

# **Minutes of the meeting of Riccall Parish Council on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2009 from 7.30 p.m. at the Regen Centre**

**Attending: Cllr Keen (Chairman), Cllrs Adamson, Dawson, Kilmartin, Sharp, Somers-Joce, Winterburn & Wilkinson.**

*Congratulations were offered by all present to Cllr Keen on his recent marriage.*

## **1 Apologies and declarations of interest**

Apologies for absence were accepted from:

Cllr Andrew Tibbett – work commitments  
Cllr John Duggan – work commitments  
Cllr Lily Wilson  
PCSO Alison Marshall – holiday  
PCSO Rachel Thompson – another meeting

Cllr Winterburn declared an interest in the section of item 10 relating to Riccall Utd FC Juniors. Cllr Keen declared an interest in item 6, due to one of the cheques.

## **2 Minutes of the Riccall Parish Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2009 (circulated)**

The minutes were accepted as a correct record and adopted.

## **3 Report on progress and updates since the last meeting**

The District and County Cllr was not present.

There were no representatives of North Yorkshire Police in attendance. The Clerk reported that there had been some new graffiti at the Recreation Ground and that the four new play area signs had been defaced and would have to be replaced. Further to these incidents, the police had caught two youths for some of the graffiti and the young people were being referred to the youth service. The Primary School had suffered a break in late in the summer holidays. The mobile police unit (MPU) will be visiting Riccall once per month from September 2009 until further notice. A timetable of dates about the MPU visits will be posted on the village notice boards and information will go into the Beacon. Unfortunately due to wet weather, the MPU could not visit the Recreation Ground over the summer holiday period.

The Clerk gave an update on action taken and developments since the last meeting – for information only;

Community Spaces, the main funders of the new pre-school area and bird nest swing have agreed a sustainability grant of £2939.87 to the Recreation Development Group. This money will be used to promote the area by holding teddy bears picnics for younger children and to pay for group members to receive safety inspection training with RoSPA.

The footpath on Viking Drive has been marked for repair and the vegetation at the end of Holmes Drive has been trimmed back to improve visibility on the junction.

New bins for the Recreation Ground are on order at Selby DC and should be available for installation shortly.

A painter and decorator in Selby is providing a quote for painting the Beacon.

Mr Binns has complained about the high water level in Riccall Dyke. The Clerk has passed this information on to the Internal Drainage Board, who have sent staff out on site to investigate. The dyke is clogged up with weeds and will be cleared by a mechanical excavator later in the year.

The streetlight clean and inspection will be completed shortly. Tarmac has offered the service until 2012, when their contract with NYCC expires.

#### **4 Matters from Public Participation**

None

#### **5 Correspondence**

##### **5a) General correspondence - requiring decisions:**

Selby & District Carers Centre – request for donation towards newsletter – *it was agreed that £50 would be donated.*

NYCC Local Transport Plan Progress report – questionnaire. *The Clerk will fill this in and return.*

Selby DC Charity Appeal – request for donation – *it was agreed that £100 would be donated.*

State of the area address – all members had received a copy and the questionnaire was filled in at the meeting.

Selby DC – Planning Portal equipment grant. *The Clerk will attend this meeting and Cllr Dawson will also try and get to it.*

Riccall Harvest Festival - two Cllr volunteers needed – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September. *Cllr Adamson offered to attend.*

NALC – Strengthening Local Democracy – consultation. Email from the Local Works coalition about the Sustainable Communities Act. *It was agreed that an appeal letter should be sent to John Grogan MP, asking that he signs the early day motion No 1545 in support of the Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill.*

York & North Yorkshire Cultural Conference – *noted.*

Selby DC – Chestnut tree on Back Lane will have to be felled for health and safety reasons. *This was noted and the Clerk will put an article into the next Beacon, warning residents about the work.*

**5b) General correspondence - for information:**

Zurich – insurance cover document - Recreation Ground Launch – *noted.*

NYCC – salt bin requirements – *noted.*

Selby Area Committee – election of Parish representative – *noted.*

Selby DC Standards Committee – appointment of a Parish Council member. *Cllr Duggan had expressed an interest in putting himself forward. The Clerk had given him the relevant papers.*

Details about the use of the Methodist Church in Riccall – *noted.*

Barbara Scargill – Selby DC – noise complaint issues / emails from residents – *noted.*

Selby DC Environmental Health – Yorkshire Water pumping station on Kelfield Road – *noted.*

YLCA - Pay claim 2009/10 – *noted.*

NY Police – Community Idol information – request for a donation. *Feedback has been given about the timescale of the request as it was too late for a decision to be taken.*

**5c) Late correspondence – to note only.**

Selby DC – information about the new arrangements for refuse collection. *The poster will be put onto the Village Green notice board and information will go into the Beacon.*

Carnival Committee – invitation to attend the AGM plus to display a Christmas tree at the Dickensian Christmas Fayre. *The Council will display a Christmas tree with each Cllr making a bauble, which shows a photograph of them. An item will be put onto the next agenda for discussion.*

Mike Sibley – explanation letter about equipment bought for Riccall Cricket Club using the grant funding – *noted*.

