

GRINGLEY ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 26th October, 2005

Present:- Councillor G. Shepherd, Chairman. Councillors Dunkley, Foreman, Hargreaves, Hilton, Taylor (arrived during agenda item 2 – Declarations of Interest), Tremelling and Way

05/06/148 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillor Hargrave (work) and District Councillor Martin.

05/06/149 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Foreman, Hargreaves and Shepherd each declared a personal interest at agenda item 12 (North East Bassetlaw Forum Reports), being members of the North East Bassetlaw Forum.

Councillor Shepherd declared a personal interest at agenda item 13 (NALC Northern Area Committee Reports), being a member of the Northern Area Committee.

05/06/150 MINUTES

Resolved:- That the Minutes of a meeting of the Council, held on 14th September, 2005, be approved as a correct record.

05/06/151 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

05/06/152 PUBLIC DISCUSSION

(a) General

Observations were made about disquiet expressed by a small number of people who were concerned that the beacon was not lit and there was no fireworks display at Trafalgar Weekend.

Comment was also made on recent correspondence in Beacon about village life.

(b) Location of the Beacon

Discussion took place about the desirability of relocating the beacon to a permanent location in order to ensure that it could be lit at future celebrations. The consensus reached was that the obvious location was on Beacon Hill. In this regard it was accepted that the permission of the landowners would be required, together with the approval of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (Beacon Hill Camp being a scheduled monument No. NT 18). Planning permission might also be required.

05/06/153 LOCATION OF THE BEACON

Resolved unanimously:

- (a) That it be the intention of the Parish Council to permanently relocate the beacon from its current roadside location to Beacon Hill.
- (b) That, in order to facilitate the above, initial discussions take place with the landowner regarding the terms of a legal agreement.

05/06/154 ACCOUNTS

Resolved:- That the October Accounts be approved for payment.

05/06/155 BANK RECONCILIATION

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

05/06/156 BUDGET MONITORING

The Clerk submitted the October budget monitoring statement, which showed an estimated year-end balance of £9,762.

05/06/157 RISK REVIEW AND ASSET INSPECTION

There were no matters to report.

05/06/158 NORTH EAST BASSETLAW FORUM

Councillors Foreman, Hargreaves and Shepherd submitted a brief report on the meeting of the Forum held on 27th September, 2005. The meeting was largely concerned with the following:

- A presentation by Mr. C. Telford, of Bassetlaw Planning Department, on the Local Development Framework.
- Presentations by Ms. C. Turner, of Nottinghamshire RCC, and Mr. R. Burnham, of Acis Group Ltd., on affordable housing.
- A discussion about the recent Transport Needs Assessment, which required further work.
- A discussion on aircraft noise.

Acis Group Ltd., a housing association based in Gainsborough, was interested in locating suitable sites for affordable housing. With this in mind, Members discussed the possibility of having a housing needs survey in Gringley on the Hill. The Clerk commented that Everton Parish Council had already made a request to the Forum Secretariat along those lines.

Resolved: That the Clerk make an enquiry to the Forum secretariat about the possibility of funding being provided for a housing needs survey in Gringley on the Hill.

05/06/159 NALC NORTHERN AREA COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th September, 2005 were submitted.

05/06/160 QUALITY COUNCILS

The Clerk reported that the autumn newsletter had been published.

05/06/161 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE 2006

Members commented on the excellent job done by North Notts. Landscapes Ltd. in maintaining the village grassed areas in 2005.

Resolved: That North Notts. Landscapes Ltd. be requested to indicate its terms for an extension of the maintenance contract to cover 2006.

05/06/162 PARISH PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Councillor Hargreaves reported that he had published a further item in Beacon regarding the promotion of local businesses.

He had also made enquiries at BCVS regarding the possibility of establishing a good neighbour scheme, and was in the process of researching a scheme currently operating at Scrooby.

The Clerk observed that Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council was to feature Gringley on the Hill in the winter edition of Rural Voice, in which Parish Plan progress would be discussed.

05/06/163 PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP

- (a) The Clerk reported that Mr. Bob Knowles was returning to his former position of P3 Enforcement Officer. His successor was to be Mr. Chris Jackson.
- (b) Resolved: That Councillor Hilton be authorised to attend a Rights of Way Conference at Boughton Pumping Station on 25th November, 2005.
- (c) The Clerk confirmed that S. Rose Ltd. had completed the second P3 grass cut of the year. The cost was slightly higher than the schedule of rates because of the distance that the company had to travel (from Calverton), but was covered by the P3 grant.
- (d) Councillor Hilton reported that S. P. Rose Ltd. had completed the bridge on footpath 1. She also reported that Mr. Knowles had established that the remaining ditches were too wide to be bridged by standard length ditch boards, and that special ditch boards were having to be manufactured.

05/06/164 CPRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

Members discussed arrangements for the unveiling ceremony on 5th November, 2005 and also for attendance at the awards ceremony at Southwell on 16th November, 2005.

