

# GRINGLEY ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2006**

**Present:** Councillor G. Shepherd, Chairman. Councillors Dunkley, Foreman, Hargreaves, Hilton and Taylor

### **05/06/320 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors Hargrave (work), Tremelling (community work commitment) and Way (holiday), and District Councillor Martin.

### **05/06/321 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Foreman, Hargreaves and Shepherd each declared a personal interest at agenda item 11 (North East Bassetlaw Forum Reports), being members of the North East Bassetlaw Forum.

Councillor Dunkley declared a personal interest at agenda item 21 (Village Beacon), having an employment relationship with Mr. J. Arguile. Councillor Hargreaves declared a personal interest at agenda item 31 (Planning Applications – 23/06/05 and 23/06/06 The Homestead, Horsewells Street, Gringley on the Hill), a relative of his living near to the application site.

### **05/06/322 MINUTES**

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

### **05/06/323 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

## **05/06/324 PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

- (a) Mr. R. Wood and other residents were present to protest at the Parish Council's decision to make no adverse comment regarding planning application 23/06/1 (Demolish bungalow and erect new dwelling and alter existing access at The Bungalow, Low Street, Gringley on the Hill). There had been a prior exchange of Email correspondence between Mr. Wood and the Clerk.

The residents expressed the opinion that the proposal would have a severe detrimental effect on Woodbine Cottage and other neighbouring properties. They were also aware of concerns expressed by Bassetlaw District Council Planning officers following a site visit.

The residents asked that, now that Bassetlaw District Council had refused planning permission, the Parish Council should admit it was wrong on this occasion. In response, Members informed the residents that the Parish Council had to act even-handedly, and owed a duty to all residents, be they objectors or applicants. Planning was nearly always a balancing act, in which the aspirations of the applicant had to be weighed against the amenity of neighbours and other factors. In this case, the Parish Council considered the plans carefully and discussed possible impact on neighbouring properties at some length. It was considered that the gable end of the house adjoining the garden of Woodbine cottage would not impact too much on that property. Members stood by their comments made in good faith based on the information put before them.

Finally, the residents enquired whether, in the event of an appeal, the Parish Council might change its mind and make different observations. They were told that the Parish Council's hands were not tied in any way, and the matter would again receive proper, objective consideration.

- (b) Mr. A. Stewart made an enquiry about land ownership of the floodbank by the pumping station at the end of Carr Road, as a gamekeeper had recently informed him that there was no public right of way.

The Clerk was asked to look into the matter.

## **05/06/325 MEMBERS' SURGERIES**

Councillors Dunkley and Shepherd held a surgery on 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2006. A member of the public attended to discuss further work required at the village well.

**05/06/326 ACCOUNTS**

Resolved: That the March accounts be approved for payment.

**05/06/327 BANK RECONCILIATION**

Members received the bank reconciliation statement to 28th February, 2006.

**05/06/328 BUDGET MONITORING**

The Clerk submitted the March budget monitoring statement, which showed an estimated year-end balance of £11,012 (inclusive of VAT to be reclaimed). He also reported that Cemetery Grant for 2006/07 was £314 and Street Cleaning Grant £456.

**05/06/329 NORTH EAST BASSETLAW FORUM**

Councillor Hargreaves submitted a brief report on the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2006, which had been poorly attended owing to the fact that agendas had not been sent out. The main item under consideration had been accessibility planning, in particular, links to Robin Hood Airport.

An item of good news was that the Forum had approved a grant of £1,000 towards a housing needs survey to be carried out in the village by Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council in June, 2006.

Full minutes would be submitted in due course.

**05/06/330 NALC NORTHERN AREA COMMITTEE**

A meeting took place on 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2006, and the minutes were awaited. Councillor Shepherd had not been able to attend.

**05/06/331 RISK REVIEW AND ASSET INSPECTION**

There were no matters to report.

**05/06/332 QUALITY COUNCILS**

The Clerk reported on that the 80% electoral mandate at the

forthcoming parish council elections to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2006 was fulfilled, and he was aware that at least eight nominations had been submitted.

