by Mr N Humphries. The Clerk to write to thank Mrs Schober for her contribution over the past nine years.

2. **The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 8th January 2007 and of the Planning Meeting held on Monday 12th February 2007** were accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes** – none.

4. **Items Arising from the Annual Parish Meeting held Monday 26th March 2007**

The Chairman told the meeting that the issue regarding the gulley on the Wymeswold Road had been raised with NCC Highways Department when it was reported that this had been filled in and no longer existed. This drain is urgently required so a Defects Report has been sent with an added request for attention to be given to all the gulleys in and around the village.

5. **Model Code of Conduct Order 2007**

As Councillors we are required to sign up to this new Code but the Council has until 1st October to adopt this. There are slightly different rules on the registration of members' interests and the Chairman said he had prepared for circulation information for Councillors to absorb and understand before a decision was taken. He said we should discuss this issue at the next meeting on 9th July and that meanwhile the Clerk should notify the Borough Solicitor that we were deferring our decision until then.

6. Open Discussion Time.

- (a) County Councillor Lynn Sykes told the meeting:
 - (i) The Government is transferring lots of spending on to the Local Authorities but without giving them the money.
 - (ii) She then talked about the NET Tram system and explained that any further expansion of this had been opposed because they could not find out the final cost as this information is confidential. She said that any protection for the people will not be included in the new contract and that they estimate up to £400 million being involved.
 - (iii) She spoke about the Electoral Division Initiative (EDI) making available £5,000 to her fund and asked if there was anything up to say £500 that we would like to apply for. Interest was shown in providing the village with a second doggie bin, nearer the centre of the village, and possibly table tennis tables for a youth group.
- (b) The Chairman referred to money being made available to look at footpaths and understood that one application could go from each village. He had heard that our application was very far down the list and that some villages were sending in more than one. He asked Councillor Sykes to push our claim for this work to be done particularly on the main A6006 from the crossroads toward Hoton.
- (c) Reference was once again made to the main A6006 and the fact that recently we had had two incidents that could have been serious. The Chairman mentioned that Leicestershire have a line on a map for a proposal in 2012 for a by-pass but Nottinghamshire did not recognise this. It was now identified that HGV drivers with the satnav facility were being directed through the village.
- (d) Concern was expressed over the litter and state of the ditch up the Wysall Lane near to the top allotments. The Chairman explained that this was County Council land and that Streetwise should be made aware that this ditch needed attention. Streetwise had fallen short because although they already been to the village they had not covered the whole village that should include the Wysall Lane ditch and also some fly tipping that had been reported along the Main A60.
- (e) The issue of the distribution of agendas was again raised and it was proposed that a team of helpers be approached to deal with this and some names were given to the Clerk to contact.

7. Planning Issues

The Chairman said these were all reporting issues but that he would like to comment on the first two items. Item (a) was that Charnwood Borough Council are having difficulties with the wind turbine issue on two counts: one concerned the noise levels and the second was that East Midlands Airport were having trouble with possible radar interference. Item (b) was that the Stanford Hall application was only half completed and Rushcliffe would let us see it when they have the whole.

- (a) P/06/2324/2 Glebe Farm Barn, Narrow Lane, Wymeswold, Leics. LE2 6SD. Installation of 660kw wind turbine with horizontal axis rotor, with 3 blades up to 23.5 radius and rotor axis height up to 55m. Consultation from Charnwood Borough Council via Rushcliffe Borough Council. Response from Rempstone PC was returned. **Awaiting decision.**
- (b) 05/01074/FUL Stanford Hall Development Proposals. Response from Rempstone PC was returned. **Awaiting revised application from RBC.**
- (c) 03/311/REM Mr D Hunt, 14 Wymeswold Road, Rempstone, Loughborough, Leics. LE12 6RN. Vary wording of Condition 1 to permit retention of workshop building for purposes incidental to agriculture and occupation of 14 Wymeswold Road. **Permission refused. To appeal but no further news to date.**
- (d) 07/00172/FUL Mr Turton, 21 Wysall Lane, Rempstone, Loughborough, Leics. LE12 6RW. Side extension to form conservatory. **Permission granted.**

- (e) 07/00433/LBC Mr & Mrs Porter, The Manor House, 28 Main Street, Rempstone, Loughborough, Leics. LE12 6RH. Convert and extend building (with two storey front, single storey side extensions, four dormers) to form separate dwelling unit, with detached double garage and new vehicular access. **Permission granted and Listed Building Consent granted.**
- (f) 07/00316/FUL Saunders Bros. Builders Ltd. Rempstone Hall Farm Cottage, Ashby Road, Rempstone, Loughborough, Leics. LE12 6RG. (Demolish single storey side extension). Construct two storey and single storey side extensions, canopy to front and detached car port. **Permission granted.**
- (g) 07/00361/FUL Mr Beeby, Tindale, 2 Wymeswold Road, Rempstone, Loughborough, Leics. LE12 6RN. Single storey side extension to form garage. **Permission granted.**

8. Village Hall

(a) Lottery Bid Update

Mr Humphries reported that the Committee had not met since the last Parish Council Meeting but that Amanda Craig had held a telephone interview with the Lottery people. The Lottery Panel are running three months behind with a decision to be made about September. On a positive note we have been told that the money is safe as it has been set aside. The Committee will be meeting again soon to look at alternative ways to achieve the shortfall of some £17,000 that will have to be obtained from elsewhere. We are just waiting at the moment but the good news is that we are through the first interview when many other people are not.

