

# GRINGLEY ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2006**

**Present:** Councillor G. Shepherd, Chairman. Councillors Chambers, Dunkley, Foreman, Foster, Hargrave, Hargreaves, Hilton and Taylor, together with District Councillor A. Simpson

### **06/07/45      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Foreman, Hargreaves and Shepherd each declared a personal interest at agenda item 13 (NEBF Reports), being members of NEBF. Councillor Shepherd also declared a personal interest at agenda item 14 (NALC Northern Area Committee Reports), being a member of the Northern Area Committee.

Councillor Foster declared a personal interest at agenda item 22 (Beacon Magazine), being a member of the Beacon editorial team.

Councillor Shepherd declared a prejudicial interest at agenda item 33 (Conservatory at 4 Beech Close, Gringley on the Hill), and left the meeting during consideration of that item.

### **06/07/46      MINUTES**

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council, held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2006, be approved as a correct record.

### **06/07/47      MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

### **06/07/48      PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

The issue of recent unacceptable behaviour by young people footballing on High Street, causing considerable nuisance to local residents, was discussed, together with other matters of concern including the aftermath of a teenage party in the village when young people caused drunken havoc into the early hours of the morning. The use of the playing field for late night/early morning alcohol consumption was also discussed.

Recent matters had been reported to the Police, including the fact that one young person under the effect of alcohol had been allowed to remain asleep in a car overnight on Finkell Street with no Police action being taken against him.

Inspector Alan Hamilton was present because of concerns expressed, and, after introducing himself, he gave an assurance that he intended to deal with anti-social behaviour in the village, pointing out that there were ample powers available to the Police. He said he would bring in additional officers if necessary. He stressed, however, that co-operation was required, and he needed local information. Members agreed to provide such information through the Clerk.

After a constructive discussion, Inspector Hamilton left the meeting, giving an acknowledgement that he would be judged by his deeds as opposed to his words.

Whilst discussing activities on the playing field, a resident informed the meeting that the Fire Brigade had recently visited to check on accessibility, and an officer had remarked that the width of the access precluded access by a fire engine or ambulance. The Clerk advised that he had requested the visit, but had received no follow-up from the Fire Brigade. He would make contact.

**06/07/49 VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT**

The Clerk reported that, unfortunately, Mr. Telford was unable to attend the meeting. He had been invited to attend the next meeting.

**06/07/50 QUALITY PARISH COUNCIL ACCREDITATION**

The Clerk reported that arrangements were being made for presentation of the Certificate.

**06/07/51 ACCOUNTS**

Resolved: That the June Accounts be approved for payment.

**06/07/52 BANK RECONCILIATION**

Members received the bank reconciliation statement to 29th May, 2006.

**06/07/53 BUDGET MONITORING**

The Clerk submitted the June budget monitoring statement.

**06/07/54      ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2006**

Letter was submitted from Taxline, the Parish Council's Internal Auditor, which summarised the audit work undertaken and concluded that the Parish Council's records were properly maintained. There were no matters to report.

Resolved:    That the Internal Auditor's report be received.

**06/07/55      RISK REVIEW AND ASSET INSPECTION**

The Clerk submitted a paper on safety in burial grounds, produced by the Salisbury Diocesan Registry for those with the responsibility for churchyards. It had been obtained by the Clerk through the Local Government Information Service.

Resolved:    That a working party of Members prepare a risk assessment in respect of the Cemetery prior to the next meeting if possible.

**06/07/56      NORTH EAST BASSETLAW FORUM**

A brief report was submitted on the meeting of the Forum held on 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2006. The meeting had mainly concerned local policing, although air traffic in the local area from Robin Hood Airport was discussed. Whilst flights over Everton were mainly training flights, some scheduled flights did affect Everton.

