

Costock Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday January 21, 2009, in the Village Hall

Couns. Mrs Kath Owen

Mike Albon

Mrs Penny Armstrong (A)

Peter Houghton

Tony Starmer

Everard Robinson

Mrs Delia Pickerill

1. **Apologies** were received from Coun. Mrs Penny Armstrong.
2. **Declarations of Interest** There were none.
3. **Minutes of previous meeting held on December 17, 2008**, were accepted as circulated and signed by the chairman.

4. **Clerk's report**

The clerk said that Miles King on behalf of the Trent Valley Partnership was sending the information for the leaflets/posters for the affordable housing event on February 11. The council felt the information should be sent out by post. Coun. Albon said he would be available to assist to let the organisers in to the building.

Members discussed the matter of police car movements and their speed and the use of sirens etc. It was felt there had been a decrease in the incidents and the clerk was asked to write to the inspector at Bingham to thank him. Comment was made on the double fatal accident on Leake Road but it was felt until the police report was made public there was little that should be said as to the cause etc. A letter sent to Coun. Mrs Armstrong by the Nottinghamshire County Council Highways Department was read to the meeting by the chairman, and in it they explained the complexity of changing speed limit orders, adding they could not agree to any changes at Costock. A similar letter to the clerk also mentioned the recent fatal accident but said they were awaiting a police report before they could comment further.

Problems caused by irresponsible parking near and outside the school were raised again.

5. **Website**

Coun. Robinson reported the difficulty in getting news to go on the website and appealed again for more people to provide him with information. He said the number of hits in December had been less than in November but this was to be expected over the holiday period.

6. **Correspondence**

Three quotations were received for work required by the council at The Pinfold and adjacent to the play area. The firms were RM Ground and Tree Services, Specialised Groundcare Ltd and Aart De Groot who tendered for tree works on the playing field and for the removal of a dead and rotten stump at The Pinfold. After a discussion it was agreed that a specification be drawn up and sent to all three firms, seeking a price for the same work. The chairman would visit the site over the weekend to ascertain the trees which were involved and their types. It was agreed to proceed with the work of removing the dead tree stump at The Pinfold and to accept the quotation from Aart De Groot for the work in the sum of £120.

The Village Hall Management Committee forwarded a copy of their minutes for December 10, 2008. The clerk was to ask the secretary if she would forward a data copy to Coun. Robinson for the website. Rushcliffe Borough Council advised of the Council Tax Base 2009/2010 for Costock at a figure of 272, that being the amount that would be raised by £1 of council tax per year on a Band D property.

Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils sought ideas for councillor training sessions for 2009 but members were not able to put any suggestions forward. Vista360, designers of the village website, gave the monthly update for December 2008, the figures showing a total of 169 hits, down on November but still higher than October.

7. **Planning Matters**

Planning Applications: There were none.

Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions

08/02011/FUL Mr Wheatley; Retention and completion of building with attached pens for storage of tractors and for use as cattery (resubmission); Hilltop Farm, Ash Lane. Grant Permission

08/02035/FUL Mr Cook; Change of use of agricultural barn for keeping of three horses, insert 3 external stable doors and 1 access door to north elevation, install one security light (revised plans); Land to East of Ashley House, Ash Lane. Grant Permission

8. **Village Hall** Nothing further was raised.

9. **Playing Field** Nothing further was raised.

10. **Finance**

- a) Members authorised payment of accounts as per the schedule presented.
- b) Budget and Precept for 2009/10 – The council discussed a budget report for the 2009/2010 financial year prepared by the clerk and agreed to seek a precept of £16,000 on the Rushcliffe Borough Council.
- c) Bank Interest – Nothing further to report.

11. **Questions to the Council**

Coun. Robinson reported on a meeting he had attended involving conservation strategy and the possibility of grants being made to landowners.

Concerns were expressed over the condition of land at the Bars Hill housing site on Leake Road and the clerk was asked to contact Rushcliffe Borough Council to see if planning conditions were being adhered to. There were also concerns over the way drainage between the school and adjacent development land was being dealt with and the clerk was to also raise this with the Borough Council.

The number of moles being recorded on the school field was commented on

The clerk was asked to approach East Leake Parish Council to see if it would be possible to hire their litter picker twice a year to clear the road side area between the two parishes. The clerk was to ask for the cost if agreement could be reached on use of the operative concerned.

12. **Date for Next Meeting** was confirmed for February 18, 2009.

13. **Agenda Items for Next meeting**

Members were invited to suggest further items for discussion at the next parish council meeting but there was nothing put forward.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm.