



**Minutes of The Annual General Meeting of Rippingale Parish Council,
Held 15th May, 2008, 7.30p.m. at Rippingale Village Hall.**

**Present: Cllrs Mrs. M. Morgan, Mrs. A. Adams, D. Sankey, B. Flatters,
M. Exton, P. Moseley, M. Hallas. D. Cllr Mrs. A. Webster.**

Members of Public, two.

The Clerk opened the Meeting and welcomed all present.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None received.

2.ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

2.1 Election of Chairman of the Parish Council: Cllr D. SANKEY.

Cllr M. Morgan proposed and Cllr B. Flatters seconded the proposal that Cllr D. SANKEY be elected as Chairman of the Parish Council. There were no further nominations, and the proposal was agreed unanimously. Cllr D. Sankey took the Chair of the meeting.

2.2 Election of Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council: Cllr Mrs. M. MORGAN.

Cllr M. Exton proposed and Cllr M. Hallas seconded the proposal that Cllr Mrs. M. MORGAN be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council. There were no further nominations, and the proposal was agreed unanimously.

3. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST:

3.1 As holder of Allotment, Cllrs A. Adams and B. Flatters.

3.2 As a Member of the Parochial Church Council, Cllr M. Morgan.

3.3 As a Member of the Village Design Committee, Cllr M. Hallas.

4. COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

4.1 SKDC Forum 26th June, 2008, 6.30p.m., Rippingale Village Hall.

D. Cllr Webster advised of the above meeting, and recommended Councillors and the public to attend. It is an opportunity to raise local matters with SKDC Officers and Councillors. Newsletter item.

4.2 Green Waste Bins (Garden Refuse). D. Cllr Webster advised that these were now available and would pass on contact details to the Clerk.

5. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC.

5.1 Mr. Diess requested progress on repairs to wall 101-7 Station Street. D. Cllr Webster re-iterated action to date and was asked to pursue SKDC for resolution of this matter. The potentially dangerous pavement should be regarded as a Health & Safety issue for SKDC and LCC Highways.

5.2 The Chairman reported issue raised by resident of rabbits causing damage in churchyard extension. Cllr M. Morgan to advise PCC and action to be taken.

6. POLICE MATTERS.

6.1 Police Open Day, 8th June, Nettleham – poster for display.

6.2 Appointment of 3 Independent Members, Lincs. Police Authority.

6.3.1 Visit of Mobile Police Station.

Cllrs Hallas questioned the priority of Lincs Police in continuing to provide this service. It is agreed that it is useful for the police to have a presence, but in view of the funding crisis in Lincolnshire, the service could be considered a low priority.

6.3.2 Mr. Bladon, as representative at the Local Police Forum, was invited to comment and advised that the police considered the mobile units useful in covering the very large area of the county. He suggested that the Council's views on spending priorities be made known to local M.P. Conservative electoral candidate, Nick Boles. Clerk to action.

7. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.

Cllr Morgan proposed and Cllr Hallas seconded the proposal that Minutes of Meeting 10th April, 2008 be approved and signed by the Chairman. This was agreed.

8. MATTERS ARISING

8.1 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 6th MAY, 2008.

The Chairman thanked Cllrs Adams and Moseley for their support and efforts in organising the event. It was agreed that the new format had attracted greater interest than in previous years, and a positive foundation laid for future Meetings. Local groups had supported the evening well and would be thanked by letter from the Chairman. Suggestions made to the Parish Council would be considered in detail, and thought given to inviting an interesting speaker to increase attendance further. Clerk to summarise evening events to prepare as Minutes for approval 2009.

8.2 RISK ASSESSMENT.

Meeting to agree draft prepared by Cllr Hallas: 7.30p.m.m 5th June, 2008, The Old Station.

8.3 PROPOSED CLOSURE RIPPINGALE POST OFFICE.

Cllr Hallas advised that there were no developments to report; response from Government Ministers to Quentin Davies' questions are awaited. Further closure and privatisation plans are reported and it is hoped that the national campaign to resist these plans gains momentum.

8.4 SPEED INDICATING DEVICE (SID)

Cllr Adams has approval in principle, from Lincs Road Safety Partnership for loan of equipment. Subject to availability, equipment to be used for one week from 14th July. Cllr Adams to liaise with LRSP regarding

locations and training times. Volunteers will be needed to operate the equipment. Council will consider in future purchase of small electronic speed warning device.

8.5 WEBSITE: www.rpcouncil.co.uk.

Cllr Moseley was thanked for setting this up, and will assist Clerk in accessing webmail! It was agreed that this would be useful for residents to contact Parish Councillors – perhaps by links from the village website - and would greatly assist in circulating information among Councillors. The website should not duplicate information or services already available on Ripplingale Village website.

9. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE & GRASS CUTTING

9.1 FOOTBALL CLUB /PLAYING FIELD: Copies of letter (28th April, 2008) were circulated.

9.1.1. Regarding drainage/replacing topsoil, it was suggested that appropriate drainage was needed through the field, that the Parish Council would pay for this and Football Club be asked to pay for topsoil replacement.

9.1.2. Regarding drinking/anti-social behaviour. Parish Council is already aware and will advise Football Club of present situation regarding alcohol free zones. Cllr Flatters requested additional Neighbour Hood Watch volunteers be recruited to assist him in monitoring drinking and behaviour on the field. Newsletter item.

9.1.3 Regarding proposal, long term, of building a permanent building on the field, it was agreed in principle that this was a good idea. Much further discussion was needed before any planning begin: it is the view of the Council that any building should be a “Community” building, the responsibility of the Parish Council, available to Football Club and other users. IT WAS AGREED THAT in the first instance an informal meeting be arranged between Council and Club officers. Clerk and Club Secretary to liaise.