## **6 Accounts and Budget Update**

### **August accounts**

*A total expenditure of £3685.19 was agreed.*

### **September accounts**

*A total expenditure of £6015.38 was agreed*

Both sets of accounts were approved and performance against budget was considered.

A copy of the external auditor's opinion on the accounts for 2008/9 had been received and was noted. The accounts had been signed off by Mazars with no queries.

## **7 Planning**

### **7a) Selby DC has granted planning permission for the following applications:**

Erection of a two storey side extension, single storey rear extension/conservatory and replacement of boundary hedge with brick wall at 16 Coppergate, Riccall

Conversion of existing garages and store to dwelling with integral garages, following demolition of existing shed at Drover House, 88 Main Street, Riccall

### **7b) The following planning application was considered:**

Reserved matters application for the erection of a detached dwelling and garage to include layout, scale, landscaping and appearance at 2 York Rd, Riccall – *Case Officer Cllr Wilkinson*

*The Parish Council objected to the development of this whole site at outline stage and continues to object.*

*Riccall Parish Council feels that this site is being overdeveloped and that this proposed dwelling is too large for the plot.*

*The Council feels that considering the amount of potential construction that will now take place in this sensitive and central part of the Riccall Conservation Area, the above application should be considered with great care. This site is near to Bangram Hill Farmhouse, a 17<sup>th</sup> century property, mentioned specifically within the detailed policies for Riccall that make up part of the SDC Local Plan.*

*The junction of Chapel Lane and Main Street suffers from existing visibility issues, with the corner section of Main Street (opposite the Post Office) awaiting double yellow lining on the NYCC list. The extra cars from this property would potentially affect the situation with this busy corner of York Rd.*

*Overdevelopment of this area would fail to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.*

The following application was considered under delegated authority:

Erection of a two storey extension to the side of 23 Saunters Way, Riccall

*Riccall Parish Council had no objections, subject to the use of sympathetic building materials and the consultation of neighbours.*

Cllrs Keen / Wilkinson reported on the following applications, which were agreed under delegated authority, due to the absence of an August meeting:

Erection of a conservatory to the rear of 1 Norseman Close, Riccall

*Riccall Parish Council had no objections, subject to the use of sympathetic building materials and the consultation of neighbours.*

Construction of a pitched roof above garage to front and side elevation and above conservatory to side elevation at 10A Manor Garth

*Riccall Parish Council had no objections, subject to the use of sympathetic building materials and the consultation of neighbours.*

Proposed erection of a detached garage at 17 Hall Farm Close, Riccall

*Riccall Parish Council had no objections, subject to the use of sympathetic building materials and the consultation of neighbours. The Case officers did query why another garage was necessary at this property.*

### **7c) Other planning matters**

Correspondence from Andrew MacMillan at SDC was considered. Mr MacMillan wanted to progress updating the Riccall Village Design Statement. Members felt that the timescale suggested for the first public meeting was unreasonable and that a revised timescale should be requested. An article can go into the December Beacon about the new VDS group. *The Clerk will speak to Mr MacMillan about the possibility of delaying the start of the process.*

## **8 Reports and Consultation**

Any members or the Clerk may report back from relevant meetings at this point:

Cllr Keen reported back from a JAG meeting in August, which had not been very well attended. Inspector Witty had spoken about priorities for the area.

Cllr Keen reported back from the most recent Carnival meeting. The Dickensian Christmas Fayre is planned for Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December.

## **9 Recreational update**

Cllr Keen and Cllr Dawson gave an update on health and safety checks completed on Recreation Ground play equipment. Although most minor repairs have been dealt with at the time of the meeting, there has been some delay with getting them done. It was felt that another member of staff for maintenance would be useful as Gavin Wright now spends some of his time in Scotland, so is not always available. The Administration & Finance Committee will explore this idea at its next meeting.

Cllr Keen let members know that he would not be able to attend the next Administration Committee as he was on holiday. *Cllr Sharp was invited to attend the meeting in place of Cllr Keen.*

The Clerk reported that new signs had been ordered to replace the ones that had been vandalised. A sticker would be used for the top bar of the basket swing, instead of the metal plaque type signs. Graffiti had been removed by Gavin Wright as had any problem splinters and minor repairs were all up to date. The Playdale inspector had been out and had completed some repairs at the same time as doing his inspection. He had re-cemented the gate posts in the pre-school area and fixed some of the netting problems. He checked the split balance beam in the junior area, which he agreed should be replaced by Playdale under guarantee.

Community Safety officer for the Police, Wayne Leach, had contacted the Clerk to offer support over the graffiti problems at the Recreation Ground. He complimented the council on the management of the area and the range of facilities on offer.