The Category 3 winner's plaque had been brought to the village and installed at The Fairpiece. Arrangements were being made for it to be repainted.

**05/06/165 BASSETLAW DISTRICT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
FRAMEWORK**

Letter was submitted from Bassetlaw District Council, offering a presentation to the Parish Council on the new system and a discussion on the Core Strategy.

Resolved: That the invitation be accepted.

05/06/166 BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT IN BASSETLAW

Letter was submitted from Ms. Sandra Withington, newly appointed Development and Marketing Officer at Bassetlaw District Council. Her primary role would be to focus on marketing and promotional activity to attract new businesses and investment into the district, particularly in relation to opportunities from the opening of Robin Hood Airport.

05/06/167 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HEALTHCARE NHS TRUST

Letter was submitted from the above, inviting the Parish Council to register an interest in becoming a member when it became an NHS Foundation Trust.

Resolved: That the Parish Council register an interest.

05/06/168 CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS

The Clerk reported that he had received a telephone call from Nottinghamshire County Council earlier in the day confirming that the prices for the tree at The Fairpiece would be £1,352 (inclusive of the decorations already purchased) and for High Street £1,128 plus the cost of decorations. The Clerk added that there were complications regarding the High Street tree of which he had not yet received written details, but which he understood would make the possibility impractical this year.

Resolved:

- (a) That, in view of the unacceptable price quoted in respect of the tree at The Fairpiece, no action be taken, and Nottinghamshire County Council be requested, as an alternative, to furnish a price for providing an electricity service to a tree to be purchased, fixed on site and decorated by Members of the Parish Council, using the decorations already purchased and stored by Nottinghamshire County Council.
- (b) That Councillor Dunkley be authorised to purchase a bare rooted tree early in 2006, to be planted on The Fairpiece and used in future years as a Christmas tree.

05/06/169 CONCLUSIVE MAP OF REGISTERED COMMON LAND AND OPEN COUNTRY FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Letter was submitted from The Countryside Agency, enclosing a copy of the relevant section of the above map, which showed Gringley Pumping Station as the only registered common land in the Parish. No open country was shown.

05/06/170 IMPROVEMENTS TO GRINGLEY CHURCH

An Email was submitted from the Parochial Church Council, informing the Parish Council of proposals to make improvements to St. Peter's Church. Grant aid was being requested from WREN, and a letter of support from the Parish Council was requested.

Resolved: That a letter of support be sent in respect of this very worthwhile project.

05/06/171 BT TELEPHONE SERVICE TO GRINGLEY ON THE HILL

Members discussed the need for the BT telephone cabling to Gringley to be improved in order to provide a proper service.

Resolved: That the Clerk write to BT on the matter.

05/06/172 WATER PRESSURE

Pursuant to Minute No. 05/06/116 of September, 2005, a letter was submitted from Anglian Water giving details of plans to increase water pressure in the village.

05/06/173 NEIGHBOURHOOD GOVERNANCE REVIEW AND BASSETLAW AREA ARRANGMENTS

The Clerk briefly referred to the response of NALC to the Ideas Paper on the Neighbourhood Governance Review, of which all Members had been furnished with a copy.

He then went on to say that, together with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of North East Bassetlaw Forum, he had attended a meeting of the Bassetlaw District Council Scrutiny Panel on 10th October, 2005. The Panel was looking into the possibility of extending the concept of area forums throughout Bassetlaw. Currently, North East Bassetlaw Forum was the only such body effectively in operation in Bassetlaw. Views were given to the Panel, particularly with regard to the North East Bassetlaw Forum.

05/06/174 THE VILLAGE WELL

Pursuant to Minute No. 05/06/135 of September, 2005, Members reported that a local contractor was currently carrying out necessary brickwork.

05/06/175 GRINGLEY WHARF

Letter was submitted from Mr. Nic Wort, of Nottinghamshire County Council Environment Department, enclosing a legal opinion from the County Solicitor on use of village greens. Mr. Wort suggested that, as an alternative to locating a public car park on Gringley Wharf, the possibility of establishing a small lay-by set within the wide grass verge approximately 20 metres before the Wharf be examined. He had already referred this question to the County Council Highways Department.

Mr. Wort also suggested a village community consultation (as already agreed by the Parish Council). With this in mind he would request the Landscape Team to produce some concept plans. A County Council archaeologist helping with the project was about to undertake some initial site work, but had doubts as to whether a Time Team type activity would prove useful or effective.

Resolved: That Mr. Wort be requested to proceed as suggested.

Note: During discussion of this item, Mrs. Smith, of Elm Ridge, High Street, Gringley on the Hill, interrupted the meeting, expressing concerns over an incident the previous evening when the Police were called.

The Chairman explained to Mrs. Smith that the matter was one for the Police and not for the Parish Council, and that in any case Public Discussion had already taken place earlier in the meeting.