9.2 LITTER PICK.

The Chairman thanked Councillors and the few residents who supported the Litter Pick. Suggested future events be mid-summer and autumn. It was agreed additional litter bin be requested of SKDC on Grinders Lane where bagged dog mess is particular problem. Replacement of post for signs be looked into. Action: Clerk.

9.3 VILLAGE WALKS

9.3.1 Cllr Exton reported a successful first walk with over 30 residents present. Next walk is 22nd May, 7.30p.m., meet at Village Green.

9.3.2 Mr. S. Charlton has offered daffodils for planting on village green. He asked to be contacted in autumn.

9.4 BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION.

Posters and competition information passed to Cllr Exton.

9.5 GRASS CUTTING & MAINTENANCE

Cllr Exton advised that grass cutting is ongoing; Mr. Boyfield has repaired children's slide. Burning at allotments has begun, a letter of thanks to be sent to Mr. Charlton who loaned JCB to assist in burning.

10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

10.1 (SKDC) Standards Committee Agenda 02/05/08 & Minutes 18/04/08.

10.2 Clerks & Councils Direct, May 2008.

10.3 (SKDC) BT proposed removal of BT public payphone, High Street/Middle Street junction, Rippingale.

(Clerk's Note: Phone box is NOT the old-style red type and no request to be made to retain it)

It was noted that BT propose to close this box as it is not viable.

10.4 Local Councils Review, May 2008.

10.5 Allotment Magazine, 02/08 – passed to Cllr Flatters.

10.6 (LCC) Capital Grant Aid Applications – Current year applications to be submitted by 1st August, 2008.

11. VILLAGE DESIGN COMMITTEE & ALLOTMENTS GROUP.

11.1 Village Design Committee:

11.1.1 Cllr Hallas advised that the VDC hopes to work with the Parish Council to produce a joint Revised Design Statement/Parish Plan. As a first stage a questionnaire has been prepared, to be sent to all residents regarding the validity of the current Statement and way forward.

11.1.2. A useful discussion had taken place at the Annual Meeting with Mr. Charlton regarding his long term plans, and it is believed that his input to the revised statement will be important.

11.2 Allotments Group:

Cllrs Adams and Flatters advised that there were a number of visitors during the Open Gardens weekend, there is a waiting list of 8, and that the Group is anxious to take over the additional area. It was confirmed that additional plots have not as yet been marked out; work to be done with agreement of Parish Council to maximise space.

12. FINANCE

12.1 Bills for Payment & Bank Accounts:

S. Scholes	£313.49
A. Adams, Annual Meeting	£ 6.36
D. Green, timber for slide	£ 21.50
Receipt: SKDC 50% Community Cleaner	£290.00

2008 – 9 Budget, as at 14th May, 2008 were circulated. Total funds £16,395. Transfer of £6,000 from current to deposit account was approved.

12.2 Appointment of Internal Auditor:

No Internal Auditor has yet been found. Cllr Hallas advised that the role is onerous, requiring the Auditor to establish that the Council is providing value for money by carrying out checks, in addition to verifying the accounts. It was agreed that the vacancy would be advertised in the Newsletter and Church Group magazine, that D. Cllr Webster would check with other Parish Councils locally. Clerk to advise Auditor of the difficulty, with reference to return deadline of end June, 2008. It was noted that historically an honorarium £50 has been paid to the Internal Auditor, circumstances may dictate employing someone.

12.3 INSURANCE RENEWAL

Clerk advised that Community Council of Lincolnshire are now able to offer alternative quotation. Details to be forwarded to Chairman for action.

13. PLANNING

13.1 (0445) Outline: Erection 2 Dwellings, 12 High Street. Details previously circulated to Councillors. It was agreed that there was no objection in principle to the application, but that the Clerk would advise SKDC of Councillors' comments which were in accordance with VDC response, copy received by Chairman.

13.2 (0134) 2-Storey Side Extension, 48 Dovecote Estate. Nothing to report.

13.3 (0316) Garage & Extension, 10 Doctor's Lane. Nothing to report.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**14.1 REPAIRS TO CULVERT, 74 STATION STREET.**

Correspondence recently received from SKDC (Mr. C. Maw) on this long-standing complaint was passed to D. Cllr Webster for further action.

14.2 CULVERT STATION STREET/B1177 JUNCTION.

Cllr Flatters to look into responsibility to clear, large tree branch which is causing blockage.

14.3 COMPUTERS

Councillors had met to sort through computers, which are in working order. Cllrs Hallas, Moseley, Sankey & Mr. Diess will liaise regarding broadband connection required at the Village Hall. It is understood that grant aid may be available for the installation of telephone line.

14.4 VERGES, STATION STREET.

Cllr Adams reported that Station Street exit to A15 road and verges are in poor state, continuous heavy traffic is eroding verges again. D. Cllr Webster to speak to K. Brumfield, LCC Highways.

14.5 TENNIS COURTS.

Cllr Hallas offered to assist Cllr Moseley in pursuing grant aid etc to refurbish tennis court area.

14.6 VILLAGE SCHOOL.

Cllr Morgan referred to Stamford Mercury report (2nd May, 2008) stating that English Heritage had visited the school in March and that the Diocese propose the likely sale of the building on the open market. The Parish Council has received no knowledge of English Heritage visit or Diocese' decision, as promised. Cllr Morgan to look into this report

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 12th June, 2008, 7.30p.m., The Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10p.m.

Sheila Scholes,

Clerk to the Council,

17th May, 2008.

Amended 12th June, 2008 per Council Meeting.

2008 Meeting Dates:

July 10th

August – no meeting

September 11th

October 9th

November 13th