

**MINUTES OF RATBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY,
11TH JUNE 2024 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, MAIN STREET, RATBY AT 7PM
'DRAFT MINUTES FOR APPROVAL'
'UNADOPTED'**

PRESENT:

Councillors: Mr C W Boothby, Ms K D Ingram, Mr P J Johnson, Mrs M B Joyce
and Mr P Tenwick

Members of the

Public: Nil

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

24/65 Mr P Tenwick proposed Mrs M B Joyce, seconded Mr C W Boothby and agreed.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

24/66 Apologies for absence were received from Mr L J P O'Shea who was on holiday, Mr K Hunnybun who was ill and Ms K Johnson who was ill.

3. TO RECORD DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL, PREJUDICIAL AND PECUNIARY INTEREST AND DISPENSATION FROM MEMBERS ON ANY ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED

24/67 Mr C W Boothby declared an interest in any items relating Planning.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

24/68 Minutes of the last meeting held on 14th May 2024, having previously been circulated, were proposed by Mr P Tenwick, seconded by Mr C W Boothby, agreed and signed by the Chairman.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

24/69 (a) Vice-Chairman – Mr P Tenwick proposed Mrs M B Joyce, seconded Mr C W Boothby and agreed (b) Delegates to LRALC (2) No volunteers. Mr P Tenwick offered to represent (c) Planning – Mr L J P O'Shea had indicated that he was willing to stand – agreed. The Chairman said there should be 3 people on planning and this will include herself and Mr Hunnybun – agreed. (d) Quarterly Financial Checks – Mr P J Johnson, proposed Mr P Tenwick, seconded Mrs M B Joyce – agreed (e) Responsible Finance Officer – Clerk (f) Allotments - Mr P Tenwick was already overseeing Pear tree allotments and offered to take on Taverner Drive site (g) Publicity – Ms K Ingram – agreed. (h) Delegate for Complaints – Mr C W Boothby – agreed (i) Bank Authorisation (tba).

6. REPORTS

24/70 (i) Boroughs Councillors' Report Verbal report Mr C W Boothby) (see Appendix 1)

(ii) County Councillor's Report (see Appendix 2)

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

24/71(a)24/00485/FUL – Holywell Farm, Desford Lane – Change of use of agricultural building and yard to the storage of drainage materials and associated

Trade counter, storage and sales (Class B8)-Extra traffic on Desford Lane and the village. (b) **24/00516/FUL** -12 Park Road – 2 storey detached dwelling – No objection
 (c) **24/00510/HOU** -164 Markfield Road – 1st floor extension – No objection
 (d) **24/00483/DISCON** – Springfield Riding School, Groby Road , Ratby – Application to discharge conditions 17 (Land contamination and 17 (Unidentified contamination relating to planning decision notice 19/00680/OUT – No objection
 (e) **24/00481/REM** - Land south of Markfield Road – Approval of Reserved Matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) for outline application 22/00648/OUT for residential development of up to 75 dwellings alongside associated site infrastructure and open space and discharge of conditions 2 – No objection
 (f) New Premises/Licence application – Ratby Off Licence Ltd. – 5 Station Road, Ratby – sale of Alcohol – Mon – Sun. 07.00-23.00 hrs – Objection – Lack of Parking will be a major issue as premises located on corner/junction with Desford Lane/Main Street/Station Road and will also affect other businesses in the village that already sell alcohol. Ratby already has 3 public houses and 4 other shops selling alcohol. Applicant already sells alcohol at the Post Office -100 yards away Mr C W Boothby was asked if we should object to this and he advised/confirmed we should (g) TEN application -Ratby Co-operative Band. – Fun Day 29th June - & Concert - Sale of alcohol – Regulated entertainment 12.00 – 19.00 – No objection

8.. **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

24/71 Annual Governance Statement (2023-24) proposed for acceptance
 Mr C W Boothby, seconded Mr P J Johnson, approved and signed by the Chairman.

9. **URGENT ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED**

24/72 (a) Banking Options – Ms K Ingram had researched other Bank options for the Council (i) 23% of Parish/Town Councils use on-line bank Unity Trust Bank (ii) Lloyds Bank (iii) NatWest. Discussion ensued. Unity Bank can offer link with Scribe accounting system – fee of £5 per month. Ms Ingram asked to forward details to Parish Council office. Clerk to fully test current HSBC system following her visit to the ~Bank to identify if there is still an issue or if there is still an issue or if it is being resolved.

