

# GRINGLEY ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 25th May, 2005

**Present:-** Councillors Foreman, Hargrave, Hargreaves, Hilton (arrived during agenda item 8 - Public Discussion Period), Shepherd, Taylor, Tremelling and Way

### **05/06/1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Resolved unanimously: That Councillor Shepherd be re-elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

### **05/06/2 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Councillor Shepherd signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman, which was then countersigned by the Clerk (Proper Officer).

### **05/06/3 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillor Dunkley (on holiday) and District Councillor Martin.

### **05/06/4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Foreman, Hargreaves and Shepherd each declared a personal interest at agenda item 20 (North East Bassetlaw Forum Reports), being members of the North East Bassetlaw Forum.

Councillor Shepherd declared a personal interest at agenda item 21 (NALC Northern Area Committee Reports), being a member of the Northern Area Committee.

### **05/06/5 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Resolved unanimously: That Councillor Foreman be re-elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

**05/06/6 MINUTES**

Resolved:- That the Minutes of the last meeting, held on 27th April, 2005, be approved as a correct record, subject to a clerical amendment at Minute No. 04/05/322(b) - Redecoration of the Exterior of the Chapel of Rest.

**05/06/7 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**05/06/8 PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

- (a) Mr. Martin Monk requested an update on the position regarding fires at Elm Ridge, High Street, tethering of ponies/horses on highway verges by the occupiers of Elm Ridge and access over the "Green" at Elm Ridge.

Mr. Monk expressed the view that, if these problems were ongoing in the centre of the village, firm action would already have been taken. He asked that the Parish Council use all its endeavours to bring a resolution about. All that he and his neighbours wanted was to live in harmony with the occupiers of Elm Ridge.

The Clerk informed the meeting of the latest communication from Bassetlaw District Council, and agreed to request an update.

As regards the highway issues, the Clerk reported that he was having difficulty in eliciting a response from Nottinghamshire County Council, but that he was confident that he would succeed in getting one before the next meeting. Mr. Monk informed the Clerk that he had been informed some time ago by the County Council that access over the "Green" by the occupiers of Elm Ridge was illegal.

- (b) The Chairman asked Mr. S. Taylor if he wished to raise anything, and Mr. Taylor replied that he did not.

**05/06/9 PARISH PLAN WORKING PARTY**

Resolved: That Councillors Hargrave and Hargreaves be reappointed to serve on the Parish Plan Working Party for the ensuing year, with Councillor Tremelling being appointed to replace Councillor Hilton who was heavily committed with P3 responsibilities.

**05/06/10 QUALITY WORKING PARTY**

Resolved: That Councillors Dunkley, Foreman and Shepherd be reappointed to serve on the Quality Working Party for the ensuing year.

**05/06/11 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS  
NORTHERN AREA COMMITTEE**

Resolved: That Councillor Shepherd be reappointed to serve on the Northern Area Committee for the ensuing year.

**05/06/12 NORTH EAST BASSETLAW FORUM**

Resolved: That Councillors Foreman and Shepherd be reappointed to serve as Parish Council representatives on the North East Bassetlaw Forum for the ensuing year, and Councillor Hargreaves be reappointed as the Parish Plan representative.

**05/06/13 ACCOUNTS**

(a) Resolved:- That the May Accounts be approved for payment.

(b) The Clerk informed Members that he had received an invoice from Nottinghamshire County Council for a sum of £1,626.46 in respect of the 2004/05 Christmas illuminations. After several queries he had met Mr. M. Moore at the County Council Offices on 23rd April, 2005, when it had been agreed that the Parish Council would be charged an amended amount in keeping with a quotation provided by the County Council in November, 2004.

The Clerk added, however, that he had been informed that £1,626.46 reflected the actual costs to the County Council in providing the Christmas illuminations, and that he was awaiting a quotation for 2005/06.

(c) The Clerk discussed with Members potential national insurance liability in respect of his recently-implemented pay increase, and informed them that he needed to have discussions with the Inland Revenue owing to the fact that the Parish Council did not have a PAYE arrangement.

Councillor Tremelling informed the Clerk that he would be able to provide a source of advice if required.

However, the Chairman reported that, at the meeting of the Northern Area Committee, held on 23rd May, 2005, Mr. John Brooks, Head of Financial Services at Bassetlaw District Council, had offered to take over payroll matters for any parish councils requiring it.

Resolved: That, if possible, the Parish Council's payroll arrangements be handed over to Bassetlaw District Council.

**05/06/14      BANK RECONCILIATION**

Members received the bank reconciliation statement to 29th April, 2005.

**05/06/15      BUDGET MONITORING**

The Clerk submitted the May budget monitoring statement, which showed an estimated year-end balance of £10,174.