(b) Charitable Status

The Chairman referred to our meeting on 8th January when a motion was passed to apply for charitable status. The National Association of Local Councils was approached through the Notts Association for permission to do this and a positive reply was received from the Head of Legal Services just before this meeting. We now need to have a new resolution passed at our next meeting but in the meantime it is now necessary for us to have the Village Hall Deeds from 1927 scrutinized by a solicitor to ascertain whether or not they contain any particular covenants in the conveyance that we could not pass on to a Charitable Trust. We must also set up a different Management Committee and a Board of Trustees.

(c) Insurance

The Chairman said enquiries had been made about insurance through the Parish Council's policy and had been quoted a figure of £642.97 for building plus tax and £6.93 for contents plus tax. These figures represented a definite improvement on the amount presently paid by the Village Hall Committee whose renewal was due in September amounting to over £1,000. The Chairman asked for the Village Hall insurance documents to be handed to him for comparison before a final decision was made to make the alteration.

9. Finance and Audit

(a) Audit Commission

(i) Bank Reconciliations for the quarters 1st September to 31st December 2006 and 1st January to 31st March 2007

The Clerk tabled these papers together with the final accounts that were unanimously supported.

(ii) Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2007

The Clerk began by reading the satisfactory report of the Internal Auditor who wished to continue to receive quarterly bank reconciliations. She then took the Councillors through Section 1 of the Audit Return and explained the variances as required by Audit of 10% or more. Section 1 (9) caused some concern and before submitting the return the Clerk was asked to seek advice from the Internal Auditor about the amount of the total fixed assets, i.e. the Village Hall at £103,000 that had been increased to £243,000 because of the Lottery Bid. Agreed that the accounts be accepted and recorded as Minute reference 9(a)(ii) dated 14th May 2007.

(iii) **Statement of Assurance, Section 2**

The Clerk took the Councillors through the eight points on the document. It was agreed and accepted that the Statement of Assurance be recorded as Council Minute reference 9(a)(iii) dated 14th May 2007.

(b) **Payment of Cheques**

- (a) Cheque No. 312 for £365.64 was made payable to Allianz and Cornhill for renewal of Insurance for the financial year commencing 1st June 2007.
- (b) Cheque No. 313 for £75.63 was made payable to the Notts. Assn. of Local Councils for Annual Subscription for the year commencing 1st April 2007.
- (c) Cheque No. 314 for £45.00 was made payable to Mr I Fraser for Internal Audit work for the year ended 31st March 2007.
- (d) Cheque No. 315 for £587.50 was made payable to Cooper Parry for VAT advice and attendance at meetings with regard to the Village Hall re-construction project.
- (e) Authorisation was given for the Clerk, Mrs Walker, to attend an SLCC Regional Conference to be held on Thursday 19th July at the Quorn Country Hotel at a cost of £40 plus VAT, a total of £47.00.
- (f) Authorisation was also given for any Councillor to attend a course on New Councillor Training to be held at Cotgrave on Thursday evening 12th July at a cost of £15.00.

10. **Correspondence**

(a) **Best Kept Village Competition 2007**

Although it would be a great thing to do it was felt it was wishful thinking to suppose that we could present the village in such a way to satisfy the standards that would be required.

(b) **EMEB Wayleave**

The Clerk wished to place on record that for a number of years (circa 1968) this Parish Council has been receiving small periodic payments from the Electricity Board Wayleave that have been incorrectly scheduled. Lound Parish Council are in fact the rightful recipients and will be receiving these payments in future. The Electricity Board's records show that we have been paid £74.70 but as it is such a small amount they will not be claiming it back. They made the mistake and it was us that drew attention to the fact that something was wrong.

11. **Any Other Business**

- (a) The Chairman spoke about the work still to be completed near the village sign. He said that the Golden Jubilee Committee, were working with a stone mason in Loughborough to provide an inscription to be placed into one of the york stone slabs. He also confirmed that has spoken recently with Landscape Services, NCC in regard to the upkeep of the planting in front of the wall and this was to be done.
- (b) No more had been heard about the complaints with regard to bell ringing.
- (c) When a new doggie bin is installed it should not be placed too close to the bus shelter and should be quite distinct from the litter bin nearby.
- (d) It was felt it was time to resurrect the Open Gardens Day for next year and that perhaps the Gardening Group could help with this. Support was given and the item is to be a main agenda item for the next meeting.

12. **Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 9th July 2007.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and for their contribution to the proceedings and the meeting closed at 9.07 pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