**06/07/57      NALC NORTHERN AREA COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2006 were submitted.

**06/07/58      PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP**

- (a)    The Clerk reported that the spring grass cutting had been carried out by S. P. Rose Ltd. The cost was in excess of the grant received, which needed to be recalculated. Councillor Hilton and the Clerk needed to meet Mr. Chris Jackson, the Wayfinder Officer, to resolve the issue of which lengths of path needed cutting.
  
- (b)    An Email was submitted from Mr. M. Bentley, expressing concern that the spring grass cutting was potentially disastrous from an environmental and conservation point of view, owing to the presence of ground nesting birds. The Clerk had already taken the matter up with Mr. Jackson, whose reply was submitted. Councillor Chambers reported that she had been

told of certain nests and nestlings destroyed in the recent grass cutting. Councillor Hilton and the Clerk would discuss this matter with Mr. Jackson at the forthcoming meeting.

- (c) Letter was submitted from Nottinghamshire County Council, thanking the Parish Council for its assistance in making the recent public rights of way improvement plan consultation event in Gringley a great success.

**06/07/59 CPRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION**

- (a) Members agreed that, in the event that the village going through to the second round of the competition, Members would deliver leaflets to every household encouraging efforts to greater success.
- (b) A discussion took place about the fact that Mr. R. F. Shrimplin had recently repainted the railings above the hanging bank on High Street in a purely voluntary capacity, using materials provided by the Parish Council.

Resolved:

- (i) That a letter be sent to Mr. Shrimplin, expressing Members' appreciation in respect of his community-minded gesture in taking on the huge task of repainting the above railings.
- (ii) That the appreciation of Members be recorded in respect of Councillor Foster's initiative in enlisting Mr. Shrimplin's help and in providing decorating materials in liaison with the Clerk.

**06/07/60 DETENTION CENTRE SITE**

- (a) The Clerk reported that talks were continuing between the Home Office agents and Bassetlaw District Council, to the exclusion of the Parish Council. He had expressed great concern about this to the Home Office agents, and requested an early meeting with Bassetlaw Planning Department to discuss the matter.
- (b) Councillor Hargreaves reported that 149 community centre questionnaires had been received from a total of 270 issued. Members agreed that this was an excellent response. The Clerk would deliver the questionnaires to Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council for analysis.

- (c) Councillor Hargrave expressed great concern over vandalism at the site. It was known that there was asbestos present in the buildings, and it was feared that a release could be triggered through criminal damage to buildings. The Clerk was asked to report the matter to Bassetlaw Environmental Health and to the Home Office agents.

**06/07/61 GRINGLEY WHARF**

Councillor Foreman reported that he had learned that the former building on the wharf was a stables for two horses. He also reported that Dr. Chris Robinson, of the County Archaeological Service, was currently carrying out analysis of findings from the recent community archaeological weekend. A return visit from the Service was expected later in the year.

The Clerk would contact Mr. Ric Wort at the County Council Environment Department to check on the current position regarding the concept plan for the main scheme.

**06/07/62 THE BUTTERCROSS**

Councillor Dunkley reported that he intended to trial some stones at the Buttercross the following day.

**06/07/63 THE VILLAGE BEACON**

The Clerk reported that Mr. Arguile had recently contacted him to apologise for the delay in furnishing the information requested at Minute No. 05/06/366 of April, 2006.

Resolved: That, in the event that it was not possible to make satisfactory progress regarding siting the beacon on Beacon Hill, consideration be given at the January, 2007 meeting to the possibility of locating a different beacon on the playing field.

**06/07/64 HANDYMAN POST**

The Clerk reported (a) that Mr. Bartlett was to leave his post of handyman on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2006 and (b) that there had been no expressions of interest in the replacement post.

Whilst discussing the matter, Councillor Chambers commented on the amount of ragwort in the area.

Resolved:

- (a) That the Clerk advertise the replacement post in nearby villages.
- (b) That individual Members assume responsibility in the short term for any necessary work in their assigned Best Kept Village Competition areas; such duties to include emptying those litter bins not emptied by Bassetlaw District Council.
- (c) That the Clerk enquire as to whether Mr. B. Shepherd would assume responsibility for putting out and returning the Cemetery wheeled bins in the short term.