**05/06/333 PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP**

There were no matters to report.

**05/06/334 CPRE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2006**

A letter was submitted from the competition organisers, giving details of the judges' comments in respect of the 2005 competition:

- The judges in each round congratulated the village on an excellent first time entry.
- In the June judging it was felt that some verges and hedges lacked care and attention. Also, some garden rubbish had been dumped at the entrance to the village on West Wells Lane. The judges said that Laycock Avenue was less cared for overall than Low Street.
- Also in the June judging, it was felt that the commercial areas such as farm entrances and pubs were very good, as were the bus shelter, notice board, cemetery, school and surroundings and The Fairpiece.
- The conclusion from the June judging was that the village should be placed joint fourth with Halam.
- In the July judging, the areas criticised in June were much improved, although the verges could have been cleaner. The contribution made by the commercial areas was regarded as excellent. It was felt that the village was also a caring community, worthy of first place.

Resolved: That the findings be publicised.

**05/06/335 DETENTION CENTRE SITE**

Councillor Hargreaves submitted a draft modus operandi in respect of the proposed public consultation process regarding a new community building to replace the Village Hall. Copies would be submitted to the next meeting for consideration.

Councillor Hargreaves also stressed the importance of an early start on the questionnaire exercise. With that in mind he agreed to furnish the Clerk with an original for duplication. The Clerk agreed to assess the possibility of funding being obtained for subsequent analysis of the questionnaire exercise.

**05/06/336 GRINGLEY WHARF**

Pursuant to Minute No. 05/06/287 of February, 2006, an Email was submitted from Nottinghamshire County Council suggesting a community archaeological weekend in the second half of May.

Resolved: That the Clerk write to enquire whether 21/22 May would be acceptable, and, if so, take steps to publicise the event.

**05/06/337 THE FUTURE OF BASSETLAW PRIMARY CARE TRUST**

Letter was submitted from Mr. John Mann, MP, thanking parish councils for their assistance over the above matter.

**05/06/338 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN – RURAL SCHEMES**

Letter was submitted from Nottinghamshire County Council, informing the Parish Council that its proposed footway and street lighting request for the Halls Road area and its request for lighting in bus shelters had been allocated Priority 2. Such schemes met the objectives of the Local Transport Plan, but were not absolutely straightforward. Highway engineers were currently assessing the two schemes.

**05/06/339 THE BUTTERCROSS**

Pursuant to Minute No. 05/06/304 of February, 2005, the Clerk reported that Councillor Dunkley proposed to proceed with the work of placing three dressed stones on the corners of the green surrounding the Buttercross, on a free of charge basis, subject to a formal approach being made to Bassetlaw District Council. Councillor Dunkley intended to take photographs of the stones in temporary situ, to enable the Clerk to seek the approval of the District Council. English Heritage had confirmed that they had no objections.

Resolved: That the Parish Council's appreciation in respect of Councillor Dunkley's gesture be recorded.

**05/06/340 THE VILLAGE BEACON**

Pursuant to Minute No. 05/06/302 of February, 2006, a letter was submitted from Mr. James Arguile stating as follows:

"In reply to your letter 27 February 2006 siting of the beacon is not unconditional.

Following our recent telephone conversation on the subject we

have decided that the temporary relocation of the beacon to the top of the hill would be for a five-year period. This would require a formal agreement to be drawn up by our solicitors at the council's expense and to include a siting fee paid annually.

I trust our conditions will meet with your approval and that the matter can be completed to everyone's satisfaction"

Resolved: That the Clerk enter into further dialogue with Mr. Arguile on the basis now indicated.

**05/06/341 GRINGLEY GOSSIP**

Consideration was given to the latest Gringley Gossip (anonymous regular news contribution to Beacon and the website), in which a suggestion was made that the beacon should be moved to the top of Beacon Hill and lit to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of Her Royal Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Resolved: That consideration be deferred pending further developments at Minute No. 05/06/338 above.

**05/06/342 POLICING**

Pursuant to Minute No. 05/06/308(a) of February, 2006, a letter was submitted from Chief Superintendent Johnson in which he accepted the fact that strong feelings had been generated by the relocation of P.c. Dave Cooper to Retford. However, he did not intend to reverse the decision.

