

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RATBY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY, 9TH JANUARY 2024 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, MAIN STREET, RATBY
AT 7PM**

**‘DRAFT MINUTES FOR APPROVAL’
‘UNADOPTED’**

PRESENT

Councillors: Mr L J P O’Shea (Vice Chairman), Mr C W Boothby, Ms K Ingram,
Ms K Johnson, Mr P J Johnson, Mr R Tasker and Mr P Tenwick

Members of the

Public: Nil

Mr ‘Shea welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished Councillors a Happy New Year.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

24/01 Apologies for absence were received from the Chairman, Mrs M B Joyce, and Mr K Hunnybun, both whom were indisposed.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

24/02 Minutes of the last meeting held on 12th December 2023, having previously been circulated, were proposed by Ms Johnson, seconded Mr Tasker, agreed and signed by the Vice Chairman.

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

24/03 Ms K Johnson declared an interest in any matter relating to Leicestershire County Council and Mr Boothby declared an interest in any matter relating to Planning.

4. REPORTS

24/04 (i) Borough Councillors’ Report – Mr Boothby gave a verbal report (see Appendix 1) (ii) County Councillor’s Report (see Appendix 2)

As no members of the public were present the meeting was not adjourned for public participation.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

24/05 (a) **23/01222/DISCONN** – Application to discharge Conditions 2 (boundary for residential curtilage), Condition 5 (noise), Condition 6 (hard and soft landscaping) Condition 7 External lighting), Condition 8 (solar panels) attached to planning permission 23/00699/FUL – No objection (b) **23/01227/ADV**- Ratby Medical Centre, 1A Desford Lane-3 illuminated signs (Part Retrospective) – No objection

MBJ

6. FERNDALE PARK- BIKE TRACK

24/06 In the absence of Mr R. Foxon, Mr O'Shea informed Council that this gentleman had kindly offered to reinstate the former bike track adjacent to Ferndale Park at no cost to Council. Discussion ensued and agreed Mr Foxon be thanked for this offer, subject to submission of risk assessments, method of works, plans and other safety issues. Proposed by Mr O'Shea, seconded Mr Tenwick and agreed that the Maintenance Officer be asked to oversee and inspect the reinstated bike track.

7. PLAY EQUIPMENT REPORT

24/07 (a) As previously reported, all wet pour repairs have been completed and to-date no further incidents have occurred.

(b) MUGA area – previously reported that surrounding fence panels are being closely monitored as some panels are deteriorating and will eventually need replacing

8. URGENT ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED

24/08 (a) Social Media – Cllr Ingram again raised the issue regarding the addition of Social Media facilities on the website as this had been agreed at a recent meeting. At this point the meeting was informed of the unresolved dispute between the Council's current website providers and its support network. LRALC is negotiating at Director level on behalf of Parish/Town Councils with the support network to seek further advice etc. The current facility will be available until the end of the current financial year. After a short discussion, it was proposed by Mr O'Shea, seconded Mr Tenwick and agreed that this matter be deferred until further information is available and placed on forthcoming meeting agendas. It was also discussed and agreed that all items subject matter be agreed at Council meeting prior to being posted on Social Media.

(b) Neighbourhood Development Plans Review- this document was briefly discussed and Cllr Tenwick expressed interest in going through the same.

(c) Invitation from the Police & Crime Commissioner to Communications & Engagement Campaign event to be held at Police HQ on Monday, 15th January 2024 From 5.30 – 7pm – short discussion ensued and if available, Cllr O'Shea agreed to attend.

(d) HBBC – Annual Rural Conference, Tuesday, 14th March 2024 from 9am – 4pm at Mythe Barn, Sheepy Magna

(e) Lagan Homes – Meeting dates – discussion ensued – all dates submitted by Lagan Homes were day time. As majority of Councillors have other commitments, request to Lagans to host an evening meeting instead.

9. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

24/09 (a) List of Payments/Income previously circulated, proposed Mr Tasker, seconded Mr Boothby and agreed.

LIST OF PAYMENTS/INCOME – JANUARY 2024 MEETING

Cheque No	Company	Amount	Detail.
		£	
104740	CANCELLED		
104741	Citizens Advice	20.00	Donation (S137)
104742	SLCC	188.00	Subscription
104743	CANCELLED		
104744	Blachere Illuminations	1007.40	Inv.SI56972(Christmas decorations
	TOTAL	£1215.40	

DIRECT DEBIT/BANK PAYMENT

Salaries	3988.22	Salaries-Dec.23(inc.b/dated/Apr.23)
Nest Pensions	76.30	Nest Pensions
British Gas	63.03	Gas
E'on	26.68	Office Bldg.
E'on	43.41	CCTV Ferndale Park
Ricoh UK Ltd.	227.67	Photocopier lease
HBBC	87.75	Election services
LRALC	150.00	Cllr. Training
Ratby Senior Citizens	12.00	P/Cl mtg. 09/01/24
HBBC	1089.50	Dog Waste service/bins
TOTAL	£5764.56	

INCOME**Nil**

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORT

APPENDIX 1

Cllr C W Boothby presented a verbal report.