**06/07/65 BEACON MAGAZINE**

Letter was submitted from Beacon Magazine, giving details of the current position regarding the magazine and its finances. The Parish Council was requested to consider making a donation.

During consideration of the matter, Members stressed the importance to the village, and in particular the Parish Council, of Beacon magazine, seeing it as a vital village institution. The hard work put in by everyone connected with Beacon was much appreciated.

Resolved: That, at the January, 2007 meeting, consideration would be given to making an annual donation to Beacon Magazine, perhaps in the region of £250, but that an immediate donation of £150 be made in respect of 2006/07.

**06/07/66 BANKING MANDATE**

Resolved:

- (a) That bank accounts be continued with HSBC Bank plc (the 'Bank') and the bank be authorised to:
  - (i) pay all cheques and other instructions for payment or accept instructions to stop such payments signed on behalf of the Parish Council by any two of the listed signatories plus the Clerk to the Council, whether any account of the Parish Council was in debit or credit;
  - (ii) Deliver any item held on behalf of the Parish Council by the Bank in safe keeping against the written receipt of the signatories; and
  - (iii) Accept the signatories as fully empowered to act on behalf of the Parish Council in any other transactions with the Bank (including closing any account(s)).
- (b) That any debt incurred to the Bank under this mandate should, in the absence of written agreement by the Bank to the contrary, be repayable on demand.

- (c) That the Clerk to the Council from time to time be authorised to supply the Bank as and when necessary with lists of persons who were authorised to sign, give receipts and act on behalf of the Parish Council, and that the Bank may rely upon such lists.
- (d) That these resolutions should remain in force until cancelled by notice in writing to the Bank, signed by the Chairman of Clerk to the Council from time to time acting or claiming to act on behalf of the Parish Council, and the Bank should be entitled to act on such notice whether the resolutions had been validly cancelled or not.

**06/07/67      BANK ACCOUNTS**

Resolved: That, in order to maximise bank interest, the Parish Council's Business Money Manager Account be closed, and a sum be added to the proceeds from the Treasurer Account to facilitate the transfer of £5,000 into a HSBC Business High Interest Deposit Bond for a six month term, to be renewed if appropriate.

**06/07/68      NOTTINGHAMSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL – NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND NOMINATIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Members noted the above.

**06/07/69      CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS**

Correspondence was submitted from Nottinghamshire County Council, relating to changes to the County Council's Policy for Seasonal Decorations. The key point was that illuminations could only be provided in and above the highway (including connections to street lighting columns) if a very-detailed seasonal decoration application form was completed.

The Clerk had furnished all Members with a copy of the relevant documentation, including the application form, and there was general agreement that the object of the exercise could only be to discourage applications. The Clerk made it clear that he lacked the expertise to complete the form.

Councillor Foreman kindly undertook to study the form with a view to completing it if possible by the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2006.

**06/07/70      CRIME STATISTICS**

The May crime statistics were submitted.

**06/07/71      PLAYING FIELD**

Councillor Hargreaves reported that he had received a visit from Mr. Hardy about the continuing problem of balls, etc. entering the agricultural field next to the playing field.

Members agreed that everything that could be done about this problem had been done.

**06/07/72 CEMETERY**

- (a) Councillors Foreman and Hargreaves reported on complaints received from parishioners that the Cemetery was not as well maintained as it had been in 2005. The main complaint was that cut grass was stuck to memorials. Councillor Hargreaves had visited the Cemetery and was of the opinion that the situation was not too bad.

The Clerk advised that, in his experience, there was an annual problem during the spring months when grass was growing quickly. It had to be cut even in wet weather in order to maintain the cycle of cutting, and this meant that, inevitably, wet cuttings would stick to memorials. However, with the arrival of summer the problem usually disappeared.

- (b) The Clerk reported that there had been no response to the public notice about the provision of a notice board in the Cemetery.