10. **SOCIAL MEDIA**

24/73 Ms Ingram raised the issue of the use of social media and in particular the use of Facebook to promote and communicate with parishioners.

Ms Ingram stated that most people nowadays get their information from social media. Clerk informed Meeting that at present, there were ongoing problems with getting website updated since the new provider had blocked access and it was not possible to update site.

Mr Tenwick asked the attending councillors if they had received his email in response to Ms Ingram's previous email on the matter, all agreed they had.

Mr Tenwick restated his point that to start using social media before we had a robust and functional website would be trying to run before we could walk and that our efforts should be focussed solely on the website at first. Mr Tenwick informed meeting that having discussed the matter with Groby & Kirby Muxloe Parish Councils they too were in similar positions regarding website development and use of

social media. Mr Tenwick further advised that Groby Parish Council had gone out to tender on the matter seeking quotations from other suppliers and would not look at using social media until website was completed. All present agreed. Mr Tenwick circulated various documents relating to the topic of social media, namely, a template for Parish Council Social Media Policy and other Government advice on the use of social media by Councils. Mr Tenwick also advised that NALC advertises that The Parish Council Domains Helper Service has a funding update for the financial year 2024/25 for local (Parish and Town) Councils considering moving to a gov.uk. domain. The Cabinet Office has secured funding to help local councils set up[a gov.uk. domain This discount is £100+ VAT applied at the point of purchase by those Approved Registrars participating in the Parish Council Domains Helper Service. Councils need to note that this funding can help a maximum of 1,1000 councils to move to a gov.uk. domain and is offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Funding will run until March 2025. After this time, the Parish Council Domains Helper Service cannot say whether funding will be available for future years. They aim to make it easier for Councils to move across to and enjoy the benefits of a gov.uk domain. To this end, we will continue looking for ways to lower costs and hope to share news.

General discussion followed and it was proposed Mrs Joyse, seconded Mr Johnson and agreed that Cuttlefish Media be invited to the next meeting to give a presentation.

11. PLAY EQUIPMENT REPORT

24/74 Meeting informed that the RoSpa inspection reports had been received earlier today 11th June and after a cursory glance the main concern was the repair/replacement of wet pour surfacing. There were also several risk areas regarding tightening of screws etc., which needed attention – some of these items mentioned can be dealt with in-house but where large areas of wet pour replacement are needed, tenders will have to be sought.

12. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

24/75 (a) List of Payments/Income (see Appendix 3)

13. CLERK'S REPORT

24/76 (a) Advance Notice of TTRO – Park Road, Ratby – Road closed for up to 3 days to allow Severn Trent Water and contractors to facilitate installation of new apparatus – 28th August 2024.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

24/77 (i) Mr Boothby raised the issue of a notice on Markfield Notice board advertising Yoga Workshop and stated these types of notices/adverts should not be placed on boards-as previously agreed at council.

(ii) Mr Tenwick raised the issue of sewage/slurry leaking out of the ground by the road leading to Holywell Farm and that a ditch had been dug to divert this substance into Rothley Brook. Mr Boothby advised that this should be reported to the Environment Agency and that as Mr Tenwick had all the details and photos it was probably best he report it direct.

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORT**APPENDIX 1**

Verbal Report given by Mr Boothby

1. **Wolfdale School (former Ratby Sports Club)**

Permission granted for use as Special School. However, portacabins, containers etc., have been placed on the car park on Desford Lane. No planning application was submitted and HBBC has issued an Enforcement Notice which gives Wolfdale School 1 month to remove the portacabin and container.

Along Desford Lane where access was previously allowed for emergency vehicles to get to the original sports fields they have created a car park, again without planning permission. They have also been issued with given an Enforcement Notice

2. **98 Stamford Street, Ratby**

HBBC has issued Section 215 Notice of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990, as Land adversely affecting the amenity of the area, which takes effect from 24th June 2024. Owners have 1 month from that date to clear and dispose of waste and site to be suitably secured with heras fencing or similar.

