

**Minutes of Meeting of Roade Parish Council
held on Monday 11th August 2008 at 7.30 p.m.
at the Village Hall**

Present: Mrs Susan Mallock (Chair)

Rev Malcolm Beech	Bill Dredge
Glenn Dudman	Rick Thake
Dr J Gwilt	Bill Mann
Stephen Miller	Mrs June McAlear

Dis Cllr Stephen Clarke
Dis Cllr Sally Townsend

Apologies: Mrs Myra Inglis Dave Bennett Sharon Lowther Brian Binley MP

Retiring Clerk: Mrs Sylvia Mawby

Clerk in Waiting: John Marshall

1. Declarations of Interest:

There were none

2. Appointment of New Parish Clerk:

Cllr Mallock announced that John Marshall had been offered and had accepted the post of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer. He took up post on 01 August. *Cllr Mallock* thanked Sylvia Mawby, the outgoing Clerk and RFO and expressed her appreciation for the service that she had given to the Council over the last couple of years, sentiments that were echoed by all present.

3. Public Session:

The Chair opened the Public Session at 7.35pm.

3.1 *Dis Cllr Sally Townsend* reported on a meeting that she had had with Michael Warren (SNC Planning Dept) re the proposal for 39 houses on The Leys site.

Whilst restating her opposition to any development on the site, she had also reiterated to him the two 'sticking points' viz the unsuitability of The Leys as the means of access to the development (the developer is apparently now proposing access to the development for construction traffic only from Ashton Road) and the necessity of a contribution to the Primary Care Trust.

3.2 *Dis Cllr Sally Townsend* reported that she has been invited to attend an Appeal against retrospective planning permission for a new driveway, and the subsequent Enforcement Orders in respect of Plainwoods Farm. She asked whether the Parish Council had a view on the matter. *Cllr Dredge* asked why the application had been refused, as he thought that this was perhaps an overly bureaucratic response to a relatively innocuous matter; *Cllr Dudman* agreed and pointed out the employment opportunities that the site offered. After considerable discussion, the feeling of the Parish Council was that they saw merit in (and were indeed supportive of) the driveway. *Cllr Mallock* indicated to *Dis Cllr Sally Townsend* that the Parish Council would like to attend the Appeal.

3.3 *Dis Cllr Sally Townsend* gave a brief update on 2 developments (by Twigden Homes and by Bovis) in adjoining Parishes and also on a proposal for 450 homes on what was the proposed Ikea site at Grange Park.

3.4 *Dis Cllr Stephen Clarke* drew attention to the SNC land bank availability, which is currently 3+ years. The Government's requirement is for 5 years so SNC, along

- 3.5 with Daventry District (at 2+ years) and NBC (4+ years) is somewhat vulnerable. *Mr Saunders*, The Leys again raised the matter of the path repairs in the Leys (see p 1086 para 2.8 of July 14th Minutes). *County Cllr Ingram* had agreed at the previous meeting to follow up this matter; Clerk to chase up with Cllr Ingram and NCC as necessary **Clerk**
- 3.6 *Mr Saunders* also queried the activities of contractors at the redundant PSL buildings in The Leys; he had ascertained from them that they were assessing the buildings with a view to removing the roofs. *Cllr Dredge* advised that roof removal was work that had been agreed by the owners of the buildings as it would serve as a useful deterrent to trespassers from entering these buildings. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the owners/ representatives of the site to request that any vehicles used in the removal of these roofs should be of an appropriate size for access through the Leys. **Clerk**
- 3.7 *Mr Griffiths*, Orchard Way raised the matter of signs at The George roundabout (see page 1087 para 2.9 of July 14th minutes). *Cllr Dudman* advised that he had taken action following the previous meeting, but that more permanent measures were needed, which he would now put in place. **GD**
- 3.8 The Chair closed the Public Session at 7.47pm
4. **Acceptance of Apologies for Absence:**
Apologies had been received from *Cllrs Inglis, Bennett and Lowther*, and from *Brian Binley, MP*
5. **Attendance Register:**
This had been signed by all Councillors present.
6. **Parish Councillor Vacancy:**
Cllr Mallock advised that nobody had come forward in response to the advertised vacancy. She encouraged all Councillors to sound out volunteers. **All Cllrs**
7. **Approval of Minutes of Meeting (14th July 2008):**
There were no amendments Cllr Beech proposed and Cllr Dudman seconded acceptance of the Minutes as a true record; all in favour.
8. **Matters arising from minutes of meeting (14th July 2008)**
- 8.1 p 1088 para 8.6 – improvements to make the The George car park secure still needed. Clerk to chase up Enterprise Inns. **Clerk**
- 8.2 p 1088 para 8.8 – works to improve the condition of the highway in Churchcroft. Work still not started; Clerk to chase up with Highways **Clerk**
- 8.3 p 1091 para 17.3 – emergency planning. *Cllr Dudman* had attended the county meeting at Wellingborough on 17th July. He asked that the issue be deferred to the September meeting.
9. **Reports from Outside Bodies:**
- (a) **Neighbourhood Watch/police matters:**
Cllr Dredge introduced his report that had been previously circulated to Councillors. He expressed the view that some of the problems – primarily damage to property, mischief and nuisance vandalism – that existed within the Parish were being caused were being caused by a group of young teenagers. The problem was escalating and he proposed that a ‘flyer’ be sent out with the imminent edition of ‘Roade News’ to all houses within the village. This was seconded by *Cllr Gwilt*. *Cllr Dudman* reminded Councillors that the Council had previously approved a policy of a £100 reward to anyone supplying information that led to a perpetrator being identified and convicted and that this should be reflected in the ‘flyer’. It was agreed that this offer should be reflected in the wording of the ‘flyer’ and that this should be a ‘Neighbourhood Watch’ initiative, supported by the Council rather **BD**