**05/06/343 CRIME STATISTICS**

The crime statistics for February were noted. A discussion also took place about the recent theft of a motorcar.

**05/06/344 THE EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK  
THE EAST MIDLANDS RURAL ACTION PLAN  
THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR ENGLAND 2007-2013**

Letter was submitted from Bassetlaw District Council enclosing a leaflet regarding consultation on the above. The leaflet would be circulated amongst Members.

**05/06/345 PLAYING FIELD**

Pursuant to Minute No. 05/06/309(b)(iii) of February, 2006, the Clerk reported that Gringley Celtic FC had no objection to the

old pavilion being demolished. He had requested tenders for the work from three contractors, but had only received one reply.

Resolved: That consideration be deferred until the next meeting, to enable Councillor Taylor to have further discussions with a local person who might wish to demolish the pavilion and acquire the materials.

**05/06/346 CEMETERY**

Pursuant to Minute No. 05/06/319© of February, 2006, three quotations were submitted in respect of the provision of a notice board.

Resolved: That consideration be deferred until the next meeting.

**05/06/347 HIGHWAYS**

(a) The Chairman made reference to damage caused by a farm vehicle to the triangular area of grass at the junction of Halls Road and Beacon Hill Road. The Clerk had already reported the matter to Nottinghamshire County Council.

Resolved: That the Clerk write to the farmer concerned, seeking an assurance that nothing like this would happen again.

(b) The Chairman and other Members expressed serious concern over antisocial behaviour involving the deposit of litter on Cross Hill, Little Lane and in the Chapel, together with urination at the rear of the Chapel.

Whilst discussing this matter, concern was also expressed at the amount of litter at the entrance to the sewage works in Middlebridge Road.

Resolved: That the Clerk write an article for Beacon magazine, drawing attention to the problem, and pointing out that the identity of the main culprit relating to the village problem was known.

**05/06/348 VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT**

Letter was submitted from Mr. C. Telford, of Bassetlaw Planning Department, suggesting a meeting regarding the question of incorporating the above into the new Local Development Framework.

Resolved: That Mr. Telford be invited to attend the June meeting of the Parish Council.

**05/06/349 ROSE COTTAGE**

Letter was submitted from Bassetlaw District Council, consulting the Parish Council on proposals to amend the address of Rose Cottage from Gainsborough Road to Mill Hill.

Resolved: That the District Council be informed that the Parish Council was in favour of the proposal.

**05/06/350 PROPOSED GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME**

Members agreed with Councillor Hargreaves' proposal to consult the public on the possibility of introducing a good neighbour scheme, through an article in Beacon magazine. The matter could later be a key issue for public discussion at a meeting of the Parish Council.

**05/06/351 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**23/06/5**

Mr. M. G. Thomson

Convert barn complex to dwelling with granny annexe and garaging, demolish existing kennel and erect replacement with attached three car garage and alter existing access at land at The Homestead, Horsewells Street, Gringley on the Hill

Resolved: That consideration be deferred until the next meeting if possible, but that, if the Parish Council's observations were required by Bassetlaw District Council before the next meeting, the Clerk be authorised to consult Members and prepare a response.

**23/06/6**

Mr. M. G. Thomson

Demolish dog kennel at The Homestead, Horsewells Street, Gringley on the Hill

Resolved: That consideration be deferred until the next meeting if possible, but that, if the Parish Council's observations were required by Bassetlaw District Council before the next

meeting, the Clerk be authorised to consult Members and prepare a response.

**23/06/9**

Mr. & Mrs. G. F. Jackson

Erect conservatory, side porch and carry out alterations to rear of cottage at Sunnyside Cottage, High Street, Gringley on the Hill

Resolved: That no adverse comment be made.

**05/06/352 PLANNING DETERMINATIONS**

**23/06/1**

N. P. Sennett

Demolish existing bungalow, erect new dwelling and alter existing access at The Bungalow, Low Street, Gringley on the Hill

Permission Refused