## **10 Recreation Ground**

The Clerk reported back from the skate training day that took place on 19<sup>th</sup> August. The day had been well organised by SK8 SAFE with over 30 young people from Riccall taking part.

The Clerk and Cllr Adamson reported on the Recreation Ground re-launch day held on September 12<sup>th</sup>. The day had gone well with SK8 SAFE again attending to organise skate training for beginners and a skate jam for intermediate and advanced skaters, bladders and bmxers. Riccall FC Juniors ran a 'beat the goalie' competition, Val and

Andrew Fletcher from Riccall Scout Group ran the BBQ and Aurora Face painting had two members of staff painting younger children's faces near to the pre-school area. An ice cream van was also on site and had contributed £20 at the end of the day. Parliamentary candidate Nigel Adams opened the area and gave a brief speech. The day was financed by funding from Community Spaces and a contribution from Riccall Parish Council.

The ice cream man that attended on the day had asked about the possibility of having his van on the site over the summer months at weekends. He would make a contribution to the Council. He had agreed to put his request in writing.

On the day of the re-launch residents were asked about a name for the Recreation Ground. They were given a choice of the existing name 'Riccall Recreation Ground', 'Riccall Park,' or were asked to come up with another suggestion. The public vote was virtually equal for both of the suggested names, so members decided to take a vote.

Cllr Adamson proposed 'Riccall Recreation Park' as the new name.

*Vote: 2 for, 5 against and 1 abstention*

Cllr Somers-Joce proposed 'Riccall Park' as the new name.

*Vote: 4 for, 3 against and 1 abstention*

An email had been received from Roger White at Riccall Utd Juniors asking whether the Recreation Ground could be used for matches until the Westfield facilities become available. Consideration was given to the request and it was agreed that in principal the Council had no objections to the temporary use of the field, subject to checking with our insurers. The Clerk will make enquiries and talk to Roger White about the situation.

Paddy Hodgkiss of Riccall Lands Charity had emailed about various issues at the Recreation Ground including a large Oak tree that had lost two large branches, children using the boundaries as a toilet and car parking problems along Main Street. He also advised that the roadside hedge would be getting cut by a contractor shortly.

*It was agreed that the Council should arrange for the Oak tree to be fully assessed by a tree consultant as it is very near to the junior play area. The Clerk will make the Lands Charity aware of this and arrange the inspection. The Council did not feel that anything could be done to stop parents allowing their children to use the bushes as a toilet on occasion, unless public toilet facilities were provided, which is not an option at the current time. The traffic situation will be discussed under item 12.*

## **11 Management of Footpaths**

An email from Andy Hunter at NYCC about Bridleway No 14 was noted. Mr Hunter had stated that NYCC are in the process of making the order to divert the bridleway. Riccall

PC will have an opportunity to object to the order at the appropriate time. He gave some history about the area, which was noted.

Ideas for improving footpath management in Riccall were considered. It was agreed that the paths should be walked more regularly. Cllr Dawson agreed to be a footpaths officer for Riccall Parish Council.

## **12 Traffic management**

John Grogan MP had sent a copy letter from NYCC about traffic management in Riccall (circulated). NYCC and the Police had concluded that the risk posed by a variable message sign on the A19 was not justified by the accident statistics relating to the Riccall A19 junction. The Area Manager, Paul Sheppard will be asked to engage with the Parish Council to consider possible locations for a vehicle activated sign near to the park on Main Street and what benefits would materialise. To assist NYCC will look to place a mobile VAS at the site and assess both speeds and the effect of the sign. *It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Mr Sheppard asking for a meeting about these developments. The email or letter will be copied to John Grogan MP and David Bowe.*

Correspondence had been received from NYCC about parking issues on the Meadows. The situation of cars parking too close to the junction is being monitored. *This was noted.*

## **13 Community Safety information**

A Ringmaster email had been received from NY Police about damage to Riccall Bowling Club. Between 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> August, substantial damage has been caused to the bowling green and pavilion. *This was noted. Riccall Neighbourhood Watch has been made aware and the police are investigating the matter.*

## **14 Minor items and items for the next Agenda**

No minor items.

Extra items for the next agenda; Christmas tree arrangements.

***The Chairman thanked members and closed the meeting at 10.10pm***

Circulated;

Campaign to Protect Rural England – Fieldwork  
Selby District AVS – Tidings  
Yorkshire Archaeological Journal – volume 80  
York and N. Yorks. Playing Fields Association newsletter – The Playing Field  
Rural Action Yorkshire – Country Air  
Groundwork – information booklet  
Shaws – Council reference books for sale

Riccall Neighbourhood Watch – minutes of the July meeting  
Selby Area Committee – agenda  
North Yorkshire Learning Consortium – Community Grants  
NALC – Direct Information Service  
Selby District Joint CIP meeting – minutes  
NYCC – Putting People First in North Yorkshire  
CPRE – Coast to Coast