Resolved: That the Clerk request Geoff Oliver Joinery Ltd. to submit a price.

**06/07/73 HIGHWAYS**

The following matters were raised:

- (a) The white lining carried out recently was most unsatisfactory, with the original lines not being adhered to, and with large blobs of white paint left on the road, particularly at Laycock Avenue and Westwells Lane.

The Clerk would report the matter to the County Council.

- (b) A water leak on Westwells Lane had been attended to.

- (c) Sewage effluent was rising out of the highway surface at Westwells Lane.

The Clerk would report the matter to Severn Trent Water Ltd.

- (d) There was an urgent need to relocate the 30 mph signs on Beacon Hill Road, further to the north in order to give adequate notice to drivers.

Resolved: That the Clerk take the matter up with the Accident Prevention Unit at Nottinghamshire County Council.

- (e) The 30 mph signs on Wood Lane were not effective in slowing traffic down.

Resolved: That the Clerk write to businesses whose traffic used Wood Lane, requesting co-operation in adhering to the speed limit. Councillors Chambers and Foster would liaise with a view to furnishing the Clerk with relevant contact details.

#### **06/07/74 WATER PRESSURE**

Members were informed that Anglian Water was aware of water pressure problems, particularly on Finkell Street.

#### **06/07/75 CONSERVATORY AT 4 BEECH CLOSE, GRINGLEY ON THE HILL**

Letter was submitted from Mr. J. N. Biggam, Little Lane, Gringley on the Hill, addressed to Councillor Foster, enquiring whether she could find out if a conservatory built at 4 Beech Close, Gringley on the Hill in 2004 had received planning permission. Councillor Foster had forwarded the letter to the Clerk after seeking his advice.

It was clear from Mr. Biggam's letter that he knew certain facts about the matter, and he claimed that the conservatory needed planning permission, stating that it was in the Conservation Area. He also commented on the colour and size of the conservatory, its comparison with the size of the dwelling and garden, and claimed that the conservatory overlooked the property to the east.

Councillor Foreman expressed the view that this was a matter for Bassetlaw District Council, not the Parish Council. District Councillor Simpson also advised that the Parish Council had no jurisdiction in such matters.

However, whilst agreeing with Councillor Foreman and District Councillor Simpson, the Clerk reported that he regularly passed reports about the possible need for planning permission to Bassetlaw District Council, and always received a report of the findings. Furthermore, this particular letter was addressed to a parish councillor, and stated

that the conservatory was built by “Gordon Shepherd, the Chairman, 2004”. Because of this comment by Mr. Biggam and its possible implication from a standards viewpoint, the Clerk felt it only right to refer the matter to the Parish Council in the interests of probity and transparency.

As the matter concerned the Chairman, the Clerk had discussed it with him prior to the meeting, and now had the necessary information to dispose of it without referring it to the District Council. After hearing what the Clerk had to say, Members expressed their agreement to the matter proceeding. At that point Councillor Shepherd left the meeting.

The Clerk reported that Councillor Shepherd had furnished him with copy correspondence from Bassetlaw District Council. One letter, dated 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2004, stated that, on the basis of the information supplied, the conservatory was an exempt building insofar as it related to the Building Regulations, provided that the glazing satisfied the requirements of Part N of Schedule 1 of the Regulations. The second letter, dated 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2004, stated that, on the basis of the information supplied, planning permission was not required.

Members agreed that the matter was disposed of, as there was no foundation for Mr. Biggam’s claim that planning permission was required.

Councillor Shepherd was then invited to rejoin the meeting.

**06/07/76 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

A consultation document from Nottinghamshire County Council would be circulated amongst Members.

**06/07/77 PLANNING APPEALS**

**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

Public Inquiry at Retford Town Hall on 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2006

District Councillor Simpson very kindly offered to represent the Parish Council at this Public Inquiry. Her offer was gratefully accepted with thanks.