**05/06/16      ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2005**

Pursuant to Minute No. 04/05/328 of April, 2005, the Clerk submitted the Annual Return with explanation of Significant Variations, and confirmed that the Parish Council had been selected for an Intermediate Audit. The audit date was 1st August, 2005, and the Clerk had published Notice of Appointment of Date for the Exercise of Electors' Rights on 5th May, 2005.

Resolved:-

- (a) That the Annual Return be approved and all elements of the Statement of Assurance be answered in the affirmative.
- (b) That the Chairman be authorised to sign Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return.
- (c) That the Clerk submit the Intermediate Audit Additional Assurances Review to the June meeting.

**05/06/17      RISK**

The Clerk reported that he was to meet a specialist water supply company on 7th June, 2005, to enable an assessment of the water supply and fittings in the changing rooms to be made.

**05/06/18      ANNUAL REPORT 2004/05**

Resolved: That the draft Annual Report, prepared by the Quality Working Party, be approved.

**05/06/19      MEMBERS' SURGERY**

Councillor Foreman submitted a report on the surgery held on 14th May, 2005. Mr. & Mrs. McGrath had attended in order to enquire about the possible whereabouts of a plaque which had once been displayed

at the tree planted in 1902 on the grassed triangle at the junction of Beacon Hill Road and High Street.

Councillor Foreman intended to pursue the enquiry locally.

**05/06/20      NORTH EAST BASSETLAW FORUM**

There had been no further meetings of the Forum since the meeting on 29th March, 2005, reported to the March meeting of the Parish Council.

**05/06/21      NALC NORTHERN AREA COMMITTEE**

The Chairman submitted a brief report on the well-attended meeting of the Northern Area Committee held on 23rd May, 2005. His report covered the following:

- Y An ongoing road safety campaign at Elkesley.
- Y A presentation by Ms. Sara Goodwin, Head of Law and Scrutiny at Bassetlaw District Council, on the Code of Conduct.
- Y A presentation by Mr. John Brooks, Head of Financial Services at Bassetlaw District Council, on double taxation, and the possibility of assistance to parish councils (including assumption of responsibility for payroll). Mr. Brooks had made it clear that one of the reasons behind the phased withdrawal of Concurrent Grant was the high level of balances at some (not Gringley on the Hill) parish councils.

**05/06/22      VILLAGE WEB SITE**

Pursuant to Minute No. 04/05/333 of April, 2005, an E-mail was submitted from Mr. Ben Dunkley, indicating that he favoured transfer of management of the web site to BCVS, owing to his other commitments.

The Clerk reported that Mr. Ian Bower, of BCVS, was prepared to take over responsibility for a monthly fee of £20.

Resolved:- That Mr. Bower's offer be accepted, and the process of transfer begin, with the Clerk being authorised to meet any transfer and re-establishment costs additional to the abovementioned £20 per month..

**05/06/23      QUALITY PARISH COUNCILS**

Councillors Foreman, Hargrave and Shepherd, together with the Clerk, attended a Nottinghamshire ALC training course the previous evening on 'Councillors Behaving Badly'. The course had been informative. The only recommended practice not followed by the Parish Council was to make a number of agendas available to the public at Parish Council meetings.

Resolved: That five extra copies of the agenda be printed for the above purpose.

**05/06/24 PROVISION OF PUBLIC SEATS IN THE CEMETERY AND WEST WELLS LANE AREA**

Pursuant to Minute No. 04/05/335 of April, 2005, Councillor Hargreaves informed Members that he had located a possible manufacturer of suitable seats, and was awaiting further information. He had removed the vandalised seat from the Cemetery.

**05/06/25 PARISH PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

Pursuant to Minute No. 04/05/336 of April, 2005, further consideration was given to implementation of the Parish Plan as follows:

- (a) The Clerk informed Members that Bassetlaw District Council had informed him that it could not assume responsibility for emptying dog waste bins provided by British Waterways.

Resolved:- That the British Waterways be thanked for their offer to provide bins, but be informed of the District Council's decision.

- (b) The Clerk informed Members that the District Council was to provide bins suitable for bagged dog waste at the Beacon and at the junction of Leys Lane (east side) and West Wells Lane (south side). It could not provide a bin outside the Village Hall because of lack of space. It had agreed to sticker the bins near the school and by the bus shelter on High Street as being suitable for bagged dog waste.

- (c) Councillor Hargreaves informed Members that the requested dog fouling signs had been positioned around the village by the District Council.

Members expressed appreciation.

- (d) Councillor Hargreaves informed Members that he intended to call a meeting of the Parish Plan Working Party in the near future.

**05/06/26 TRAFALGAR WEEKEND**

Letter was submitted from Bruno Peek, Chairman of Trafalgar Weekend, which was being supported by a wide range of organisations, including the National Association of Local Councils.