than a joint initiative. *Cllr Gwilt* stated that the wording of the 'flyer' would therefore need to be approved, albeit informally by the Council and agreed to undertake this task, with *Cllr Dredge* (as NHW) on behalf of the Council.

JG

(b) **Village Hall Charity:**

Cllr Dudman had nothing to report other than the fitting of a new boiler is currently under way.

10. **Reports from Advisory Groups:**

(a) **Cemetery:**

Cllr Beech had nothing to report

(b) **Lighting:**

Cllr Dudman advised that there had been 3 faulty street lamps replaced within the last 8 months. He encouraged Councillors to report any faulty lamps to himself and the Clerk as soon as they became aware of them in order that they can be replaced before the onset of the darker evenings

(c) **Planning:**

Leys Development S/2008/0403/PO – there had been a further site meeting on 29/07/08; a decision on the application has been deferred by SNC for a further 6 to 9 weeks

Plainwoods Farm S/2007/0759/P; S/2008/0189/EN; S/2008/0190/EN – see Minute 3.2 above. A further discussion took place in which *Dis Cllr Clarke* expressed his discomfort over the nature of the Council's debate and the implied criticism of SNC's decision, without Councillors knowing why the decision had been taken; he felt that the Council (and the discussion) should focus on the reasons for refusal rather than other issues. *Cllr Dudman* responded by saying that he wished to make it clear that it was not the Parish Council's intention to criticise SNC or its officers. *Cllr Mallock* to research the history of the application and report the original reasons for refusal back to next Planning Meeting.

Payphone, Roade High Street S/2008/0556/TR – SNC have objected to removal of the payphones in the High Street and Hyde Road.

16A London Road S/2008/0990/PO – there was considerable discussion following which it was decided (5 Councillors in favour with 1 abstention) that the Council had no objections to the proposal but that the Council wished to comment a) that the proposed dwellings be in keeping with other houses in Croft Lane and b) that, this being an outline application, the Council wished to be consulted further, if and when a full application was submitted.

A Planning Application in respect of 28 Dovecote Road has been received. A Planning Meeting to consider this application will be held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 26th August 2008. Clerk to check availability of room and advise.

Clerk

(d) **Roade Masterplan Group:**

A Report had been circulated prior to the Meeting. There were no questions on the Report.

(e) **Footpaths:**

Cllr Thake reported the installation of bridges on footpaths KZ 7 and 28 but no work as yet on the stiles. He will pursue this.

RT

(f) **Recreation Field/Churchcroft:**

Cllr Dudman advised that the RoSPA inspection report had been received; there were no major issues arising. He also referred to the Report by the Village

Technician (previously circulated) and advised that his Probation Group had carried out litter picking work in the Rec. *Cllr Gwilt* advised that he had received compliments, that he would like passed on to the Village Technicians about the work that had been done at the London Road bus stop. *Cllr Dudman* indicated that this work was ongoing.