Appeal – Gladman's proposed Desford Lane development

Mr Boothby informed meeting that the Appeal for the Gladman's development would commence on 13th February 2024 when Cllr O'Shea and myself will attend and give evidence opposing the development.

Part of this proposed development site is on a flood plain, which was evident during the recent torrential rain which occurred during the recent storms dramatically affected this area and the Rothley Brook area into Kirby Muxloe, together with many other parts of the UK.

Chris Boothby

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Low

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT JANUARY 2024**APPENDIX 2****Flooding**

Over the past 3 months we have had several storms and the ground has become saturated. The beginning of January saw storm Henk hit Leicestershire. Over 300 homes were flooded. In Ratby we saw the Rothley Brook break its banks and flood the surrounding area. This left Ratby Lane, Ratby flooded between Ratby and Kirby Muxloe. It also left Desford Lane flooded near the new Medical Centre. This left two roads and access in and out of Ratby restricted. I will be meeting the Director of Highways to discuss this. The Environment Agency is responsible for the Rothley Brook and I want to ensure that it is kept clear and adjacent levels are not disturbed.

Sign up now for a 20 per cent discount on an adult learning courses from GoLearn!

GoLearn, Leicestershire County Council's Adult Learning Service, is offering a 20% discount on all course fees for learners looking to find a new passion or gain a qualification in 2024.

The adult learning service offers hundreds of courses in venues across Leicester for adults aged 19+ with 70% reduced fees available for those on a low income or receiving certain benefits.

Adult learning courses are designed to support adults in Leicestershire to improve their wellbeing and gain the confidence and qualifications need to start their career. Courses are part-time and designed around life and work.

For those looking to develop or start their career journey, the service offers digital skills. English and Maths qualifications, alongside ESOL(English for speakers of other languages) employability and family learning opportunities. There are also Better Mental Health courses to support people experiencing or recovering from mental ill-health to understand the next steps in recovery.

Di, a Maths and English learner based in Enderby, said of her learning "I left school with no English or Maths qualifications. The GoLearn course gets me out of the house and meeting people. I prefer to come to class, I like the interactions. I've got a brilliant group in maths And English. My confidence has increased and I know things I didn't know before. It's getting my brain going. It gives me something extra to put on my CV. I have a brilliant tutor in Radha."

Steve from Melton Mowbray attended a British Sign Language course with his wife in early 2023. He said "This was the perfect course for both my wife and I to progress from no knowledge at all to being confident in having a conversation with a person from the deaf community."

Paul Fleming, Head of Adult Learning at Leicestershire County Council said "GoLearn prides itself on making courses accessible and the 20% discount on course fees is a fantastic offer for people wishing to pursue a new interest or gain a new skill."

To avoid missing out on this great opportunity, I would encourage everyone to look at the courses on offer and enrol before 31 January 2024."

To support learners in their lifelong learning journey, the 20% New Year Discount will apply to all course fees until 31 January 2025.

The discount is available across the entire 2023/24 programme and can be used in conjunction with the 70% reduced fee for learners on a low income or in receipt of certain benefits.

To learn more about what GoLearn can offer in 2024, call freephone 0800 988 0308 (lines are open Monday-Friday 8.30am to 7pm or visit www/golearnleicestershire.ac.uk).

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A message from Leicestershire Police

I would like to raise some awareness regarding recent reports of **Courier Fraud** where residents in **Leicestershire** have fallen victim to these types of scams.

Criminals will target anyone, but recent victims are **often elderly**, and thousands of pounds have been lost.

Please take a look at the below image and links. It is worth visiting sites such as **Action Fraud, Age UK and Crime Stoppers** for more detailed information to familiarise yourself with what Courier Fraud is, signs to look out for, and to hopefully **help friends, relatives and neighbours**.

The police will never....

Contact you to ask
for your PIN or bank
details

Ask you to withdraw or to hand over
to them for safe keeping

Ask you to transfer money
out of your account for fraud
reasons

Send someone to your home
to collect cash, PINs or bank
details

Spot the signs of courier fraud

Someone claiming to be from your bank or the police

Call you to tell you about fraudulent activity but is asking for your
Personal info or your PIN NO. to verify who you are.

They try to offer you peace of mind by having somebody pick up the card
for you to save you the trouble of having to go to your bank or local police
station

Raising awareness may be the difference from someone losing thousands of pounds instead of just hanging up the phone;

Remember that people of all ages can be targeted and have fallen victim to these types of crime. The impact this can have on people is devastating. If you have fallen victim to this, please call your bank directly, immediately. It is really important to **NEVER give your bank details out over the phone.**

Crime stoppers <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/news-campaigns/campaigns/calling-out-courier-fraud>

Age UK <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/money-legal/scams-fraud>

Did you know you can report crimes and incidents using our online portal
Please visit <https://www.leics.police.uk/> Click on **REPORT – In an emergency dial 999.**

Finally, I would like to wish all residents and fellow councillors a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New year. 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 you Locally.

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