**23/05/6**

**Appeal Ref: APP/A3010/A/05/1189857**

Mr. & Mrs. D. W. Platts

Siting of mobile home and associated drainage for temporary

accommodation throughout the year at Gardens to Vianney, Carr Lane, Gringley on the Hill

Informal Hearing to be held at Worksop Town Hall on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2006

## **06/07/78 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

District Councillor Simpson left the meeting at this point and did not return. However, before leaving she informed the meeting that, later in the week, the District Council was to amend its Planning Code of Conduct to allow district councillors who were members of the Planning Committee to remain in parish council meetings when planning applications were under consideration. Further details would be available in due course.

Members welcomed this news, which vindicated the campaign of the Parish Council and other parish councils to bring this change about.

### **23/06/19**

Mr. & Mrs. J. Turner

Alterations and extensions at Topsy Turvy, Little Lane, Gringley on the Hill

Resolved: That no adverse comment be made, and Bassetlaw District Council be informed that the proposed development would enhance the area.

### **23/06/20**

Mr. & Mrs. R. Dunkerley

Erect dwelling at Middlebridge Farm, Middlebridge Road, Gringley on the Hill

Resolved: That Bassetlaw District Council be informed that the Parish Council welcomed this proposal to develop and enhance the site, which would also maintain the sustainability of the area. However, the Parish Council was unhappy with the choice of building materials, which were not in keeping with the area. Traditional bricks and pan tiles were preferred.

### **23/06/21**

Group Captain and Mrs. C. Hull

Alteration and extension to farmhouse and create new access with crossing arrangement at Wood's Farm, off Mill Lane, Gringley on the Hill

Resolved: That Bassetlaw District Council be informed that the Parish Council was happy with the proposed development of the farmhouse, but objected to the new access which was considered

unnecessary and a road safety hazard, being nearer the top of the hill.

**23/06/22L**

Mr. M. Bullen

Demolish two sectional precast concrete garages with asbestos cement flat roof and timber doors on land adjacent South Beeches, High Street, Gringley on the Hill

Resolved: That no adverse comment be made.

**23/06/23R**

Mr. M. Bullen

Construct manege on land to the south of the existing stables for training horses at South Beeches, High Street, Gringley on the Hill

Resolved: That no adverse comment be made.

**06/07/79**

**PLANNING DETERMINATIONS**

**23/06/7**

Mr. B. D. Shepherd

Erect detached double garage at Mill House, Mill Hill, Gringley on the Hill

Permission Refused

Members expressed bewilderment at this decision and the reasons given for it.

**23/06/10 & 23/06/11L**

Mr. P. H. Naylor

Convert squash court into kitchen, construct mezzanine dining room and carry out alterations at Ravencourt, High Street, Gringley on the Hill

Permission Refused

Members expressed bewilderment at this decision and the reasons given for it.

**23/06/12R**

Mr. & Mrs. P. M. Noble

Conversion of redundant barn, with extension to form dwelling and garage at Woodlands Farm, Carr Road, Gringley on the Hill

Permission Granted

**23/06/13**

Mr. & Mrs. D. A. Macconnache

Erect two-storey kitchen and bedroom extension and front porch extension at Olive House, Mill Hill, Gringley on the Hill

Permission Granted

**23/06/14**

Mr. R. C. Clapperton

Erect detached double garage at Pipers Roost, Low Street, Gringley on the Hill

Permission Granted

**23/06/15**

Ms. K. Dobb & D. Eaton

Erect two-storey and single-storey extension and carry out alterations at Jasmine Cottage, Little Lane, Gringley on the Hill (resubmission of 23/05/26)

Permission Granted

**23/06/16L**

Architectural Design Services Ltd.

Demolish existing asbestos roofed prefabricated concrete garage and erect brick built garage with workshop and fuel store at Bleak House, High Street, Gringley on the Hill

Letter was submitted from Bassetlaw District Council, stating that this application, which had not been submitted to the Parish Council for its observations, did not need Listed Building Consent or Conservation Area Consent.