

REMPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING
held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 10th August 2009

Present: Mr D Walker (Chair) Mrs J Taylor
Mr J Santoro Mrs A Lovett
Mr P Barker Mr D Bunker

Mrs J Walker, Clerk, was also in attendance and eight members of the public.

The Chairman opened the meeting by giving an indication of the procedure of the meeting because of the number of new people that were present.

1. **Apologies** – apologies were received from Councillor R Beeby.
2. **The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting** held on Monday 13th July and of the **Planning Meeting** held on Monday 27th July were held over until the next full business meeting.
3. **Open Discussion Time**

At the commencement Dr R Lea, owner of No. 16 Dales Close, tabled notes to the Councillors to which he spoke. He gave a history of the purchase of his property since 2007 and said that he had had a total lack of information and awareness that there was a block planting area at all and that he realised it could be interpreted that he had been misled. Regardless of this he had made an investigation into the main functions concerning Condition 9 that provides shelter and screening for the good character of the area. He asked if Condition 9 was still valid in its entirety at the present time as it was set up eight years ago. He argued as to whether the trees and barriers were serving their function because now they cannot be seen either way. He has been asked by Rushcliffe Borough Council to put up a fence. Why create a barrier to the planting area by the erection of a fence and he wanted to know if Condition 9 was now redundant in its current form. He supported a restriction for this area and would not support the erection of any structure but asked for the Council to accept a variation to Condition 9.

4. **Planning Issues**

09/01285/VAR Dr R Lea, 16 Dales Close, Rempstone, Loughborough, Leics. LE12 6RD. Vary condition 9 of planning permission 00/00710/FUL to permit incorporation of planting belt into private garden.

The Clerk read out a letter of objection received from Mrs C Coupland, resident of No. 22 Wysall Lane, Rempstone. The Chairman asked Cllr. Mrs Taylor if she felt it was appropriate to declare an interest in this item as Mrs Coupland was her mother. Cllr. Mrs Taylor said that the letter had been written entirely by her mother and that she had not been involved at all. In view of this explanation the Chairman allowed Cllr. Mrs Taylor to remain and take part in the proceedings.

The Chairman said that they were discussing having Condition 9 removed and a variation made to it. The Councillors discussed the application and the following comments were made:

- If we agree to this application it would set a precedent for the rest of the home owners in Dales Close.
- The type of planting has become very different amongst the properties but the whole area should be fenced off and it should be a copsed area. If this random approach to planting is allowed to go on the whole planting belt will become very untidy.
- It was felt that Rushcliffe Borough Council had made an error and there has been bad planning by the builder.

- For the last few years the residents of Wysall Lane had been complaining that some of the trees had been disappearing. As long as the trees are maintained it was felt there was no problem with them. There should be no further removal of trees and no erection of buildings.
- It was clear that the planting belt has not been enforced from the beginning and we would have expected the builder to enforce it. It was rank bad planning and we could be assured that we would be meeting again on this issue in the future.
- Condition 9 should stay but it has been incorrectly incorporated into the Deeds that refer only to maintenance.
- The builder did not allow enough garden for some of the substantial properties and the owners have opened up their own view. We need to bring the trees back.
- Dr Lea had bought the property and had been surprised to find this situation. The original planning conditions were to have the original trees to screen the properties but so many of these have been taken down leaving a poor planting area. The 10m belt was never intended to be part of a private garden.
- Reference was made to Condition 5 of the Original Planning Conditions that also refer to maintaining the integrity of Clause 9.

In summing up the Chairman said it would appear that we did not object in principle but the point of Condition 9 should be implemented with trees being reinstated. It was a nonsense to have a fence running right through the property. The tree planting belt was not just for the residents of Dales Close but was also for the residents of Wysall Lane. He referred back to a previous Minute in 2007 when the issue was raised on a separate occasion.

A vote was taken with 2 Councillors in favour and 4 Councillors against resulting in a return to object with observations by Rempstone Parish Council.

5. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 07 September 2009.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Chairman _____

Date _____