(g) IT –Website:

Cllr Dudman reported that the Computer Games Group that had been established would be meeting in the Village Hall over the August Bank Holiday. They will be paying for the internet usage; Clerk to raise an Invoice upon receipt of information from *Cllr Dudman*

**GD
Clerk**

(h) Youth:

Cllr Mann indicated that he will be bringing a full report to the next meeting

BM

(i) Community Forum:

Cllr Mann introduced his report, circulated previously. The main issues arising from the Forum were;

a) a desire to improve the routing of bus services within the village; *Cllr Mann* to provide contact details to the Clerk for John Ellerby, NCC and Clerk to write to John Ellerby requesting a meeting about bus services to, from and within Roade.

**BM
Clerk**

b) the inefficient drain in the Northampton Road cul-de-sac; Clerk to write to NCC Highways about this

Clerk

c) *Cllr Dredge* raised the issue of a regularly blocked drain at the High Street end of Hog Walk, outside the houses; Clerk to investigate as the ownership and hence the responsibility for this drain is in doubt

Clerk

(j) Parish Plan Monitoring Advisory Group:

The Chair advised that *Cllrs Lowther* and *Miller* have agreed to form the Steering Group to take forward the Plan. *Cllr Miller* had already put forward some excellent proposals.

**SL
SMi**

11. Finance:

a) Bills for Payment and Receipts:

Receipts:	Ret No	£
Interment of ashes	320/9	30.00
Purchased double grave and burial	321/9	180.00
Additional inscription	322/9	10.00
Total		220.00

Bank Account Balances	Amount
Current Account	21411.34
Deposit	1485.61
Total	22896.95

Cheques for Signature:	Cheque	£	inc VAT
Roade Parent & Toddler Group	879	250.00	
B D Corcoran	880	64.00	
NCC	881	315.58	47.03
B & Q	882	94.98	14.13
Aylesbury Mains Ltd	883	129.18	19.24
BACA	884	25.45	4.46
RoSPA	885	162.15	24.15

Allseasons	886	1169.13	174.13
W Dredge	887	51.38	
D Dudman	888	40.00	
WJM Marshall	889	118.63	
H Geddes	890	456.96	
C Clayson	891	87.58	
A Johnson	892	269.62	
Jenny Evans	893	315.85	
S Mawby	894	391.69	
Post Office Ltd	895	289.40	

RT

Cllr Thake presented the Financial Report. He indicated that the current account balance includes £8894.53 that belongs to the Youth Fund. In response to a request from *Cllrs Gwilt* and *Dudman*, he agreed that in future, the Youth Fund would be shown in the accounts as a separate item.

The Chair asked that consideration of the Bills for Payment and Receipts that form part of these Minutes be taken *en bloc*. *Cllr Thake* proposed and *Cllr McAlear* seconded the proposal which was passed unanimously.

b) Mail delivery arrangements

Cllr Thake advised that there had been discussions with the outgoing and incoming Clerk over the delivery address for Roade Parish Council. Using the Clerk's home address gives rise to problems, especially when the Clerk is on holiday. It was resolved that the Council should change to a PO Box address at the cost of £120.35 with mail being delivered to Roade Post Office for collection from there by the Clerk or named deputies. The Clerk was asked to progress the necessary application.

Clerk

12. Clerk and Councillor Training:

The Chair asked for approval of funding for new Councillors and the Clerk to attend Training courses at a cost of £29 per Councillor ('Off to a Flying Start') and £75 for the Clerk ('The Role of the Clerk and RFO'). *Cllr Thake* proposed and *Cllr Beech* seconded the proposal which was passed unanimously. NB transport costs necessarily incurred will be reimbursed by the Council.

Clerk

13. Correspondence:

All letters received had been circulated to Councillors. There was no additional correspondence to report on.

14. Items for inclusion on Agenda for next meeting:

Cllr Dredge raised the subject of dog fouling on the approach path to the Cemetery. *Cllr Dudman* will arrange for signs to be purchased and erected in the area

GD

15. Date of next meeting: Monday 8th September 2008 at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.12 p.m.