Trafalgar Weekend was to take place from 21st to 23rd October, 2005, in commemoration of the bicentenary of the Battle of Trafalgar.

Parish and town councils were encouraged to participate by organising Trafalgar Day lunches, dinners or parties, using local produce and regional specialities, on Friday 21st October, along with lighting beacons that evening. These events could take place in pubs, restaurants, hotels and village halls.

Not only would this initiative be good for British agriculture, providing those taking part with a 'True Taste of Britain', but well-deserving charities were set to benefit from the events organised over the weekend.

On Sunday 23rd October, those towns and parishes with churches were being encouraged to take part in the Weekend by organising a 'Service of Commemoration' remembering the crews from both sides who fought and died during the Battle of Trafalgar, as well as ringing their bells at 7.00 p.m. that evening.

Resolved:

- (a) That it be agreed that the Parish Council should participate in the Weekend.
- (b) That the Clerk make preliminary enquiries about the possibility of lighting the beacon on Beacon Hill.
- (c) That other possibilities include fund-raising events such as a hog roast, for example, at the Village Hall, and a re-enactment.
- (d) That a possible aim of fund-raising be the provision of Christmas illuminations, in view of the additional cost of future illuminations referred to earlier in the meeting.
- (e) That the Clerk write an article for Beacon magazine, inviting comments and offers to participate by other village organisations.
- (f) That the Chairman have preliminary discussions with the school.
- (g) That this matter be discussed as a key issue at the June meeting, with a view to a village working party being established.

**05/06/27 PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP**

Reports were submitted as follows:

- (a) Councillor Hilton informed Members that the installation of the remaining P3 furniture was well underway.

An E-mail was submitted from Nottinghamshire County Council, saying that a pleasing report had been received from the Ramblers about the installation. However, footpath 12 had been signed as a bridleway instead of a footpath, and this needed correcting.

- (b) Councillor Hilton informed Members that there appeared to be some confusion at the County Council about footpath 4. She wished to point out that this was a crossfield path which did not require cutting under P3.
- (c) An E-mail was submitted from the County Council, stating that the condition of footpath 9 (Sam's Yard) was not bad enough for resurfacing. However, the County Council would add it to its spraying schedule if the Parish Council wished.

The Clerk informed Members that the Handyman had recently weeded the entire length of Sam's Yard.

Resolved: That the County Council be requested to add Sam's Yard to the spraying schedule.

- (d) The Clerk informed Members that, at the request of the County Council, he had added footpath 3 (85m) extending to Wiseton footpath 2 (434m) to the P3 cutting schedule.

## **05/06/28 BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES**

- (a) Pursuant to Minute No. 04/05/323 of April, 2005, Councillor Foreman submitted a report on a site meeting which he and the Clerk had with Mr. Nic Wort, of Nottinghamshire County Council, on 4th May, 2005, when Mr. Wort confirmed that the Parish Council's application for funding to develop a picnic area (possibly with car park) at Gringley Wharf had definitely been approved.

The land was registered village green, and so the approval of Defra would almost certainly be required to any proposed works. Furthermore, the project would need the support of British Waterways, Chesterfield Canal Trust, etc. Some outside funding might also be required in view of the likely cost of the project.

Councillor Foreman had already begun to research the history of the site, and he gave some initial information to Members. He had also taken photographs. He considered there was a need to consult the village, which would begin in the digest of the minutes of today's meeting, to be published in July Beacon.

- (b) Letter was submitted from Nottinghamshire County Council, inviting the Parish Council to be represented at its second annual event promoting Building Better Communities, to be held at Boughton Pumping Station on 22nd June, 2005.

Resolved: That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to attend.

#### **05/06/29 CPRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION**

Reports were submitted pursuant to Minute No. 04/05/342 of April, 2005:

- (a) An E-mail was submitted from Wilkinsons, stating that it was pleased to donate five litres of Wilco Timbercare and a shed and fence care brush, and wished the village every success in the competition.
- (b) Councillor Hargreaves updated Members on the painting/staining work he had carried out since the last meeting.
- (c) Nottinghamshire County Council had already begun to carry out some of the work requested at the April meeting. Members observed, however, that highway grass cutting remained unsatisfactory, and the Clerk agreed to take the matter up with the County Council.
- (d) The Clerk would contact Mrs. A. M. Morley to request details of the wildlife area in the Churchyard, such information to be passed on to the competition organisers.

#### **05/06/30 TREES AT THE OLD CROSS KEYS SITE**

Pursuant to Minute No. 04/05/343 of April, 2005, the Clerk reported that he was still waiting to hear from Mr. David Elliott, despite writing again on 17th May, 2005.

Resolved: That the Clerk make enquires about having the work carried out by a different contractor.