Mrs. Smith refused to desist and was informed by the Chairman that he would reluctantly invoke Standing Order 40 if necessary *(If a member of the public interrupts the proceedings at any meeting, the Chairman may, after warning, order that he be removed from the meeting room).*

Mrs. Smith left the meeting shortly afterwards, stating as she left that (a) the current problems she was experiencing were entirely the fault of someone else, (b) the Parish Council had refused to assist her and (c) that she would bring four or five gypsy families to camp in the village.

05/06/176 PARISH COUNCILS LIASION GROUP MEETING

Letter was submitted from Bassetlaw District Council giving advance notice that the next meeting of the above would be held on 23rd November, 2005 at Worksop Town Hall.

05/06/177 CEMETERY

The Clerk reported that the new seat had arrived, and was being stored at Councillor Hilton's home.

Resolved: That Middlebridge Construction be requested to install the seat.

05/06/178 PLAYING FIELD

There were no matters to report.

05/06/179 HIGHWAYS

- (a) The Clerk reported that he expected a report shortly from Nottinghamshire County Council regarding the potholes at the westerly end of High Street.
- (b) A copy letter from Nottinghamshire County Council to Mr. S. Taylor was submitted, confirming that the retaining embankment outside The Old Vicarage, High Street was considered to be highway from the bottom of the retaining

wall. Arrangements were being made for the area to be weed sprayed. Any stones falling on to the highway would be removed from site and not returned or replaced on the embankment.

Resolved: That concern be expressed to Nottinghamshire County Council that its proposals made no provision for making the retaining embankment safe.

- (c) The Clerk reported that, with regard to the surface of the carriageway at the junction of Low Street and Middlebridge Road, Nottinghamshire County Council had inspected and stated that, although the carriageway did rise and fall at this location, this was the natural lie of the land and no further action would be taken.

Resolved: That Nottinghamshire County Council be informed that there was a hole in the tarmacadam on Low Street, some 15 yards up from the junction.

- (d) Resolved: That the Clerk enquire firstly as to whether Nottinghamshire County Council intended to repair the footpath along the A631, and secondly as to whether regular weed spraying would save on maintenance costs.
- (e) Resolved: That the Clerk inform Nottinghamshire County Council that the highway verge on Beacon Hill Road was in need of reinstatement following the recent works to remedy a water leak.
- (f) Resolved: That the Clerk enquire whether Nottinghamshire County Council was prepared to provide signage warning motorists to slow down when exiting High Street on to Horsewells Street.

05/06/180 PLANNING APPEALS

23/04/35

The Diocese of Southwell
Erect dwelling and construct new access on land off High Street,
Gringley on the Hill

Appeal Lodged

23/05/6

Mr. & Mrs. D. W. Platts
Siting of mobile home and drainage for temporary
accommodation throughout the year at gardens to Vianney, Carr
Lane, Gringley on the Hill

Appeal Lodged

23/05/20V

Sedgemoor Ltd.

Amend condition 2 of 23/03/13 to allow educational use by non-residents at Belle Vue, Carr Lane, Gringley on the Hill

Appeal Lodged

05/06/181 PLANNING APPLICATION

23/05/26

Ms. K. Dobb & D. Eaton, Esq.

Erect two storey and single storey extension and carry out alterations at Jasmine Cottage, Little Lane, Gringley on the Hill

The Clerk reported that this application had been determined at the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 19th October, 2005, when, although the Head of Planning Services recommended approval, planning permission was refused.

The Parish Council was unable to exercise its right to speak because the letter inviting representation was posted second class on 17th October, 2005 and did not arrive at the Clerk's home until 12.45 p.m. on the day of the meeting. The Clerk consulted the Chairman, and after discussions with three different officers at Bassetlaw District Council, requested an adjournment of the hearing in order to give the Parish Council the opportunity to exercise its right to speak. The Clerk received an acknowledgement to his Email confirming that his request would be given later that day to both the Head of Planning Services and the Planning Committee solicitor.

That evening the Clerk was informed by Councillor Shepherd that the hearing went ahead and that the Planning Committee was not told of the request for an adjournment. Furthermore, the applicant's architect had insinuated at the meeting that a Member of the Parish Council had failed to declare a prejudicial interest when the Parish Council considered the application.

At the request of the Chairman, the Clerk wrote to the Chief Executive of Bassetlaw District Council the following day, expressing serious concern over these matters, and rebutting the suggestion that a Member of the Parish Council had not declared a prejudicial interest by enclosing a copy of the minutes. No reply had yet been received.

Resolved: That, purely in order to ensure that nothing like this happened again, a complaint be made to the Head of Planning Services as follows:

- (a) That the letter inviting the Parish Council to the meeting was posted second-class two days before the meeting.
- (b) That the Planning Committee was not told of the decision to refuse the Parish Council's request for an adjournment of the hearing of this planning application.
- (c) That seven days after the request for an adjournment, no-one had been in touch to explain what happened.

05/06/182 PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

There were no planning determinations.