3. **Application for Licensed Premises – 5 Station Road, Ratby**

Application received for licensed premises at 5 Station Road (DIY shop – closing/selling up due to lack of foot fall.) Pabari's, former occupiers of the premises, held alcohol licence which has set precedent. Discussion ensued and it was noted that there are 3 public houses in Ratby, one licensed shop in Markfield Road, The Post Office and shop on Station Road, plus the Co-op which are all licensed to sell alcohol.. Parish Council of the opinion that there are sufficient outlets.

Mr Boothby wanted to record his thanks to Phil Tenwick in providing the beacon and silent soldier to commemorate the 80 D-Day landing service on 6th June 2024.

Chris Boothby

COUNTY COUNCILOR'S REPORT – JUNE 2024**APPENDIX 2****Ratby-Gas/Water Outage**

I have continued to help residents who have had issues with their appliances. So far during May I have dealt with over 40 residents' issues with Severn Trent. I want to advise residents that Severn Trent will not pay the full amount of replacement costs for 5 ring hobs, range cookers and gas fires. They will take off about 30% they call it indemnity on their insurance. They will pay the full fitting costs for these appliances. I am aware that they have started taking 10% off 4 ring cookers and hobs now, I personally have challenged this and taken legal advice, but they have refused to budge. They will replace boilers at full cost and pay for the fitting costs. If you are vulnerable or struggling to get a response from Sedgwick, please contact me. I am here to help residents wherever I can. Email Ozzy.O'Shea@leics.gov.uk.

A message from Market Bosworth Police Beat Team

This week has seen the start of '**Operation Sceptre**' across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. This operation is about education and enforcement. Designed to educate young people about the dangers and consequences of carrying a knife; target those who carry weapons and disrupt the sale and supply of knives. If you have concerns about someone carrying a knife, need advice or want further information about knife crime initiatives you can visit livesafe.org.uk. (**Making our community a safe place to live – LiveSafe**)

Crime Reporting:

There have been multiple reports received in relation to **Theft from motor vehicles** which have occurred in Market Bosworth this week. It has been reported that entry has been gained and items have been stolen from within one of the vehicles which was left insecure.

Below are some great tips to assist in preventing theft from vehicles:

Fuelling up or popping back into your house to get something are perfect examples of how easy it is to turn your back for a moment and forget your vehicle is unsecured. Getting into the habit of locking your vehicle, even if you're only going to be away from it for a moment, is important.

Your mobile phone, coins for the car park, sunglasses, packs of medication or other items that can earn quick cash are irresistible to the opportunist thief. Remember, the cost of replacing a window is often much more than that of what's stolen. And it should go without saying that wallets, handbags, purses and credit cards should never be left in an unattended vehicle.

Leaving windows and the sunroof open invites fishing for items through the gap by hand or with, say, a bent coat hanger, which could also be used to unlock a door for them to get in.

Thieves can be ingenious. Don't give them the opportunity.

A report of a burglary has been received, whereby persons have gained entry to a garage by snipping the padlock on a garage door, on doing so, a motocross bike has been stolen. Many people don't secure their shed or garage in the same way they do their homes – often using an easy-to-break lock or padlock to protect valuable contents such as a car, bikes or lawnmowers.

An opportunistic burglar will try a shed or garage first because they can find the tools they need to break into the main hose. Secure your bike to the ground or a lockable stand within a

locked shed or garage. Visit [Sold Secure](http://www.soldsecure.com) to search for ground anchors and other locks designed to fix to floors and walls, www.soldsecure.com

Additional patrols have been conducted as a result of this, seeing beat officers utilising both late and night shifts in order to provide proactive patrols in and around these areas.

We have been made aware of reports of scam calls being made whereby victims are being telephoned and informed that their bank card may have been cloned. These have been identified as not legitimate and so caution is advised when accepting calls from unknown persons relating to banking/personal information. Further advice is available at

[Reporting fraud and cyber crime Action Fraud](#) whereby you can report fraud or cybercrime to Action fraud any time of the day or night. Further support can be found at: [Action Fraud](#) Members of the public – [0300 123 2040](tel:03001232040) (Monday to Friday, 8 am to 8pm) [Action on Elder Abuse \(AEA\)](#)

AEA are a national charity working to protect and prevent the abuse of vulnerable older adults. [0808 808 8141](tel:08088088141)

Reporting Anti-Social Behaviour

As the weather is improving, we have become aware of a rise in reports in relation to Anti-Social behaviour.