#### **05/06/31 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Pursuant to Minute No. 04/05/332(a) of April, 2005, Members discussed the need to publish the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting in July Beacon at the latest, nothing having been heard from

either Mr. or Mrs. Taylor over Mrs. Taylor's concerns about the accuracy of the minutes.

The Chairman asked Mr. Taylor, who was present as a member of the public, about the matter. Mr. Taylor replied that the matter was not contentious, simply a matter of wording - crossing of T's and dotting of i's in about three instances. He said that he had spoken to Councillor Martin about the matter and had been advised to contact either the Chairman or the Clerk. Mr. Taylor also alleged that (unspecified) things said at the April meeting were untrue. He queried why the Chairman had not discussed the matter with him at the last meeting.

Mr. Taylor was then asked if he would furnish the Parish Council with details, and he said that he would do so at the next meeting. Councillor Hargreaves pointed out that waiting until the next meeting would mean that the minutes could not be published in Beacon until August, which he didn't think was acceptable. He then moved that Mr. & Mrs. Taylor be given seven days in which to furnish details, which would be considered by Members using E-mail, and the Clerk be authorised to make any agreed amendments. Publication would then follow. If nothing was heard within seven days, the Clerk be authorised to publish the minutes as now written.

Councillor Tremelling said that he considered that a requirement to respond in seven days was unnecessarily aggressive, and he moved an amendment to substitute seven days with 35 days.

The amendment was then put to the vote and lost by seven votes to one.

The original motion was then put to the vote and carried by seven votes to one.

Mr. Taylor said that the Parish Council could pass whatever resolutions it liked, but that he and Mrs. Taylor would respond when they were ready.

**05/06/32**

## **CEMETERY**

- (a) The Chairman reported that he had visited the Cemetery following a complaint about grass cuttings stuck to memorials. A discussion ensued, when the Clerk pointed out that, during a two weekly cutting schedule, the grass would inevitably be cut on occasion during wet weather, leading to the problem now reported. He agreed to inform the contractor of the complaint.

- (b) The Chairman suggested that it would be appropriate for the Parish Council to lay a wreath at the war memorial in the Cemetery annually on Remembrance Sunday. Members considered this to be an excellent idea.

Resolved: That the Chairman's suggestion be approved.

- (c) Councillor Foreman reported that, pursuant to Minute No. 04/05/332(b) of April, 2005, Mr. Wilkinson had confirmed that he would complete repainting of the Chapel of Rest by mid-June.

**05/06/33 PLAYING FIELD**

- (a) Councillor Foreman reported that repainting of the play equipment was ongoing.
- (b) Councillor Taylor reported that, although the grass cutting contractor now had a machine that collected grass cuttings, performance was not consistent.

The Clerk observed that, whilst it was an advantage for grass cuttings to be collected, the contract did not require it to be done.

**05/06/34 THE BLUE BELL, HIGH STREET, GRINGLEY ON THE HILL**

Pursuant to Minute No. 04/05/319 of March, 2005, letters were submitted from Bassetlaw District Council, stating as follows:

(a) The breach of planning control relating to untidy land had been resolved.

(b) With regard to the breach of conditions of planning application 1/23/00/03, photographs had recently been taken of the site, which showed how the existing boundary hedge/shrubs had developed since permission was granted. The case officer was to decide on the most appropriate course of action, and the Parish Council would be informed of the outcome.

**05/06/35 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**23/05/15**

Mr. S. P. & Mrs. W. Marshall  
Erect single storey timber framed glazed conservatory at Pear Tree House, Little Lane, Gringley on the Hill

Resolved:- That no adverse comment be made.

**23/05/16L**

Mark & Deborah Blackledge

Replace timber windows and doors, carry out repairs to fractures on both side elevations, and other repair work, at The Rood House, High Street, Gringley on the Hill

Resolved:- That no adverse comment be made.

**23/05/19T**

Mrs. J. Smith

Fell a willow tree at Hillcrest, High Street, Gringley on the Hill

Resolved:- That no adverse comment be made.

## **05/06/36 PLANNING DETERMINATIONS**

**23/04/16**

Mr. & Mrs. A. Walton

Retain change of use for storage of caravans at Ellicar Farm, Carr Road, Gringley on the Hill

Permission Granted for a temporary period of one year only, to allow an assessment to be made of the impact of the development on the highway network.

Resolved: That the attention of Bassetlaw District Council be drawn to a report that old cars were also being transported to Ellicar Farm.

**23/05/3**

Mr. & Mrs. J. Turner

Erect single storey front extension, single storey rear extension, construct pitched roof over existing garage, second floor extension including velux and dormer windows, and carry out alterations at Topsy Turvey, Little Lane, Gringley on the Hill

Permission Refused

**23/05/7T**

Mr. & Mrs. R. Clapperton

Fell two lombardy poplars at Pipers Roost, Low Street, Gringley on the Hill

Permission Granted