This could be:

Threatening , harassing or unruly behaviour such as drunkenness and loitering in public spaces.

Alcohol related nuisance / drug use – and the mess and disruption that can go with it.

Vandalism, graffiti, fly-tipping and littering

Abandoned vehicles

Disruptive neighbours consistently playing loud music or letting their dog bark all night.

When reporting incidents of this type, please call 101 to report a non-emergency incident to the police. You can also report antisocial behaviour at www.leics.police.uk or through the Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council website www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk.

Please continue to enjoy the wonderful weather whilst it lasts! Stay Safe, thank you and take care.

As I get regular calls regarding scams, I thought this may be helpful

How to Spot a Scam!!

- **Have you been contacted out of the blue?**

Cold calls or unexpected emails or messages should raise suspicion, especially if you're asked to give personal or payment details. It's very unusual for legitimate organisations to contact you and ask for sensitive information if you're not expecting them to. If you're not 100% convinced about the identity of the caller, hang up and contact the company directly.

- **Have you been asked to share personal details?**

Never share your personal details with anyone if you can't confirm they are who they say they are. Scammers will often try to get valuable personal data from you, and they can use this to steal your money, or even to steal your identity. You should also be wary of anyone who asks you to pay in an unusual way, such as through Western Union or by using Cryptocurrency.

- **Are the contact details vague?**
Scam websites often have vague contact details. Remember, that legitimate companies will have a place of business, phone number or email address to contact them on. Sometimes scammers also use premium rate numbers (starting '09') to squeeze every penny that can out of you.
- **Are you being asked to keep it secret?**
It's important you can discuss any agreements with your friends, family or advisors as outside perspectives can provide valuable voices of reason. Fraudsters use grooming techniques including isolating you so that you don't tell anyone about the situation you're in and fall deeper into the scam. Asking you to keep quiet is a way to keep you away from the advice and support you need in making a decision.
- **Is the offer too good to be true?**
Scams will often promise high returns for very little financial commitment. They may even say that a deal is too good to miss. Use your common sense, if a deal seems too good to be true, it inevitably is.
- **Are you being pressured to make a decision?**
Fraudsters often try to hurry your decision making. Don't let anyone make you feel under pressure – it's OK to take a break and think things through if you're not sure. It's also a common technique for scammers to use a countdown timer on scam websites to pile on further pressure. Genuine companies should always give you time and space to make an informed decision – anyone who tries to rush you should not be trusted.
- **Are there spelling and grammar mistakes?**
Emails or messages littered with spelling and grammar mistakes are a scam giveaway. Legitimate organisations will rarely, if ever, make spelling or grammatical mistakes in their emails to you because they've been put together by professionals and checked before they're sent.

Finally, I would also like to thank you all for your continued support and remind you that should you need my help or advice I always pride myself on making myself available to residents. Remember I am only a phone call or email away.

Ozzy O'shea

Always Working for your Locally.

Cllr Ozzy 'shea Tel 0116 239 4336 Mobile 07808585825

Email: Ozzy.O'shea@leics.gov.uk

Email: pzzyoshea@hotmail.com

LIST OF PAYMENTS – 11TH JUNE 2024 MEETING

Cheque No.	Company	Amount	Detail
		£	
104755	HMRC	1013.38	PAYE (April 2024)
104756	Holman Security Systems	151.80	Invs.612375/6124811 (office alarm)
104757	HMRC	1003.58	PAYE 9May 2024)
	TOTAL	£2168.76	

DIRECT DBITY/BANK PAYMENT

Salaries	2657.34	Salaries (May 2024)
Nest Pensions	85.71	Nest Pensions
British Gas	48.81	Gas
Ratby Senior Citizens	12.00	P/Cl mtg. 11/06/24
ICN Computer Services	60.00	Inv.20240157
KGB Grounds Maintenance	6548.44	Inv. RPC 1/24
Wright Tree Care	1885.00	Inv.331
Ratby Senior Citizens Assoc	12.00	P/Cl mtg. 10/05/24
E'on	47.72	CCTV – Ferndale Park
E'on	30.04	Office bldg..
TOTAL	£11387.06	

INCOME

TOTAL	Nil
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